

30 hrs.

### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing 21st August, 1978, will consist of:—

(1) Further consideration and passing of the Constitution (Forty-Fifth Amendment) Bill, 1978.

(2) Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.

(3) Consideration of amendment made by Rajya Sabha in the Tobacco Board (Amendment) Bill, 1978.

(4) Consideration of a motion for concurrence for reference of the Viswa Bharati (Amendment) Bill, 1978, to a Joint Committee.

(5) Consideration and passing of the following Bills, as passed by Rajya Sabha:

(a) The Press Council Bill, 1978.

(b) The Repealing and Amending Bill, 1978.

(c) The Employment of Children (Amendment) Bill, 1978.

It is also proposed to provide for further discussion on:

(a) Motion by Smt. Parvathi Krishnan regarding statement made by the Minister of Railways regarding serious train accidents at 4-30 PM on Wednesday, the 23rd August, 1978.

(b) Motion by Shri Samar Guha regarding Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the disappearance of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH (Hoshangabad): How about the half-discussed motion on the Shah Commission Report moved by Shri S. N.

Mishra? Are there any prospects of its coming up?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have not sent any notice....

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH: It is a routine matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister will answer you when he replies to the other three Members.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): Madam Chairman, I have heard with great interest my hon. friend, the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs giving in a very persuasive sweet voice the business for the next week and as I see his finger injured, I do not want to injure him by my remarks today. But I would like to suggest that let him tell the House, whether Government intends to extend the Monsoon session. There are press reports that it is being extended, I hope, they will announce it and stick to it and will not go on extending it from time to time because it upsets our programme and plans.

The Tribunal's award on Narmada Waters was given yesterday and I must say, it was a historic occasion in more than one sense, because the people of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra have been awaiting this decision for a long time and at long last, it has come. It may please some section, and may displease some other section, but my point is that it is a very important matter concerning the vital interests of the entire nation and the Government must find some time for discussion of this important Tribunal award on Narmada waters, because certain important issues for the development and welfare of the people are involved. I am not going to make this a kind of occasion for an acrimonious debate about the interest of one State against the other; on the contrary, I consider it as a united, one family affair of

[Prof. P. G. Mavalankkar]

the entire nation. This must be discussed so that the implementation by the four States can go on the basis of some discussion and ideas given on the floor of the House. That is why, I request the Government to find some time—at least a short-duration discussion for two hours—I have already asked for it—and I do not think, it would be difficult especially now that the House has been extended by a couple of days.

Lastly, I would mention about the promised two Bills, one on Anti-Defection and the other, comprehensive Industrial Relations Bill. Next week will be the last occasion when the Minister will come with a statement and I will have again to come with this kind of a thing. I do not want him to say next week that these have been spilled over to the next session. Let him give us a promise that next week would announce that both the promised Bills will at least be introduced in the last week of the current extended Monsoon session.

**SHRI VAYALAR RAVI** (Chirayinkil): Madam Chairman, after the Janata Party came to power, there has been an erosion in the whole concept of the public sector. The latest example is what happened in the BHEL. In this connection, I have sent notices for motions as well as for a half-an-hour discussion and have met the Speaker also. I also told the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that there must be a discussion on the affairs of BHEL, because it is the concern of everybody in the country, especially of those who love public sector units. The latest agreement has been mooted by BHEL for collaboration with Siemens. It is a complete sell out to a multi-national, and BHEL has degraded into a selling agency of this multi-national concern. viz, Siemens. Moreover, with the KAWU of West Germany—which is a part of Siemens—they have an agreement, which has completely taken away Indian technology which was developed with Soviet assistance, and

the talent of the Indian engineers. That is why we are demanding a complete discussion. I wish the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs will himself come and offer, as Mr. George Fernandes has offered an enquiry against himself, a discussion on the floor of the House, on the affairs of the BHEL and prevent the sell-out of the public sector undertaking to the multi-nationals.

Secondly, I remember—I think—that the hon. Speaker said in the House that he will give an occasion for discussing it, when the Prime Minister made a statement regarding his recent visit abroad. We demanded it, and the Speaker said that he will give some time for a discussion, especially on some developments in Iran. I do not want to go into details on what has happened in Iran. Everyone knows that this Government and the previous Government were giving a VVIP treatment to the most oppressive and cruel dictator, viz. the Shah of Iran, who is suppressing the people of Iran who love liberty and freedom.

