

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Mohan Dharla to lay the paper.

CENTRAL SILK BOARD (AMDT.) RULES, 1977 ANNUAL ADMINISTRATION REPORTS OF TEA BOARD, CALCUTTA FOR 1974-75 AND 1975-76 & AUDIT REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS OF THE TEA BOARD FOR 1975-76

The Minister of Commerce and Civil Supplies and Cooperation (Shri Mohan Dharla) : I am not responsible for this delay. It was the responsibility of the earlier Government. Sir, with your permission, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Central Silk Board (Amendment) Rules, 1977 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 948 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd July, 1977, under sub-section (3) of section 13 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-959/77.]
- (2) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tea Board, Calcutta for the year 1974-75.
- (3) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tea Board, Calcutta, for the year 1975-76.
- (4) A copy of the Audit Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Accounts of the Tea Board, Calcutta for the year 1975-76 along with the statement of Accounts. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-960/77.]

11:09 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

MINUTES

SHRI NATWARLAL PARMAR (Dhandhuka) : I beg to lay on the Table Minutes of the sittings of the Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House held on the 6th and 28th July, 1977.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) : Sir, it is the convention that there should be only two names on the list. I find that there are three names here.

MR. SPEAKER : Hereafter we will try to do it according to rules.

11:20 hrs.

ASSENT TO BILLS

SECRETARY : Sir, I lay on the Table following five Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current session and assented to since a report was last made to the House on the 29th July, 1977:—

1. The Oil and Natural Gas Commission (Amendment) Bill, 1977.
2. The Insecticides (Amendment) Bill, 1977.
3. The Nagaland Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1977.
4. The Cardamom (Amendment) Bill, 1977.
5. The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 1977.

11:10½ hrs.

RE. BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar) : Sir, I have a point of order. My point of order is that in the revised list of business circulated today, there is no mention about the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs making a statement of business for next week. Normally, when there is no session on Saturday, on Friday the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs gives a statement of the business for the next week. But I do not see any statement today coming from the Parliamentary Affairs Minister as to what is the business for the next week. Without that notice how can we know what is the business for the next week.

MR. SPEAKER : There is only one day left, that is, Monday. We have sent advance notice to all of you about it. Of course, technically, you are right. But substantially, if there has to be any compliance, we have sent notice today.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR : I will not stand on technicalities. But it so happens that for next week, there is only one day. My point is that in the absence of any statement about the business next week coming from the hon. Minister we do not have any opportunity of inviting the attention of the Government through you as to what we think is important business to be conducted by the House before the House adjourns *sine die*.

MR. SPEAKER : There is only one day left.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR : We would like to raise, with your permission, certain points to which we would like to draw the attention of the Government because we think the matters are very urgent, and so they must be disposed of before the House adjourns *sine die*. Now, if there is no statement on that point, then it has been for what motion the item has been for next week's business, I should make my submissions that you will have to kindly look into it. You will have to give me and other Members the permission to speak. For example, the discussion on bonus is not taking place. We have been demanding a discussion on bonus for a long time.

MR. SPEAKER : This was considered at the Business Advisory Committee. Though it was considered a very important subject, what had happened is that there had been a commitment to the House that the House will meet it by Monday. Mr. Karmath asked for a positive assurance from the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA (Cannanore) : We do not want to discuss it with you. You can kindly ask the hon. Minister whether he would make a statement in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER : He is not making any statement. The Business Advisory Committee has gone into the matter. Your party representative was already there. We discussed the matter. Then ultimately I found it was not possible to provide for it. We had a long discussion on this.

