

Is it the pleasure of the House that leave as recommended by the Committee may be granted?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: The Members will be informed accordingly.

11.49 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

GENERAL COUNCIL OF INDIAN SCHOOL OF MINES, DHANBAD

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of the provisions contained in rules 4(ii) to (iv) and 15 of the Rules and Regulations of the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves, to serve as members of the General Council of the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, subject to the other provisions of the said Rules and Regulations."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of the provisions contained in rules 4(ii) to (iv) and 15 of the Rules and Regulation of the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves, to serve as members of the General Council of the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, subject to the other provisions of the said Rules and Regulations."

The motion was adopted.

13 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1976-77— Contd.

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE—Contd.

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up further discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Commerce. The time left for this Ministry is 3 hours and 50 minutes.

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): The Deputy Minister will intervene at 1 O'clock. The Minister may be called at 3 O'clock

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Muruganatham.

*SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM (Tirunelveli): Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Communist Party of India, I rise to express my views on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Commerce for the year 1976-77.

While welcoming the rise in our exports by 14.6 per cent during 1975-76 as compared to 1974-75, I would like to inform the House that during the period 1972-73 to 1974-75 our exports had risen by 100%. I refer to this because that the increase in exports during 1975-76 should not lead us to any complacency; constant efforts are required to maintain the tempo of exports.

While the exports have been going up, the imports have also been going up. During 1973-74 the imports went up by 58 per cent, in 1974-75 by 51 per cent and in 1975-76 by 58 per cent. On account of this factor, the trade gap in 1975-76 is estimated to be of the order of Rs. 1400 crores. If our economy is to develop at a faster rate, then steps should be taken

*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.