

has nearly doubled to 21.50 lakhs during the last ten years. The postal service is an important service but the number of postmen has not been increased because of a ban by the Central Government. Now post offices are also not being opened to handle the increased load of work. The Postal service is in disarray. In view of this situation, the following steps may be taken to cope with the increased volume of work :

(1) the number of postmen in Mumbai, particularly in Mumbai North be increased in proportion to the load of work (2) new post offices should also be opened.

[English]

(viii) NEED TO DEVELOP INFRASTRUCTURAL FACILITIES IN SUNDERBANS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar) : Sir, while nature has been very bounteous to the Sunderbans area in West Bengal for its unique flora and fauna, bio-diversity, ecology and above all its renowned "Tiger Project", unfortunately, no action has so far been taken by the Centre to develop infrastructural facilities there, which has got a great tourist potential and is in fact a very attractive holiday resort. A large number of foreigners visit Calcutta regularly, Sunderbans is connected by road and rail upto Canning Town. The foreigners would very much like to visit the Tiger Project and enjoy the ecological environment prevailing there. But the whole problem is that there does not exist any tourist lodge in this area where these foreign tourists can rest. Sunderbans is only 80 Kms. away from Calcutta. If a heli-pad is constructed at Village Dabu under P.S. Canning in South 24-Parganas, it will attract the tourists to visit this place in short time and return to Calcutta the same day. The area is riverine and provides enjoyable ride in motor boats and lunches, which are available there.

I would very earnestly urge the Central Government to develop some infrastructural facilities in the area particularly the building of some tourist lodges, which will not only help the country to earn more foreign exchange, but also improve the backwardness and poor economy of this area.

19.15 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

FORTY THIRD REPORT

SHRI SANT RAM SINGLA (Patiala) : Sir, I beg move :

"That this House do agree with the Forty-third Report of the Committee on Private Member's Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 31st May, 1995."

** Published in the Gazette of India. Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 3.6.95.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the Forty-third Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 31st May, 1995."

The motion was adopted.

19.16 hrs.

BILLS INTRODUCED

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL**

(Amendment of Section 22)

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I introduce the Bill.

19.17 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL**

(Substitution of new article for article 30)

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I introduce the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : There is a Bill which is discussed partly. Mr. Reddaiah Yadav, maybe in the next Session you can take it up again.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV (Machilipatnam) : Right, Sir.

19.19 hrs.

VELEDICTORY REFERENCES

MR. SPEAKER : The 13th Session of Tenth Lok Sabha which commenced on 30th February 1995 is coming to a close today. The House held as many as 42 sittings

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lasting over 243 hours with two breaks. First from 15th February to 13th March and second from 1st April to 23rd April 1995. The latter break was to enable the departmentally related Parliamentary Standing Committee to consider the Demands for Grants of Union Ministers, Departments and submit their reports to the House.

The Session commenced with the address by hon. President to both the houses of Parliament assembled together in the Central Hall. The House discussed the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address for more than 12 hours before adopting it on 28th April, 1995.

840 Questions were listed as starred of which 120 could be orally answered. Written replies were given to 8,508 questions. One Short Notice Question was answered and one Half-an-Hour Discussion took place. Two Calling Attention on matters of urgent public importance were taken up.

On 15th May, 1995 an adjournment motion regarding grave situation arising out of the total destruction and desecration of the Shrine of Charar-e-Sharief and killing of innocent persons and burning down of the whole township by Pakistan sponsored terrorists was discussed and nagatived. On the demand of Members, an all-party Parliamentary Delegation consisting of Members from both Houses went to Jammu & Kashmir on 20th May, 1995 to study the situation arising out of the damage caused to Charar-e-Sharief Shrine by fire.

Various matters of urgent public importance were raised by Members after Question Hour. These included issues such as expiration of term of Bihar Legislature and repeated postponement of elections to that Legislative Assembly; problems of agricultural labour in the country; practice of carrying night soil on head by the scavengers. On all these issues, Members from various parties/groups made their observations and Government responded thereto.

Two hundred and three matters were also raised under Rule 377.

During the Session, 20 statements on matters of public importance were made by the Ministers.

In the sphere of Legislative Business, 27 Bills were introduced in Lok Sabha and in all, 27 Bills were passed by the House, important among them being the Cable Television Network (Regulation) Bill, 1994, the Customs Tariff (Amendment) Bill, 1995, the National Environment Tribunal Bill, 1992 and the Constitution (Eighty-sixth Amendment) Bill, 1995.

