

Shri C. M. Stephen and some other hon. Members left the House.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR (Trivandrum): I do not want to make a speech. But we also protest against the statement made by the Prime Minister and we walk out.

Shri M. N. Govindan Nair and some other hon. Members left the House.

SHRI GEORGE MATHEW (Muvattupuzha): On behalf of Kerala Congress, we also protest and walk out.

Shri George Mathew and some other hon. Members left the House.

श्रीमती चन्द्रावती (भिवानी) : इस महाद्वीप के तीन टुकड़े बनाये—यह नेहरू डायनेस्टी की देन है। कश्मीर को हमेशा के लिए एक नासूर बनाकर रख दिया है : इस देश के लिए नासूर पैदा करने में इस डायनेस्टी ने बहुत बड़ा काम किया है लेकिन इस देश की प्रबल्लम्स को साल्व करने के लिए कोई भी काम नहीं किया। (व्यवधान)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Ahsan Jafri—not here.

Shri Ravindra Varma.

12.27 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): With your permission, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing 13th March, 1978, will consist of:

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

(2) Submission to the vote of the House of Demands for Grants on Account (General) for 1978-79.

(3) Discussion and voting on:

(a) Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1978-79.

(b) Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1977-78.

(c) Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) for 1975-76.

(d) Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 1975-76.

(e) Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1977-78.

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR (Gorakhpur): I have already given notice of a privilege motion against a Police Officer. About that I would like to say something.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have already been informed regarding the position. Please do not raise that matter now.

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR: Dr. Ambedkar, a respected leader of this nation—his photographs were torn out in Bareilly. About that also I have given a notice. It is a very serious matter.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is under consideration.... (Interruptions).

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR: कोतवाली पुलिस के अन्तर्गत यह हुआ है। In UP, the Police officers are behaving like this.... (Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is मने कह दिया कि वह अण्डर कंसिडरेशन है the point of all of you getting up? It is under consideration.

Now Shri Vayalar Ravi.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: (Chirayinkil): The Minister has presented the business for the next week about which I would like to make one or two suggestions.

[Shri Vayalar Ravi]

One is about the Verghese Committee report. It has been widely publicised that an autonomous corporation will be formed. This is a very vital change if accepted. So, it is necessary that this House must have an opportunity to discuss this very important matter. They have even made references to Members of Parliament and have even asked MPs to refrain from putting question about AIR. About that I have moved a privilege motion but I would not speak about it now. Firstly I demand a discussion in the House on the Verghese Committee report.

Secondly, there is a very grave situation in Kerala regarding closure of cashew factories. More than 1.3 lakh workers are employed in this industry and the Cashew Corporation has completely failed to supply the raw material. The imports have gone down from 2 lakhs to 42,000 tonnes. So, this is a very urgent matter which should be discussed.

Lastly, there is a very alarming report in the Press that a purse of Rs. 65 lakhs is to be presented to Jayaprakash Narayan. Jayaprakash Narayan is a respected leader of this country and any suspicion about the collection of this Rs. 65 lakhs would tarnish the name of Jayaprakash Narayan. This House must know from where this money has been collected and the persons who have contributed in a big way to this fund. Otherwise, a suspicion will arise that this collection consists of donations of black money and Jayaprakash Narayan will be unnecessarily drawn into this controversy. So, I make an appeal this House must discuss and know how this money has come and from where it has come.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am sorry to say that the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, while giving us this statement of Government business for next week has failed to give

