[Chaudhuri Charan Singh]

Another point that was made was about the constitution of the Advisory Committee. I said that perhaps no such Committee was necessary. But I find I was wrong. It is a statutory Committee. I understand that the Home Ministry has already taken necessary steps in the matter and soon a Committee will be appointed.

Now, there is a question about Hindi. Some of my friends have imported heat into this question but that heat was imported unnecessarily. This Government has absolutely no intention of imposing Hindi on any State or Union Territory.

Now, so far as elections are concerned, the Resolution itself says that the elections will be held within a few months. Supposing I had said in the Resolution that they will be held 'within three months' or 'within four months' or 'as early as possible' I think matters would not have improved thereby. I have already committed myself to the statement that the elections will be held within a few months and the term 'few months' can include a period of two months to four months also. I am ready to amend the words of the Resolution to read 'as soon as possible' if that will satisfy the Hon. Members.

So far as the fairness of the elections is concerned, this question need not have been raised at all. We ourselves have been victims of unfair elections. I therefore assure the Members there that so far as we are concerned, we will do our best to see that the elections are free and fair.

Now, I may say that in as much as the people of Tamil Nadu will soon be in charge of their own destiny, perhaps no emotion need to spent over this issue any more. With these words, I hope the Resolution will be accepted, by the House.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: There were some points regarding closures and so on. Will the Consultative Committee be formed soon and these matters be referred to them, as these are of extreme urgency?

CHAUDHURI CHARAN SINGH: The Consultative Committee is being formed very soon.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House approves the continuance in force of the proclamation dated the 31st January, 1976 in respect of Tamil Nadu, issued under article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of one year with effect from the 10th March, 1977."

The motion was adopted.

17.48 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: CONTINUANCE IN FORCE OF THE PROCLAMATION IN RESPECT OF NAGALAND

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (CHAUDHURI CHARAN SINGH): 'I beg to move the following Resolution in the House:

"That this House approves the continuance in force of the proclamation dated the 22nd March, 1975, in respect of Nagaland, issued under article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of one year with effect from the 26th March, 1977".

The State of Nagaland came under the President's Rule with effect from 22nd March, 1975, the date on which the proclamation under Article 356 of the Constitution was issued by the President. This proclamation was approved by the Lok Sabha on 25th March, 1975 and by the Rajya Sabha on 26th March, 1975. Since then, three extensions of six months each

were approved. The last time the Resolution for further continuance in force of the proclamation in Nagaland for six months, with effect from 26th September, 1976, was passed by the Lok Sabha on 20th August, 1976. The proclamation was thus in force upto and inclusive of 25th March, 1977. The continuance of the proclamation for a period of one year from 26th March, 1977 was also approved by the Rajya Sabha on 1st March, 1977.

If the House is pleased to approve and adopt the resolution I have moved, President's Rule in Nagaland can continue for one more year. This would not preclude elections being held long before the period of one year could expire. Government would like to have such elections as soon as the climatic conditions in Nagaland could permit the holding of elections. Monsoon breaks out in Nagaland much earlier and, therefore, elections would not be possible, for reasons of climate, in June. But we are most anxious that elections should be held in Nagaland as soon as possible.

I commend the Resolution to this House for approval.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is only one member to speak on this. Shrimati Rano M. Shaiza..... She is not here. I shall put the Resolution to the vote of the House. The question is:

"That this House approves the continuance in force of the Proclamation dated the 22nd March, 1975, in respect of Nagaland issued under article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of one year wit' effect from the 26th March, 1977."

The motion was adopted.

17.52 hrs.

CALTEX [ACQUISITION OF SHARES OF CALTEX OIL REFINING INDIA) LIMITED AND OF THE UNDERTAKINGS IN INDIA OF CALTEX (INDIA) LIMITED] BILL

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS & FERTILISERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): Sir, I beg to move*:

"That the Bill to provide, in the public interest, for the acquisition of the shares of Caltex Oil Refining (India) Limited and for the acquisition and transfer of the right, title and interest of Caltex (India) Limited in relation to its undertakings in India and thereby to secure that the ownership and control of the petroleum products produced by the Caltex Oil Refining (India) Limited, and marketed and distributed by the said undertakings, in India, are so distributed as best to subserve the common good, be taken into consideration."

This is a Bill which helps this nation to have control over one of the most strategic areas of its economy connected with both development and defence. The Caltex and the other concerns which are being taken over have been doing their business in this country for quite some time. Nevertheless, it has been the consistent policy followed by the nation to own and conduct the affairs connected with this sector of our industry through the system of public ownership; that is almost a national consensus, a national policy. It is, therefore, proposed to take over all these interests, and provision therefor has been made.

One thing is true that this takeover is through the agreement arrived at between the predecessor Government and Caltex (India) Limited, and this Government would not like to go back upon that agreement. Therefore, we have brought forward this Bill providing for the same type of compensation as was agreed upon between the predecessor Government and the Caltex whose interests we propose to take over. I hope that the House will welcome this measure and

*Moved with the recommendat on of the Vice Pres.dent acti g as Pres dent.