Ten Bills were referred to the Departmentally Related Standing Committee by the Presiding Officers of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. The Standing Committee submitted their reports in respect of ten Bills referred to them. These Committees made very useful recommendations in many cases. For instance, in the case of National Environment Tribunal Bill, trade Marks Bill and National Highways (Amendment) Bill, the recommendations were

accepted by the Government IN Toto and official amendments brought forward in pursuance thereof.

As regards financial business, to enable the Parliament for better and closer scrutiny of budget proposals, it is now a well established practice that the Detailed Demands for Grants of various Ministeries/Departments including Railways are examined by the Departmentally Related Standing Committee and Reports thereon presented to the House, before they are discussed and voted by the House.

During the current Session also, Demands for Grants of various Ministries/Departments for 1995-96 were examined by the respective Standing Committee during the recess period and reports thereon presented to the House.

The general discussion on Railway Budget and Demands for Grants of Railways for the year 1995-96 along with the Supplementary Demands for Grants of 1994-95 and Demands for Excess Grants for 1992-93, were discussed and voted in full and the related Appropriation Bills passed by the House.

The General discussion on General Budget for 1995-96 was held before the House adjourned for recess but could not be concluded due to paucity of time. The Demands for Grants of two Ministers, that is Defence and Communications could be discussed and voted by the House. The outstanding Demands for Grants of the remaining Ministries/Departments were submitted to the vote of the House on 17th May, 1995 and the related Appropriation Bill passed. The Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1994-95 were also discussed and voted by the House during the Session.

The House also discussed and passed the Budget in respect of Jammu and Kashmir for the year 1995-96. As the President's rule was imposed in Bihar for a short period, the Vote on Account of Bihar was also passed by the House.

The House has approved today further extension of President's rule in Jammu and Kashmir for a period of six months with effect from 18th July, 1995. There was a lively and fruitful Short. Duration Discussion under Rule 193 on 25th and 26th of May, 1995 regarding atrocities on women and problems faced by them.

Many useful suggestions were made by Members in this regard.

The private Members, as usual, showed keen interest in bringing forward legislations for giving shape to their ideas. Twenty-six Bills on subjects or varying interests were introduced. Two Bills were discussed. Two Resolutions brought forward by Private Members were also discussed.

I take this opportunity to thank all the hon. Members for the kind cooperation extended to me and my colleagues, hon. Deputy Speaker and Members of the Panel of Chairpersons in the smooth conduct of the business of the House. I would specially like to thank the

Leader of the House, the hon. Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition, Shri Vajpayeeji, the Leaders of various Parties and Groups, as well as the Whips for the unstinted cooperation and courtesy extended to me, without which my task would not have been easy.

I would like to thank the officers of the Legislature Secretariat for the good work done by them and the cooperation extended by them. The representatives of the media deserve our thanks and appreciation for reporting the matters.

THE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Budget Session of the Parliament has given us a major opportunity of discussing the important issues concerning the country. It also afforded an opportunity for a threadbare discussion on the economic policies and programmes of the Government. It has been a period of intense debate and discussion and we have all benefited by the valuable contribution of hon. Members. It is to the credit of our hon. Members that our Parliamentary system is being appreciated by all. We have strengthened the scrutiny of Parliament by the introduction of the Committee System. The combined wisdom of the hon. Members and their valuable suggestions give a major impetus to improve the functioning of the Government. I assure the House of the full cooperation of my Government in this work.

In this Session, we had the privilege of Rashtrapati's Address to both the Houses of Parliament, the passing of Motions of Thanks on the President's Address, General Budget, Railway Budget and Demands for Grants of the various Ministries were major events of the Session. The passing of the Constitution (Eighty-Sixth Amendment) Bill to extend reservation in promotions to Scheduled Tribes is of tremendous social and economic significance. The adoption of the Statutory Resolution regarding the extension of President's rule in Jammu and Kashmir underlines our combined resolve to meet any challenge. We would continue our endeavour to arrive at a consensus and do what is best for the nation.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must thank you for the admirable patience and equanimity with which you have guided the discussion of the House. Your approach and understanding have always helped the Members to have a fruitful debate. I also thank all the hon. Members, the Leader of Opposition and the Leaders of other Opposition Parties for the constructive contribution to the proceedings of this House during the Session. I wish all the hon. Members a very happy recess after this long Session.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Sir, there is a saying "All is well that ends well". Today morning clouds were booming in the sky but by evening it has cleared and we are working in day light. Being a Budget Session, it was quite important and the important thing is that the Members realised during this session that a better utilisation of time would result in disposal of more

business and discussion can be more meaningful. Mr. Speaker, Sir, after hearing the details of the achievements of the Session from you, Sir, I am convinced that we have really disposed of considerable business, otherwise in the din of the House several important things are overlooked and less important matters bog the limelight. In spite of our best wishes, we could not discuss the demands for Grants of more than two Ministries. The President's Address was also discussed after 11 weeks. There was delay in passing the Budget also. If in future the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Members put their heads together to deal with these problems, I think, we would be able to make optimum use of time and achieve better results.

When this Session started, the shadow of the elections held in the states was looming large over it and now when the Session has concluded, the ensuing election has started casting its shadow. In a democratic set up, Lok Sabha is elected for five years and this is the last year. It is natural for all the parties to put their best foot forward but along with it we will have to ensure consensus on national issues. Our unanimous decision on the issue of promotions in reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is a proof, if a proof is needed, that we can rise above party consideration on important national issues and can arrive at a unanimous decision.

When the Resolution on Kashmir was to be passed today, we had walked out of the House, but when it was put to vote we entered the House to vote in its favour. The Kashmir issue is so important that the world must realise that we speak in one voice. It does not mean that we do not have differences with the Government on its Kashmir policy. But the difference should be exhibited in a decent and decorous manner. We do sometimes cross the limits of decency and at that time we look to you Sir, Mr. Speaker. We are sometimes rebuked by you, Sir, we enter into an argument with you, Sir, sometime but ultimately you cleverly find a way out and all of us follow you. Today also you showed your astuteness.

The Standing Committee are acquitting themselves well. But their work is not receiving due recognition. Sir, you mentioned that some of the Ministries have accepted their recommendations. It is very good. But other Ministries should also study the reports of the Standing Committee thoroughly and adopt the recommendations made therein.

I understand that Members from cold region have to stay in Delhi during these 3 hot months. Here we face the heat outside the House on the one hand and sometimes heat is generated within the House also. All of us would extend our Thanks to you, Sir, for guiding the proceedings of the House very efficiently and the Prime Minister, Leaders of other political parties extended their cooperation in conducting the proceedings of the House. I think, Sir, we may not be proud of our achievements but we have sense of satisfaction and the credit for that goes to you and others.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain) : Mr. Speaker,

Sir, the Budget Session of the Tenth Lok Sabha is about to be concluded but there is no end to the problems. There is uncertainty in the body politic and we are facing a host of crises, yet self reliance is the watchword for us. Let us all strive to usher in an era of prosperity in the country by ridding it of all the ills afflicting it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I extend my best wishes to you and the House.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for conducting the proceedings of the House in an orderly manner during this long Budget Session. Sir, you also devoted considerable time outside the House in your Chamber in meeting the leaders of the parties, organising Committee Meetings. The purpose was to ensure that all the outstanding items and issues are disposed of. Many a time you are more worried about holding a discussion on some important policy or programme than we consider ourselves to be. You do point out that we are ignoring some important issue which can cause harm. We also make efforts to follow your guidelines. Government should also have a sense of satisfaction that all the important Bills to be passed have been passed with our cooperation so much so that we did not insist on discussion in respect of 2-3 Bills which we thought were of utmost importance and must be passed. For the past two three days in particulars a rare unanimity was observed in the House in respect of important national issues and this is our latent power, our inherent tradition which sustains our democracy and Institution of our Parliament. The leader of the Opposition also made a mention thereof. There was a long standing demand that there should be reservation in promotion also for the Scheduled Castes/Tribes and all of us passed those constitution amendment Bills unanimously.

Today Jammu and Kashmir problems has become an insurmountable national problem and we want to pool our resources to solve it because Kashmir is an integral part of India. It is an universal desire that peace law and order

should be restored in Kashmir and the people of Kashmir may live in peace and share the fruits of prosperity with other parts of the exhibited our maturity by showing to the world our unanimity on national issues.

Sir, in the end I would like to refer to the visit of the Hon. Speaker of Cyprus at your invitation. He had made an important observation in his Address that they treated Indian democracy as the model democracy to be emulated. Your role in strengthening the Non-aligned movement has been commendable. We look to you, Sir, for strengthening democracy in the country. Our democracy is so deeply entrenched that inspite of clash of ideas and agitation we do not harbour any bitterness towards one another. And for this we give the credit to you. You have always used persuasive methods to convince us about the right path. Whenever you scolded us, there was an underlying affection which convinced us that your action is in our interest.

I am happy that both the treasury Benches and the Opposition have fulfilled their responsibilities for which we thank you. We also share your opinion about the part played by the Lok Sabha Secretariat employees and extend our thanks to them.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now the hon. Member may stand up as VANDE MATRAM would be played.

19.40 hrs.

NATIONAL SONG

The National Song was played.

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned Sine Die.

19.41 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned Sine die.