He is not making any statement. The Business Advisory Committee has gone into the matter.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA : How can the Government not make a statement on the question of bonus.....
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Government has taken note of the recommendation made by the Members and there was a long discussion about it in the debate on the President's Address and also during the Budget Session. Members' opinion is already there. They are considering it and even if somebody wants to make further representation, they will consider it. But, unfortunately, what has happened is, not that the subject is very important, it is a matter of serious concern, and some reasonable discussion has taken place. They will take note of them and they will come to a conclusion. After all, there are so many important matters, but the Members are completely tired, by this time.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR : Besides discussion on bonus, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that two other subjects have remained at the stage of an inconclusive debate namely the discussion on price rise and motion on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

MR. SPEAKER : Your concerned Members have discussed that matter. I have discussed the matter with the Minister. Of course I told him these difficulties and he has very generously agreed to it.

AN HON. MEMBER : What about the price rise?

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Cuttack) : I shall be glad if the House discusses the resolution moved by me....

MR. SPEAKER : I have also promised that in the next session, it will be continued and adequate time will be given to that.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR : Sir, finally, I want to say about one thing. I want to know whether the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs will reply to my question, in the present session, about the matter of pension to former Members of Parliament. Earlier, he had said that the matter was under consideration of the Government and the Government would come to some decision later on. Some have asked for more pension and some like me have asked for removing the pension completely. If the House is adjourning on Monday *sine die*, what about the promise they and we all gave to the electorate of our country? The workers and the wage earners are not given their dues; how can the Members of Parliament ask for pension? The Minister says that the matter is under consideration. He considers other things. But the Government have no time for discussing this and deciding the question of removing this unjust, illegal and immoral provision for pension to the former Members of the Parliament.

MR. SPEAKER : There are many assurances given in the manifesto. We cannot implement all of them simultaneously.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) : Sir, Mr. Advani has placed a White Paper on the table of the House on the malpractice of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry. I had given a motion then and there and I should be allowed to move it. You are asking the Minister to introduce the Bill. After allowing Members under Rule 377, you have to go to the

Legislative Business. That is the practice.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA (Delhi Sadar): Here is a photostat copy of blanket MISA warrant. The D.I.G. of Police directed that these people be arrested under MISA. There were thousands of people who were arrested under MISA. There are thousands of people who have been arrested under MISA without proper warrants. You were a judge of the Supreme Court and you know that for arresting a person under MISA the personal satisfaction of the detaining authority should be there. It is a very serious matter; there was no personal satisfaction. You will agree that it amounts to a criminal offence under IPC 167. The officer issued such a type of blanket warrant..

MR. SPEAKER: You put a short notice question.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Neither is there; I gave a call attention notice; neither short notice nor call attention is there. Something should be done. Hundreds of people in Delhi and outside were arrested and the persons who did so must be taken to task. You have been a judge and I think you will also agree with me that if this thing is allowed to be repeated, the country will go to dogs and democracy will go to winds. Please come to our rescue and let this be taken up in any form, call attention or short notice. The Government must reply. The Home Minister is here. It is a very complicated matter and it is also a very important matter.

MR. SPEAKER: The Home Minister is here; he has taken note of the matter.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Only when a call attention or short notice question is admitted, the Home Minister can make his statement. The Home Minister cannot do anything.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Let the Home Minister be requested to make a statement *suo motu* on the blank MISA forms signed.

MR. SPEAKER: They say some people have been arrested under MISA without informing them. Now, so many people are arrested under MISA again and they want to know your reaction about the matter because they are raising objection. They have given short notice question. There are 377 notices. Will you consider the matter? Will you be able to make a statement on Monday?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH): Sir, I have received no notice. I will take note of this. I will take the question of the hon. Member and I will reply day after tomorrow.

PROF. DILIP CHAKRAVARTY (Calcutta South): I want to make a submission.

MR. SPEAKER: Today, anyway, we will have to sit till 8.30.

PROF. DILIP CHAKRAVARTY: Sir, regarding the Food Corporation of India, I sent a question. But the answer seems to be wrong and is not based on facts. I gave due notice for a half-an-hour discussion. But nothing has come up. Still some employees of the Food Corporation of India, who have been discharged during Emergency, remain out of their jobs. And this is the policy of the Janata Government to take everybody, as the Railway Minister did. To my questions, wrong answers came and I did not get an opportunity to raise the issue. Further, in pursuance of a statement made by me about the killing of prisoners inside jails during Emergency, on the request of the Home Minister I sent him a letter detailing 1976 incidents of killing inside the jails during Emergency. Could I expect you to direct the Home Minister to make a statement before this House adjourns?

