

[Shri L. K. Advani]

and entered into bilateral arrangements with a number of news agencies of the non-aligned countries for mutual exchange of news. Also, India was elected as the Chairman of the Coordination Committee of the News Agencies Pool of the non-aligned countries at the Conference of the Information Ministers of non-aligned countries held in Delhi in July 1976. This post was held by Shri Mohammad Yunus in his capacity as a member of the Managing Committee of the Samachar. He has since resigned from the Managing Committee. The Committee of experts will examine how India will continue to function as the Chairman of the Coordination Committee and in what manner arrangements will be made with foreign news-agencies for exchange of information.

Today, Samachar enjoys total monopoly of collection and dissemination of news within the country and abroad. The Committee of Experts will review this position and make suitable recommendations in the light of Government's policy as briefly outlined above.

12.00 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: ALLOTMENT OF ACCOMMODATION TO MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

PANDIT D. N. TIWARY: (Gopalganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the election for the Sixth Lok Sabha more than 400 new Members have been elected. The Lok Sabha Secretariat had made arrangements for temporarily accommodating the new Members of Lok Sabha in Vithalbhai Patel House, Western Court Hostel, Lodhi and Ranjit Hotels, besides in various State Guest Houses located in Delhi, as most of the Members Pool accommodation continued in the occupation of ex-Members. Besides, the Directorate of Estates had also placed a few residential units temporarily at the disposal of the Secretariat and the House Committee on request for temporary allotment to

Members. As soon as some flats became vacant, the House Committee decided to allot these houses on the basis of the following priorities:—

1. Members residing in Hotels.
2. Members residing in far off places.
3. Those sharing accommodation with other allottees in Vithalbhai Patel House.

Accordingly, available accommodation was offered to Members on 2nd April 1977 with the request to convey their acceptance by 4th instant (A.N.), so that in case of their non-acceptance these could be offered to other Members. Out of 84 Members who were temporarily offered accommodation placed at the disposal of this Secretariat, only 60 have collected occupation slips till date. Allotments were also made to other Members of the aforesaid category in temporary accommodation made available by Government viz. Pataudi House Suites, D-II Flats in Kidwai Nagar and Type IV accommodation in Pandara Road and other areas, but the same were not acceptable to Members on account of their being not furnished/not in good condition besides being situated far away from Parliament House. About 95 Members have been accommodated in Vithalbhai Patel House and Western Court Hostel.

As in the past, the House Committee met and placed bungalows, twin-flats and three bed-roomed flats both 'vacant' and 'To be vacated' at the disposal of various Parties/Groups in Parliament on the basis of their strength for recommending the names of Members of their respective parties to whom they would like to allot bigger type of accommodation.

The Accommodation Sub-Committee has been constituted and it would consider the allotment of two bed-roomed flats etc., to the remaining Members on vacation basis. But the Committee is facing difficulties as some of the new Members have gone into the residential units before they

were surrendered by the Ex-Members. The House Committee has not taken cognizance of such occupation while allocating quotas of Bungalows, Twin-flats and Three bed roomed flats to various Parties/Groups in Lok Sabha. 216 Ex-Members are over-staying and out of them 30 to 40 have requested for further extension ranging from one month to six months.

The House Committee appreciate the difficulties experienced by the hon. Members for suitable accommodation particularly near Parliament House and are doing their best to find out an early solution.

This can only be done when the old Members vacate. The House Committee is requesting the old Members to vacate at the earliest. I am confident that after vacation by the old Members the situation will ease.

I may also add, Sir that many ex-Chief Ministers, ex-Ministers, ex-Speakers, ex-Ambassadors and ex-Supreme Court judges have come to this House and they need bigger accommodation. I would request the Government to make available more bungalows so that their needs could be met.

MR. SPEAKER: Members want that the statement made by Pandit D. N. Tiwary be circulated. It will be circulated later.

12.04 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (FORTY-THIRD AMENDMENT) BILL\*

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

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

SHRI YESHVANTRAO CHAVAN (Satara): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am taking this opportunity to explain the point of view of my party on the question of this Constitution Amendment Bill. At one stage it was said that it was only going to be introduced and now it is said that it is going to be considered. I don't know the position exactly. But, I am told that possibly they may not continue the consideration. But some of the clauses of the Bill have got relevance to political situations in many States in the country and therefore, I want to make it clear on behalf of my Party, and myself to the Opposition (*Interruptions*) and to Government, particularly, that they should know that we are opposed to clauses 3 and 4 of the Bill. We are going to oppose, making my point clear, particularly the point for reducing the period from six years to five years. We are opposed to that. So, I wanted to give information to the House earlier.

SOME HON. MEMBERS rose—

MR. SPEAKER: Of course, every Party need not oppose this. You need not oppose it on the Party basis now.

SHRI ARAVINDA BALA PAJANOR (Pondicherry): We are entitled to express our views.

MR. SPEAKER: Only one can oppose it. It may be Anna DMK or somebody. The rules are clear on that.

SHRI ARAVINDA BALA PAJANOR: One correction, Sir. It is All-India Anna DMK, it is not Anna DMK.