

14.13 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR
(SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA):** With
your permission, Sir, I rise to an-
nounce that Government Business in
this House during the week commenc-
ing 27th November, 1978, will consist
of:—

(1) Consideration of any part dis-
cussed item of Government Business
carried over from today's Order
Paper.

(2) Consideration and passing of:

(a) The Motor Vehicles (Amend-
ment) Bill, 1978

(b) The Merchant Shipping
(Amendment) Bill, 1978.

(c) The Payment of Bonus
(Amendment) Bill, 1978.

(d) The Sugar Undertakings
(Taking Over of Management)
Bill, 1978.

(e) The Code of Criminal Pro-
cedure (Amendment) Bill, 1978.

(3) Discussion on the motion by
Shri Samar Guha and others regard-
ing recent communal riots in dif-
ferent parts of the country at 2 p.m.
on Thursday, the 30th November,
1978.

Sir, it was the intention of the Go-
vernment also to include the consid-
eration of amendments made by Rajya
Sabha in the Constitution (Forty-
Fifth Amendment) Bill, 1978 in the
business for the week commencing
27th November, 1978, and the Business
Advisory Committee had been kind
enough to allot the day, 28th Novem-
ber, 1978 for the consideration of
these amendments, but the hon. Min-
ister of Law, who is to pilot these
amendments has suddenly taken ill
and has been hospitalised and, there-
fore, it may be necessary to find
another date in consultation with
the leaders of the opposition parties.
I have already talked to most of
the hon. leaders of the opposi-

tion parties and they have been kind
enough to agree that in view of the
special circumstances, a new date may
be fixed in consultation with them.

**SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mor-
mugao):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir,
I would like to bring to the notice of
the House the fact that during the last
session, a very good measure—I mean,
a measure which contained very good
legislative policy, and that was, the
Anti-Defection Bill was brought, but
the Bill was so ill-drafted and was
brought with so much stubbornness
without consulting any one that it got
the result which it deserved. The Bill
deserved that result, namely, being
withdrawn from the House. The policy
remains good and I would like to
know, what Government intends to
do and when they propose to bring
legislation on the lines of the anti-
Defection Bill after consulting the Op-
position and think over it in depth.

Secondly, the Government have men-
tioned that they are going to consider
the Forty-Seventh Constitution Am-
endment Bill which is a Bill for pro-
viding a Legislative Assembly for the
Union Territory of Delhi. I have my
own misgivings about this legislation,
because it is going to create a State
within the State. I am demanding that
Government should also consider the
bringing in of legislative measures, in
the course of the Session, to give some
sort of representative Governments to
Union Territories of Lakshadweep,
Andaman and Nicobar Islands and
also, to grant full statehood to Goa
which richly deserves it from all
points of view.

**SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayin-
kil):** I demand that the Minister should
include a discussion on the General
Insurance Corporation of India. After
nationalization, it has inherited only a
feudal system which had prevailed in
General Insurance, because it was in
the hands of private parties. The old
management has continued, and they
committed a lot of fraud and misdeeds
—which have been questioned by the

employees of the Corporation—including those of New India. Class III and Class IV employees, numbering about 23,000 have put up demands and requested Government to look into their problems. Instead of looking into their demands the management has resorted to victimization, and the entire office-bearers of the GIC Employees Union have been suspended. I am demanding a discussion on the whole subject and on management-labour relations which should be better and smoother, and on making more profits and providing a better service to the people.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA (Serampore): May I make a point? Yesterday, something happened.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have not received anything about it.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: It is a follow-up of yesterday's discussion.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will decide about it later. (*Interruptions*) The decision will be taken at the appropriate time, and according to procedure. Mr. Dinen Bhattacharya, please sit down now, Mr. Ravindra Varma will now answer.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: You should have asked the Government.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am very sorry. Whatever you speak now will not go on record.

(*Interruptions*)*

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: My hon. friend Mr. Faleiro has raised a very important question, about Government's intention regarding the Bill to ban defections. I am a little sorry that he marred the effect of what he had to say by making observations which are far from truth. He chose to say that the Bill which was sought to be introduced and which was withdrawn, was formulated without any consultation with the Opposition. All of us are given to hyperboles at times;

but I hope that such times are not the times when Members make statements on the floor of this House. It is well known to hon. Members that there were many sessions of consultation with the leaders of Opposition before the core of the Bill was agreed upon. It is unfortunate that in spite of the fact that there was identification of an area of agreement, there were perhaps some differences of opinion, or differences in understanding, about certain provisions in the Bill, which led to the situation that we witnessed when the Government wanted to introduce the Bill in the House. I wish to assure the House that the fact that the Bill was withdrawn at that time does not mean that Government has in any way weakened in its resolve to introduce legislation to ban defections. As my hon. friend Mr. Faleiro said, Government will certainly consult the Opposition groups as well as all those who should be consulted in the House, and in the near future, as soon as possible and as soon as it can give shape to a Bill which will take into consideration...

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): What about opposition to the provisions, within the ruling party?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: When I said all others, I meant not only the ruling party and the Opposition, but also hon. Members like my friend whose presence must be felt here as well as elsewhere.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: He was referring to opposition in your party.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: I know that sometimes the hon. Members opposite feel that their thunder will be stolen by people here, in every way.

My good friend, Mr. Ravi had referred to the General Insurance Corporation and wanted a discussion on this subject. This suggestion of his will certainly be placed before the Business Advisory Committee, and I do

*Not recorded.

[Shri Ravindra Varma]

hope that the Business Advisory Committee will come to a decision which Mr. Ravi will find satisfactory.

14.20 hrs.

MULTI-STATE COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES BILL

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE

SHRI HUKAM RAM (Jalore): I beg to move:

"That this House do further extend upto the last day of the Budget Session, 1979, the time for presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to co-operative societies with objects not confined to one State and serving the interests of members in more than one State."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do further extend upto the last day of the Budget Session, 1979, the time for presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to co-operative societies with objects not confined to one State and serving the interests of members in more than one State."

The motion was adopted.

14.21 hrs.

PAYMENT OF BONUS (AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Act, 1977.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose its introduction not because of the contents of the Bill but the way in which this Bill has been brought forward. I do confess and concede the fact that the previous Bill was a product of evils of Emergency and that it should not have been brought on that occasion. This the solemn assurance given to the people of India by the Janata Party in their election manifesto that if they come to power, this would be annulled and the Bonus Act be amended; and that they would see that the legitimate rights of the workers were restored to them. Everybody in this country was hoping that this Government will restore the fundamental rights of the workers and see that the bonus is a part of their wage and it is not as the basis of surplus theory. This is the whole concern. Unfortunately, the Government has adopted a method of piecemeal measure. Every year, they are issuing Ordinances and coming before the House with Bills. That is my objection. They must bring a comprehensive Bill regarding bonus and settle the issue for ever and see that the workers get their due share from production. Since this matter will be debated during the discussion on the Bill, I do not want to go in detail. I do not wish to blame the Minister because of his personal concern, but I hope that he will not take it as his personal concern. This is the policy of the Government to which he belongs. I wish that he must impress upon his colleagues who do not agree with the principle of bonus and see that there is a Bill on this and this issue is settled for ever instead of bringing forward piecemeal legislations. That is why I want to record this objection of mine and I oppose this Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Does it need opposition? You are giving a suggestion.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: I know my hon. friend who said that he

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II Section 2 dated 24-11-78.