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil): I would like to make a submission. I am not making any complaints or allegations. Yesterday we had a very good debate on the censure motion against the hon. Home Minister. Previously, it was always complained that Opposition had been blacked out and that no opportunity was being given to them. But we are all surprised to see today's newspapers; except 'Patriot', no other paper reported his speech. This paper gave only two sentences from Shri Stephen's speech, which he made for nearly 50 minutes. Even one newspaper ridiculed Mr. Stephen. (Interruptions)

I have no complaint against any newspaper or any correspondent. I only want to make them understand that what was followed in the Emergency they are continuing. They have not changed the attitude. I have an information. Somebody told me, may be a rumour, that telephone calls went to Editors of Newspapers to black out Shri Stephen. You are continuing the Emergency. (Interruptions)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I know, Mrs. Gandhi's PRO used to telephone the Editors and say 'Don't publish Jyotirmoy Bosu'. You are very lucky that this Government is very generous. You are the murderers of democracy.

DR. HENRY AUSTIN (Ernakulam): I wish to make a humble submission. When Members on the other side raised a question 'restoration of democracy', they said that freedom of the press is basic to the articulation and genuine functioning of democracy (*Interruptions*)

We endorse all those things. But, by no stretch of imagination can it be argued that yesterday's black out of Shri C. M. Stephen's reply to the Prime Minister was accidental. He had made very relevant points in the interest of an objective discussion. The people of this country should know what happened. When they are pronouncing democracy,....

MR. SPEAKER: I do not allow anything more. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. M. SAYEED (Lakshadweep): Sir, yesterday we had a very nice discussion here on the censure motion. A very senior Member like Shyamnandan Babu was interrupting Mr. Stephen after every few sentences. It is rather a reflection on the Chair in allowing that. I want to know whether it should remain a good taste or if you want to remain silent on this. If you go through the proceedings....

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. The Chair will take care of it.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: In that case I only request you to ask the hon. Member to withdraw his remarks or you expunge them.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down now. I am on my legs. Nobody need come to the rescue of the Chair. I have enough strength to take care of myself.

श्री महोदय (बिजनौर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं चार दिन से बराबर कोशिश कर रहा हूँ कि मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया जाए लेकिन मुझे मौका नहीं मिला है। 42 करोड़ रुपया किसानों का भूयार मिलों पर बाकी है और इस पर चर्चा

करने के लिए मैंने बारबार लिखा है। इस सेशन के बाद दो, हाई महीने तक सेशन नहीं होगा और किसानों के सामने बहुत सारी परेशानियाँ हैं क्योंकि उनका जो रुपया बाकी है, भूयार मिलों के उनका पेमेन्ट नहीं हो रहा है। मैंने आधा घंटे की चर्चा उठाने के लिए बार बार रिक्वेस्ट की है, लेकिन मुझे मौका नहीं दिया गया है। कृपा कर के आप सोमवार को मुझे आधे घंटे की इस पर चर्चा उठाने का कम्पौ दें।

11.28 hrs.

SALARY AND ALLOWANCES OF LEADERS OF OPPOSITION IN PARLIAMENT BILL*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the salary and allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Sir, I oppose this Bill because the country is reeling under the impact of devastating floods. There are severe scarcity conditions, hunger, poverty and unemployment. This is what Mrs. Gandhi was doing. In order to keep her Party in tact she increased the remuneration of M.P.s. from Rs. 500/- to Rs. 1000/-. I want to say to this Government that they need not be over generous to these people who had been trained to feather their own nests. That is all for the present and I will speak more when the Bill comes up for discussion.

MR. SPEAKER: I rule out this opposition because he has not given any advance notice to oppose this Bill.

The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the salary and allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament."

The motion was adopted

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.