us for one more week any definite indication, much less a promise, of government's intention to do away with defections through a proper legislative measures. I would like the Minister to be specific on this point because how long are we going to stay in this House and in this country and watch all kinds of defections? Only yesterday we saw the spectacle of the hon. Speaker being obliged to recognise an additional party born out of one party. I do not want to say that the Speaker was encouraging defection because that would be wrong. But the fact remains that people like us after getting elected come here and stand before the electorate with a certain ticket—of this or that party, or as an independent. We have no right to change that ticket until we give up that ticket, resign the seat, come back on a new ticket. When that is so, I do not understand how alignments of Congress (R) & Congress (C) can take place, and how and why a number of members of Congress (R) and Congress (C) and others get into the Janata Party with obviously narrow political purposes. I would like the Government to tell this House and through this House the whole country that they mean business; that they are in earnest about it. I am more agitated on this point because I come from the State of Gujarat where the arch defector—I do not like to refer to his name again and again, he is notorious who has been synonymous with corruption—has now been admitted into the Janata Party and the Janata Party Gujarat people are referring this matter.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is not the occasion to bring such things.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: I want to bring to notice the gravity of the situation. That process is going on and the dissenting Members of the Janata Party in Gujarat are publically condemned by their own party leaders. How can you allow? This defection cannot be allowed like this. I want this Government to be honest.

On Sales Tax, the Finance Minister says that he cannot do what he promised to do because of differences and difficulties. But at least on this you can certainly honour your election manifesto and get rid of this disease of defections by bringing the necessary Bill as early as possible.

I want this promise to-day that he will bring such a Bill in this House in this session and get it passed as early as possible so that this disease of defection is got rid of.

Secondly, very briefly, I will mention one point. The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has not chosen to follow.....

SHRI VINODHAI B. SHETH (Jamnagar): When you say that Shri H. M. Patel has clarified to-day morning that this promise or an assurance has been given in the manifesto, whether Janata Party manifesto is bigger or the Constitution is bigger?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We are not going to discuss this point.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: I would suggest in all humility, to the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs with regard to the time table—which he himself said yesterday had been given to the House for discussion on various demands for grants. I see in that he has not mentioned in this list the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs, the Ministry of Communications, the Prime Minister's Departments like Atomic Energy, Electronics, Science and Technology and Space, and, of course, his own Ministry, the Parliamentary Affairs Ministry.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You had already mentioned it yesterday. Do not repeat.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: He said he had consulted various points of view and parties, and so this was what the opposition had suggested. In the

previous Parliament, even those of us who were independents no party considerations were there) were invited by the then Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. He has not invited us. He has not consulted us, at least on the feasibility of having certain departments roped into discussion. If you go on with this convention that only the departments which are selected by the Opposition groups and parties will be discussed, then certain Ministries will never be discussed. The Ministry of Communication, and particularly the Ministry of Law and Justice which has got to do a lot after the emergency should have been discussed here. The Minister of Planning.....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are repeating yourself.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: I am concluding. This country requires a lot to do in terms of planning to eradicate poverty and we have no discussion on poverty. And, finally, I want to say that when the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and his Government, with whose intentions I broadly and fully agree, have restored democracy and everything in this House, then how is it that it lies in his mouth to say that Private Members' discussions, Half-an-hour discussions etc. will be reduced only to once a week after 6 O' clock and no further discussion will take place during the budget session? Let not this House be treated in this fashion. Government after Government proposing to this House, that the legitimate, precious, limited time of Private Members, is so eroded in this fashion, by giving an excuse that the opposition parties are saying this or saying that. I am an independent and I belong to no party but I am expressing a point of view of the whole country when I say this. I want to suggest that this is a wrong thing; it is an erosion on the very precious, limited time available to Private Members of this House. This cannot be taken away by the Government particularly when urgent matters come up for discussion.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA (Delhi Sadar): Sir, before you go to the next item I want to make a submission.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI (Anantnag) rose—

