

12.15 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

**TWENTY-SEVENTH, TWENTY-NINTH AND
FORTY-FIFTH REPORTS**

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA (Delhi Sadar): I beg to present the following Reports of the Public Accounts Committee:—

(1) Twenty-seventh Report on paragraph 41 of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1973-74, Union Government (Civil) relating to Purchase of Fertilisers from Abroad.

(2) Twenty-ninth Report on paragraph 70(i) of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1974-75, Union Government (Civil), Revenue Receipts Volume II, Direct Taxes relating to Incorrect Valuation of Assets.

(3) Forty-fifth Report on paragraph 20(a) of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1973-74, Union Government (Civil), Revenue Receipts Volume II, Direct Taxes relating to Incorrect Grant of Export Incentives.

**COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF
SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED
TRIBES**

FIFTH REPORT

SHRI SURAJ BHAN (Ambala): I beg to present the Fifth Report (English and Hindi versions) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the Ministry of Railways (Railway Board)—Reservations for and employment of, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Workshops of South Eastern Railway and also award of petty contracts to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the South Eastern Railway.

15. 17 hrs.

**CUSTOMS, CENTRAL EXCISES
AND SALT AND CENTRAL
BOARDS OF REVENUE (AMEND-
MENT) BILL***

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
SATISH AGRAWAL)**: I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for certain amendments to the Customs Act, 1962, the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 and the Central Boards of Revenue Act, 1963.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil): The hon. Minister has also circulated a statement regarding the urgency of the Bill being placed before the House in this session itself.

It is true that it has to come into force by 2nd January, but that is no reason for urgency. The Minister is expected to know that this House may adjourn by the 23rd. The session began one month ago, and if it was urgent, he should have introduced it a week ago.

You have taken the House casually. You merely send a letter to the Speaker requesting exemption from Directions 19A and B and you think you can put it through. It is an example of the callous indifference shown to the House by this Ministry. You should know that the House will have to go into it thoroughly.

The hon. Minister has said in the statement:

“The changes are mostly of a technical nature seeking to define or re-define clearly the scope of the various heads”.

19-12-77

265 Bill Introduced AGRAHAYANA 28, 1899 (SAKA) Constitution (44th 266 Amendment) Bill

I agree that it is a simple Bill, but you should have brought it in time. You have shown indifference as you have done in other matters. That is the reason why I am objecting. For instance, the problem of the Indians in the Gulf countries has not been taken up. This matter has also been taken casually and lightly. The reason given is not satisfactory. You have not given any convincing reason.

SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL: I am really very surprised that such an active Member of this House as Shri Vayalar Ravi is opposing the introduction of a Bill which I am not introducing just now.

I sought the permission of the Chair for relaxation regarding the period prescribed for introduction and circulation with regard to another Bill, namely the Customs Tariff (Amendment) Bill. That Bill has not yet been sent to the Lok Sabha and so I am not seeking permission to introduce it now. This Bill which I am going to introduce is absolutely a different one. I am not seeking any relaxation from the hon. Speaker. Of course, I had sent a request to the hon. Speaker regarding relaxation under rule 19 (a). But that is with regard to another Bill which is not yet ready for introduction. So, there is no question of any relaxation here. Unfortunately, my hon. friend, Shri Vayalar Ravi, did not read paragraph 2 properly. The other Bill regarding which I was seeking relaxation is not yet ready. I am not seeking leave of this House for the introduction of the other Bill. This is absolutely a different Bill for which I am seeking leave of the House for its introduction. The objection raised by the hon. Member, Shri Vayalar Ravi, is absolutely unfounded.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: If I am wrong, I stand corrected.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for certain amendments to the Customs Act, 1962, the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 and the Central Boards of Revenue Act, 1963."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL: I introduce the Bill.

12.22 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (FORTY-FOURTH AMENDMENT) BILL

MR. SPEAKER: We are taking up the Constitution (Forty-Fourth Amendment) Bill. As the House is aware, six hours have been allotted for the consideration and passing of the Constitution (Forty-fourth Amendment) Bill, 1977. If the House agrees, 3 hours may be allotted for the consideration motion of the Bill, 1 hour for Clause-by-Clause consideration and 2 hours for voting and third reading of the Bill. Is it the pleasure of the House to accept this proposal?

HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): Sir, it will facilitate the Member if you could kindly indicate the time at which the motion for consideration of the Bill as well as the Clauses will be put to vote. If you can give us some guidance in this respect, it will certainly help the Members.

MR. SPEAKER: If the House agrees, I think, we may take up voting on the consideration motion as well as the Clauses at 4.30 P.M. If necessary, we will sit for another half an hour more. We will discuss both the consideration motion as well as the Clauses and take up voting at 4.30 P.M. We will have third reading of the Bill after the voting is over.

†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.