

I trust that hon. Members will agree with the intention of the Government to tighten the measures relating to prevention of hoarding, profiteering and other such anti-social elements. Hon. Members are aware of the various measures that Government have been taking in regard to ensuring the smooth supply of essential commodities and I am sure will fully support the proposals. The proposed amendments, I am sure, will have the support of the entire House. We are taking all measures possible and advance action to see that there is no bottleneck in the distribution of essential commodities and, specially now, on the anvil of the biggest festival season, we are overseeing the general availability and distribution of essential commodities and a prompt and alert monetary system is being smoothened. I hope, the passage of this Bill will strengthen the hands of the Government in the matter of greater awareness and alertness about the consumer protection measures.

With these words, I move.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SOME HON. MEMBERS: We can take it up tomorrow.

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMETARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): I have no objection to taking it up tomorrow.

17.51 hrs.

#### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMETARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): I would like to make one announcement. I have talked to our friends sitting opposite as well as our friends here. Because certain Bills have to go to the Rajya Sabha, they have to be given precedence. There is the Metal Corporation (Nationalisation and Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill; there is the Laxmirattan and Atherton West Cotton Mills (Taking over of Management) Bill and there is also the Dhoties (Additional Excise Duty) Repeal Bill. These Bills will be taken up in the first instance tomorrow and this part-discussed Bill will be taken up afterwards. Subject to that, I have no objection to the House being adjourned now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I hope, the House agrees with the proposal made by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore): Only with the expectation that the Minister will arrange for the proper supply of essential commodities and see that the prices do not go up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow at 11 A.M.

17.53 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, August 25, 1976/Bhadra 3, 1898 (Saka).*