

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Member may continue on Tuesday.

15.29 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
FIFTY-FOURTH REPORT

SHRI RAM DHAN (Lalganj): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Fifty-fourth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 9th April, 1975."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Fifty-fourth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 9th April, 1975."

The motion was adopted.

15.30 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: MEASURES TO REMOVE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INJUSTICES TO WOMEN—contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We resume discussion of the Resolution moved by Shri Indrajit Gupta. He may continue his speech.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Allahpore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, on the last occasion, I only had the time to read out the text of the Resolution, which I will not repeat now because it has been circulated to all Members.

15.31 hrs.

[SHRI DIVESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI in the Chair]

Since the occasion for this discussion has arisen primarily due to the fact that the General Assembly of the United Nations has adopted a Resolution calling for the observance of this

year 1975 as the International Women's Year, I would like to begin with by pointing out the significance of this decision. I may say also that it is somewhat ironical that it has fallen to my lot as a representative of the much maligned tribe of bachelors to move this Resolution. I am afraid, the majority of my colleagues, who are married men, do not seem to be so eager or enthusiastic to come forward to take initiative in this matter. If this Resolution has to be implemented, it has to depend on the actions by married men and not by bachelors.

I wish to point out that the Resolution adopted at the 27th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on the 18th December, 1972, which called upon all members-States and people to observe 1975 as the International Women's Year contains the following very pertinent paragraph in its preamble. I am not going to quote more than that, because there is no time:

'Considering that it is necessary to strengthen universal recognition of the principles of equality of men and women, *de jure* and *de facto*, and that both legal and special measures have to be taken by Member-States which have not yet done so to ensure the implementation of women's rights...'

I wish to point out that the United Nations has laid particular stress on the fact that by equality of men and women, they mean not only *de jure* equality, but also *de facto* equality, not equality which is simply on paper, but equality in actual practice and in effect. Secondly, this paragraph has called upon Member-States to take specific legal and social measures to ensure implementation of women's right, and this is the point on which I wish to develop my arguments.

I was looking through the proceedings of the Committee which was set up by the United Nations much earlier in 1967 to discuss the Draft Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination