

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

20. Shri F.C. Thomas

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India viz. the Constitution (Seventy-third Amendment) Bill, 1991 (Insertion of new part IX A and addition of Twelfth Schedule) be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of 30 members, 20 from this House, namely:-

1. Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal
2. Shri Chitta Basu
3. Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava
4. Prof. Malini Bhattacharya
5. Shri Probin Deka
6. Shri K.P. Singh Deo
7. Prof. Ashokrao Anandrao Deshmukh
8. Shri Dau Dayal Joshi
9. Shri Shankarrao D. Kale
10. Shri Tarachand Kahndelwal
11. Kumari Padmasree Kudumula
12. Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan
13. Shri Suraj Mandal
14. Shri Yelliah Nandi
15. Dr. Debi Prosad Pal
16. Shri Hari Kewal Prasad
17. Shri Ebrahim Sulaiman Sait
18. Kumari Selja
19. Shri Hari Kishore Singh

and 10 from Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee;

that the committee shall make a report to this House by the last day of the first week of the Budget session, 1992;

that in other respects the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

that this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of 10 members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee

*The motion was adopted*

18.02 1/2 hrs

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRE-NATAL  
DIAGNOSTIC TECHNIQUES

(Regulation and prevention of Misuse)  
Bill, 1991. motion re. appointment of a  
Member

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY  
WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI  
SIDDHARTHA): I beg to move:

"That this House do appoint Dr. (Shrimati) Padma to the Joint committee on the Bill to provide for the regulation of the use of pre-natal

diagnostic techniques for the purpose of detecting genetic or metabolic disorders or chromosomal abnormalities of certain congenital malformations or sex-linked disorders and for the prevention of the misuse of such techniques for the purpose of pre-natal sex determination leading to female foeticide; and for matters connected thereto with or incidental thereto, *vice* Shri K.R. Narayanan resigned."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do appoint Dr. (Shrimati) Padma to the Joint committee on the Bill to provide for the regulation of the use of pre-natal diagnostic techniques for the purpose of detecting genetic or metabolic disorders or chromosomal abnormalities of certain congenital malformations or sex-linked disorders and for the prevention of the misuse of such techniques for the purpose of pre-natal sex determination leading to female foeticide; and for matters connected thereto with or incidental thereto, *vice* Shri K.R. Narayanan resigned."

*The motion was adopted*

18.03 hrs.

## RE. SERVICE DOCTORS

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): I am very sorry to interrupt. But with your kind permission, I would like to raise the issue regarding doctors. You may kindly recall that there was a categorical statement from the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and we accepted it. We thought that at least for once some good sense has dawned on them, when they said

that it has been passed at the highest level... (*Interruptions*) But somewhere else, the hon. Health Minister has said that nothing has been decided. The doctors have gone on hunger strike. Today is the last day of the Session. A categorical assurance was given that before the end of the Session, a decision would be taken. It seems the Members of Parliament have also been taken for a ride. Why were we associated on that day for the purpose of persuading the striking doctors to withdraw the strike? Members from all sides - Congress Members, Members from our party, Members from BJP, Janata Dal, Muslim League - everybody was there. We made a common request to the doctors to withdraw the strike in view of the fact that the patients were suffering and also in view of the categorical assurance given by the hon. Health Minister that he would consider their demand sympathetically and with an open mind. Sir, a categorical assurance was given that before the end of this Session, which is ending today the Minister will take a decision. But even the question regarding how to adjust the strike period has not been taken. Not a single issue has been determined. Therefore, Sir, I would like to know what is the response of the Government. Is Mr. Kumaramangalam going back upon what he had said on the floor of the House? Or, he has been misled by somebody else. It is a matter where the Cabinet Minister had involved the Members of Parliament from all political parties including the ruling party for the purpose of giving the assurance to those doctors saying, "Do not worry. Your matter will be looked into sympathetically. We are all here with you." On this basis we requested them to please withdraw the strike. It also came on the T.V. But what has happened now?

These doctors are coming to us. Two doctors are already on hunger strike. I think the number will increase. Now, will the Government take advantage of the absence of the Parliament sitting since there will be no one to raise the issue on the floor of the House? I do not know what will Mr.