Madam Chairman, what I am saying is that this is an occasion for discussing our foreign policy; and we must review our relations with Iran, because we of the Government and they in the Government always speak about liberty and freedom. So, if they love freedom and liberty, and respect the freedom and liberty of other people—and of people of Iran also—they should not give respectability to that man who suppresses the Iranian people's love of liberty and freedom. That is why I speak on these two issues. Let the Minister come forward and offer some time to discuss these two things.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Mr. Ravi, I did not want to interrupt you; but you said: "we of the Government, and they of the Government." I want to be clear on that.

**SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:** I stand corrected, Madam Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think you usually object to corrections. So, I desisted from correcting you earlier.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN (Can-nanore): I am rather disappointed at the statement made by the Minister to-day, because he promised earlier, that the Government will soon come forward with its bonus policy. I need not remind the Minister that Onam is fast approaching in his homeland Kerala; and Puja is also coming. And this is the season of festivals. I would request the Minister to make a statement as soon as possible, so that the workers in the factories and elsewhere will not have to live under worry. I also remind him that there are trade unions like the AITUC going forward with their struggles for the bonus. Since the Minister has promised several times that Government is favourably inclined to accept 8.33 per cent, he will make a statement next week about it.

The second point is about the sugar de-control policy announced by the Government. Kerala is a State which is on the consuming side, as far as sugar is concerned. So also is West Bengal. In Kerala, the Chief Minister made a statement that the price will shoot up if this policy is implemented. He wanted an assured quota of sugar to Kerala, especially during the festival season. It is very much necessary. In West Bengal also, if I understood it correctly, the Press reports say that they are going to defy the policy of the Centre regarding de-control of sugar. Anyway, I would like to impress upon the Minister that it is a matter of serious public concern. So, the Government should make a statement next week about this matter also, i.e. on pricing—and also on this policy. Government always says that they are for the strengthening of the public distribution system. Let us get it distributed through the public distribution system. I hope the Minister will answer my questions.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: I have been reminded of so many promises that I am alleged to have made, that I begin to wonder whether my memory is falling, or the memory of the hon. Member is falling.

The questions that my hon. friend Shri Mavalankar raised were prefaced by some delectable remarks of the kind that he usually makes: since I was already injured, he did not want to injure me further. I can tell him that I may be injured but I shall not feel hurt by any of the statements he makes. The first question he raised was about extension; since very important legislative business which the government had hoped to get transacted in the House has not yet been completed, we propose that the session be extended till the 31st of this month. He referred to the award on Narmada waters and said that it was an important question and sometime must be found for discussion; I shall bear this in mind when the Business Advisory Committee meets and this question can be put to them. He referred to the promised Bills. He wants me to feel as if I was the prophet of the Old Testament... (*Interruptions*) who led people up the pishgah to view the Promised Land. I do not make any such claim. But as far as these Bills are concerned, I repeat my assurance that they will be introduced before the session ends.

My good friend Mr. Vayalar Ravi referred to what he called the erosion of the concept of the public sector. It is a matter of opinion as to whether

[Shri Ravindra Varma]  
 after this government has come to power there has been such an erosion. His main point was that there should be a discussion on the affairs of BHEL. He is free to raise it in any form in which he can raise it as an hon. Member and then the question of allotting time for it would arise. He said that there should be a discussion on the statement that the Prime Minister made after his visit abroad. I am not quite sure whether it was said by the Speaker that the discussion would be on the Prime Minister's statement or the statement made by the Foreign Minister. If I remember aright, it was about the Foreign Minister's statement. In any case his purpose in raising this question is to ask for a debate on foreign policy. As we have said, we will try to find sometime for it. Then, my friend Mr. Chandrapan was very disappointed that there was no reference to bonus, and no statement has been made. He reminded me that we said that the government would make an announcement soon. I can assure him that it will be sooner than now than from the last week. He said that we should make a statement as soon as possible. I agree with him; there should be no doubt on this score; we will be able to make a statement in the very near future. On sugar decontrol he wanted a discussion. I shall bear this in mind. Unfortunately there are no unlimited hours in the day. If there were an unlimited number of hours in the day, certainly all this could have been fitted into the next week; but

since it is not possible even for this House to change the number of hours in a day, it is not possible for us to include everything in the business for the next week.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH:  
 My point remains unanswered.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Obviously during the next week we will not be in a position to provide for it.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH:  
 The week after next?

MR. CHAIRMAN: We take up the next business now.

13.43 hrs.

MOTOR VEHICLES (AMENDMENT)  
 BILL\*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939."

*The motion was adopted*

SHRI CHAND RAM: I introduce the Bill.

\*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, section 2, dated 17-8-1978.