

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put clause 3 to the vote of the House.

The question is :

“That clause 3 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Clause 4. Mr. Daga, are you moving your amendment?

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : No, Sir. I am not moving my amendment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

“That Clause 4 stand part of the Bill”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: I beg to move :

“That the Bill be passed”.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“That the Bill be passed”.

The motion was adopted.

14.51 hrs.

MOTION RE-SUSPENSION OF PROVISO TO RULE 66

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): I beg to move :

“That this House do suspend the proviso to rule 66 of the Rules of

Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the motions for taking into consideration and passing of the Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1982 and the Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund (Amendment) Bill, 1982”.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“That this House do suspend the proviso to rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the motions for taking into consideration and passing of the Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1982 and the Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund (Amendment) Bill, 1982.”

The motion was adopted.

14.53 hrs.

IRON ORE MINES AND MANGANESE ORE MINES LABOUR WELFARE CESS (AMENDMENT) BILL AND

IRON ORE MINES AND MANGANESE ORE MINES LABOUR WELFARE FUND (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): I beg to move* :

“That the Bill to amend the Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Cess Act, 1976, be taken into consideration.”

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad]

“That the Bill to amend the Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1976, be taken into consideration.”

The two Bills aim at setting up a Welfare Fund for the welfare of workers employed in Chrome ore mines in the country.

Under an enactment of 1961, a Welfare Fund was set up for financing of activities to promote the welfare of Labour employed in the iron ore mining industry. The scope of this fund was enlarged so as to cover the workers employed in the manganese ore mines and a joint fund namely the Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund was set up under the two enactment of 1976 namely (i) Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Cess Act 1976 and the (ii) Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act 1976. Under the Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Cess Act 1976 funds are secured for the Welfare Fund by way of levy and collection of cess on iron ore and manganese ore as a duty of customs where such ores are exported and as a duty of excise where such ores are consumed by metallurgical factories in the country. The statute provides for the levy of cess at rate not exceeding Rs. 1/- per metric tonne in case of Iron Ore and Rs. 6/- per metric tonne of manganese ore. The existing rate of cess is, however, Re. 0.50 per metric tonne in case of iron ore and Re. 1/- per metric tonne in case of manganese ore. The estimated collection of cess was about Rs. 180 lakhs per annum in case of iron ore and Rs. 17 lakhs per annum in case of manganese ore. The proceeds of cess after deducting therefrom the cost of collection and after due appropriation is credited to the Fund under the Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour

Welfare Fund Act 1976. The funds are utilised to promote welfare activities for workers employed in iron ore mines and manganese ore mines such as housing, medical care, water supply, education and recreational facilities etc.

The proposal for setting up a Welfare Fund for the benefit of workers employed in Chrome ore mines has been under consideration of the Central Government for some time. This was first mooted in the Orissa State Advisory Committee of Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund at its 34th meeting held under the Chairmanship of the Labour Minister of Orissa on 12th May, 1978. The Central Advisory Board for Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund in its meeting held on 14th July, 1978 also recommended the extension of Welfare activities to chrome ore mine workers.

Chrome Ore is mined largely in Orissa in belts contiguous to iron ore mines. It also occurs in small proportions in Karnataka, Maharashtra, Bihar and Andhra, Pradesh. It is mostly used in the production of iron and different types of steels. With the increased production of stainless steel in the country and abroad the demand for chrome ore is growing. About 6,000 workers are employed in chrome ore mines and their living conditions need improvement. As the number of workers engaged in these mines is small, it may not be practicable to set up a separate welfare fund and to make separate arrangements for the welfare of these workers. It is, therefore, proposed to utilise the machinery and arrangements under the Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1976 for the purpose of providing welfare activities for the workers in chrome ore mines also. For this purpose, the

Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund is proposed to be converted into a joint fund for the welfare activities for the workers in iron ore mines, manganese ore mines and chrome ore mines. The Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1982 provides for the levy and collection of cess as a duty of customs or as a duty of excise at a rate not exceeding six rupees per metric tonne of chrome ore. However, for the present, the cess is proposed to be levied at the rate of three rupees per tonne of chrome ore and thereby to generate funds to the extent of nine lakhs of rupees annually. The procedure for collection of cess on chrome ore will be the same as is in vogue in the case of iron ore and manganese ore. The metallurgical factories and chemical refractory industries consuming chrome ore will collect the cess levied by way of a duty of excise from the owners of chrome ore mines and will pay the amount so collected to the Central Government. The Customs Department will be responsible for the collection of cess levied by way of a duty of customs on all exports of chrome ore. The total cost of collection is not likely to exceed half per cent of the amounts collected by way of cess.

14.57 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

As already pointed out, the aim of these two Bills is to set up a Welfare Fund for the Welfare of workers employed in chrome ore mine. The chrome ore mine workers will get the welfare facilities on the same lines as are being enjoyed by workers employed in iron ore mines and manganese ore mines at present. With a view to providing medical facilities, the Welfare Fund will open its own dispensaries and hospitals wherever considered necessary. Grants-in-aid will also be given to

the managements who maintain dispensaries and hospitals upto the prescribed norms. The children of the chrome ore mine workers will be entitled for grant of scholarships. Financial assistance will be given to the managements for undertaking construction of the houses for the chrome ore mine workers as per the housing schemes already in vogue in other Welfare Funds. For the provision and improvement of drinking water supply and facilities for washing, the managements will be given grants-in-aid for execution of water supply schemes. The Welfare Fund will strive for the provision and improvement of recreational facilities including standard of living, nutrition and amelioration of social conditions.

To sum up, the proposal is :

(i) To convert the Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund into a joint Welfare Fund, namely Iron Ore Mines, Manganese Ore Mines and Chrome Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund and to extend the same welfare facilities to chrome ore mines workers as are available to iron ore and manganese ore mine workers.

(ii) The collection of welfare cess on export and internal consumption by metallurgical factories and chemical refractory industries consuming chrome ore presently at a rate of Rs. 3/- per metric tonne with a permissible limit of Rs. 6/- per metric tonne.

I do not think that there is anything else in the two Bills which require specific comments. As you will kindly see that the matter is urgent and I am keen that the two Bills are put on the Statute Book as early as possible.

15 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY - SPEAKER :
Motions moved :

“That the Bill to amend the Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore

Mines Labour Welfare Cess Act, 1976, be taken into consideration.”

“That the Bill to amend the Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1976, be taken into consideration.”

We will continue tomorrow.

We now take up the Private Members' Business.

15.01 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

FORTY-SEVENTH REPORT

SHRI T. R. SHAMANNA (Bangalore South) : Sir, I beg to move :

“That this House do agree with the Forty-seventh Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 3rd August, 1982.”

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

“That this House do agree with the Forty-seventh Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 3rd August, 1982.”

The motion was adopted

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Bills for introduction.

Shri Ranjit Singh—absent; Shri Chitta Basu.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Insertion of new article 156A)

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri V.N. Gadgil—absent.

Shrimati Pramila Dandavate.

REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGES BILL*

SHRIMATI PRAMILA DANDAVATE (Bombay North Central) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory registration of marriages in India and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory registration of marriages in India and for matters connected therewith.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI PRAMILA DANDAVATE : Sir, I introduce the Bill.