

197 *Re. Working Journalists, etc.* PHALGUNA 29, 1894 (SAKA) *Re. Letter of Resignation by Minister. (St.)* 198

leave to introduce a Bill further to amend certain taxation laws in the Union territories.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend certain taxation laws in the Union territories."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : I introduce† the Bill.

12-35 hrs.

RE. STRIKE BY WORKING JOURNALISTS, ETC.

SHRI A.K. GOPALAN (Palghat) : Under rule 377 of the Rules of Procedure, I raise the following matter in the House and request the concerned minister to make a statement :

"Token strike by working journalists throughout the country today to press their case for a third wage board, revision of D.A. and interim relief, etc."

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Will you ask the Labour Minister to make a statement? The working journalists are agitated over this.

MR. SPEAKER : I will convey it to him.

SHRI A.K. GOPALAN : I want to know when the Minister will make his statement.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Is he going to make it today?

MR. SPEAKER : I will convey it to him.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Why don't you direct him to make a statement?

MR. SPEAKER : My conveying it to him means that I am sending it on to him.

श्री हरि भूषण (दक्षिण दिल्ली) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह प्राज्ञ अखबारों के कर्मचारियों की हड़ताल हो रही है यह देश में सबसे बड़ी हड़ताल है और इसके बारे में मंत्री महोदय का बयान आना चाहिये।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब प्राप बैठिये।

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Pupri) : Sir, I want a statement to be made about the mine explosion in Dhanbad.

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed a Calling Attention on that.

12-42 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. LETTER OF RESIGNATION BY MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on Friday the 16th I had read out in this hon. House extracts of a letter I wrote to the Prime Minister, regarding my decision to resign from the Council of Ministers. As several hon. Members also remarked that day, it was the Prime Minister's prerogative to take a decision on my letter. On the 18th evening she informed me that she had considered the matter, but was not accepting my resignation, and would like me to continue as Minister. In deference to her wishes, I will continue to have the privilege of serving her and the country in my present capacity.

I may add that, with regard to Avros, we have decided to institute a high-level examination of all aspects involved. I hope to be able to announce the details of this within the next few days.

May I, once again express my deep gratitude to the hon. Members and to you, Sir, for the generosity with which you have treated me?

†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.