

following Report and Minutes of the Committee on Public Undertakings:—

(1) Fourth Report on Extraordinarily High Expenditure on Publicity by Public Undertakings.

(2) Minutes of the sitting of the Committee relating to the above Report.

12.02 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

SEVENTEENTH REPORT

SHRI NIRMAL CHANDRA JAIN (Seoni): I beg to present the Seventeenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

12.2½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

THIRD REPORT

श्री हरि बिष्णु कामत (हालगाबाद) :
अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस छठी लोकसभा की
राज्य सभिका का तृतीय प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत
करता हूँ।

12.03 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) REPORTED WITHDRAWAL OF CONSENT BY CHIEF MINISTER OF KARNATAKA TO THE EXERCISE OF POWERS BY C.B.I. IN THE STATE

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA (Delhi Sadar): With your permission, Sir, I want to make a statement under rule 377.

The Chief Minister of Karnataka, Mr. Devraj Urs, has withdrawn the

State Government's consent to the exercise of powers by the Central Bureau of Investigation for criminal offences in that State. The consent was given many years back by the State Government. Thus, the Chief Minister has opened up possibility of a potentially explosive conflict with the Centre in another sensitive areas. There are reports that some other State Governments will follow in his foot steps. The Andhra Government has also withdrawn its consent. Thus, the CBI will not be able to operate in many parts of the country and thus it may pose a serious problem for the Centre.

The background for the withdrawal of the consent by the Chief Minister is that the Central Government in exercise of its powers appointed the Grover Commission last year to look into the charges of corruption and nepotism against Mr. Devraj Urs. The Commission found him guilty on four counts. It is stated that another list of charges of corruption etc. was submitted to the Grover Commission after the dismissal of the Karnataka Ministry headed by Mr Urs. The Commission is supposed to look into all these charges. By withdrawing the consent, the Chief Minister wanted the Centre to drop further proceedings against him on the plea that the people of Karnataka had given him a fresh mandate. But the Central Government has refused to agree with him. The Central Government rightly feels that any person, whosoever he may be small or big, must be punished if he has indulged in corrupt practices as everybody is equal in the eye of the law.

The Karnataka Chief Minister has refused to accept this principle and he has now retaliated by striking at the C.B.I. operation at Karnataka. The news that the Commission has been facing hostile demonstrations have also appeared in the press. This action of the Chief Minister is a crude attempt to save himself from the clutches of the Commission. If he is