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We have asked for a submission from the Editor of the paper and we will get it.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: My submission is this. Yesterday the Speaker was kind enough to assure the House that some sort of statement will be made by the Minister of External Affairs on the statement made by Prime Minister of Zambia. This country is very much annoyed on that. It amounts to an interference in the internal affairs of another country. He promised either a Calling Attention or a statement to be made by the Minister today. But nothing like that has happened. Neither is there a Calling Attention on this subject nor is there any statement by the Minister. This is a very important issue. The Government should clarify its position and they should tell us as to what steps have been taken by the Government over it. This is open to you Sir...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I cannot say. It is for the External Affairs Minister.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: The hon. Speaker said he will consider a Calling Attention Motion.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: So far as Calling Attention Motions are concerned, and Rule 377 notices are concerned, of course, we will be considering them.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: It is to be admitted by the Speaker, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will consider them. About the statement and all that, it is different.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: It is the second alternative. Calling Attention may be there. It is an important thing.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: What does the hon. Minister want to say in response to my points?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am asking him. Please have patience.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): Sir, I shall not tire of pointing out that the statement which I made was about Government Business that the House will consider during the next week. It is customary that that occasion is used to make references to items which are in the minds of hon. Members, which they would like to be discussed sometime or the other. So far as the discussion about the working of the various Ministries is concerned, when the Business Advisory Committee's Report was placed before the House, there was a Motion for the adoption of the Report and this matter was discussed. Unfortunately the Hon. Member was not present.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER. He raised it yesterday

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: The House has adopted the Motion already and I don't want to make a statement on that. Then, the other question that he raised was about the anti-Defections Bill. I do not think that it is necessary for me to make a long statement in reply to what he has said.

He asked me to assure the House that Government means business. Well, I assure the House that the Government means business.

Next, he asked us to say that we are quite earnest.

I say, the Government is very earnest about the anti-Defections Bill.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: What is the proof?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: The proof of the pudding is in the eating and when it is served on the table you will savour it. Had it not been Mr. Mavalankar, I would have said that perhaps the hon. Member wanted to say what he had in mind about defections. But, since he mounts guard on the rights of the House, I shall not say what I would have said in the case of some other hon. Members.

I have already said that the Government is in right earnest about the anti-Defection Bill. The matter is under consultation with the Leaders of the Opposition. We will also take into consideration the views of others, and the Bill will be introduced in this session.

12.40 hrs.

MIZORAM BUDGET, 1978-79

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): Sir, I rise to present a statement of estimated receipts and expenditure of the Union territory of Mizoram for the years 1978-79.

The House is aware that following the resignation of the Council of Ministers on the expiration of the term of the last Legislative Assembly, President's Rule was imposed in Mizoram for a period of seven months commencing from 11th May, 1977. Subsequently, this arrangement was further extended for a period of four months commencing from 11th December 1977. In the circumstances, the functions and powers of the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Mizoram are, at present, exercisable by Parliament. Accordingly, with your permission, Sir, I lay before the House the Annual Financial Statement of the Union ter-

ritory showing its estimated receipts and expenditure for the financial year commencing from 1st April, 1978.

2. Revenue receipts of the Union territory in 1978-79 are estimated at Rs. 1.59 crores and expenditure at Rs. 39.46 crores leaving a deficit of Rs. 37.87 crores which will be met by grants-in-aid from the Centre. On the Capital Account, the estimates reveal a deficit of Rs. 8.86 crores, which will be met by loans from the Government of India. Plan outlay in 1978-79 will be Rs. 16.65 crores as against Rs. 11.37 crores provided in the current year's Budget. Sectoral distribution of the Plan outlay is given in the Explanatory Memorandum. In addition, the estimates for 1978-79 also include an outlay of Rs. 1.44 crores on the Central and Centrally Sponsored Plan schemes and Rs. 1.79 crores on the Plan schemes of the North Eastern Council.

3. Sir, at present, we are seeking only a 'Vote-on-Account' for five months on the basis of the estimates which I have just laid before the House.

4. Sir, as I have mentioned, the President's Rule in Mizoram was extended for four months commencing from 11th December, 1977. This extension was necessitated because of the talks which were in progress with the Mizo National Front representatives. The talks are still continuing and there are prospects of bringing the insurgency to a close. The talks, however, cannot be allowed to come in the way of holding elections. Although a "Vote-on-Account" has been proposed for a period of five months, the Government are keen to hand over the administration to the elected representatives of the people as soon as possible and intend to hold elections in the very near future.