

MR. CHAIRMAN : Every Member is quite capable. Why is Shri Gupta pleading on behalf of everybody ? They do not require his help or anyone else's help.

SHRI P. C. SETHI : As far as the question of Ind-Nepalese Treaty is concerned, the Customs (Amendment) Bill is coming up and we shall be discussing that point thoroughly. It would not be possible for me to go into the details with regard to the particular point raised by the hon. Member.

I am grateful to Professors Ranga and Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta for giving suggestions which would certainly receive the utmost consideration.

श्री मधु लिमये : बी ट्वील बंग्र के बारे में जवाब देना चाहिए कि सरकार रिक्वीजीशन करेगी या नहीं। कंट्रोल दाम से आप बॉरे रिक्वीजीशन करेगे या नहीं... (व्यवधान)... मैं व्यापार मन्त्री से जवाब चाहता हूँ।

श्री प्र० च० सेठी : मैं जवाब दे चुका हूँ।

श्री मधु लिमये : कूह कारपोरेशन कंट्रोल दाम से अधिक पर खरीद रहा है, तो क्या आप कंट्रोल दाम से रिक्वीजीशन करेगे ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is answering.

SHRI P. C. SETHI : I have already answered.

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE : I do not want an answer from you. I want an answer from the Minister of Foreign Trade.

SHRI P. C. SETHI : I am answering on behalf of Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the question is :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1968-69, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, we take up the clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That clauses 2 and 3, the Schedule, Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 2 and 3, the Schedule, Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P. C. SETHI : I move :

"That the Bill be passed"

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed"

The motion adopted

18.41 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

(Completion of Bokaro Steel Project)

SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU (Chittoor) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Bokaro Steel Plant which is being set up with the Russian help has considerably been delayed. In the way in which it is proceeding, I fear, it will be delayed by at least two to three years.

There are two reasons for this delay. In my opinion, and one is that Russia does not want India should develop speedily and the other is that they want to put continuous pressure on India so that India may help them in the international sphere and also act according to their wishes. Bothways, they have succeeded. They are putting pressure on every matter and also indulging in our internal affairs too.

As the House is aware, the Railway Wagons Deal with Russia which was considered and finalised long ago is still hanging on. May I ask the Minister when it will be completed ? About six months back, the then Minister said that there was nine months delay. Will the Minister tell us whether at least within these 9 months the project will be completed or whether he will come forward for another six

months or one year's delay? May I also know whether the Government has received a firm date of delivery schedule from the Heavy Engineering Corporation in respect of equipment to be supplied by them? Is it also a fact that the Heavy Engineering Corporation has agreed to supply 99,000 tonnes of equipment and may I know whether the balance equipment which was to come from Russia has been received? Is it not a fact that there was a difference of opinion between the Heavy Engineering Corporation and the management of the Bokaro Steel Plant over the price to be paid for the equipment and, if so, what is being done in this regard. Why did not Government intervene earlier so that the delay in this regard also would have been settled earlier? I want to know whether this delay will result in some loss and, if so, to what extent. May I also know whether it is a fact that there was also some delay in receipt of basic components which the Heavy Engineering Corporation required were to be obtained from Russia and whether the delegation of the Heavy Engineering Corporation visited Russia but could not reach any agreement with them and, if so, what has the Government done in this regard?

Is it also a fact that the Managing Director has refused to serve for another term after the expiry of his agreement? Now, the present Secretary in the Steel Ministry is looking after the management. If the Secretary of the Steel Ministry has

to go always there and concentrate his attention at the Bokaro Steel Plant, will not his work in the Steel Ministry suffer regarding other items? From the beginning there has been so much of delay on the part of Russians also. They have not submitted the entire plans of the project. Instead of sending the plans every now and then for indigenous manufacture, they could have given all these plans to the indigenous manufacturers and they could have started manufacturing the indigenous items. But what happened? All the plans were dumped on 31st March last year. The officials have taken eight months to sort out the plans only. After eight months' delay, I do not know whether they have entrusted this for manufacture; I do not know how long it will be delayed. From the beginning the Government was not interested in entrusting the work to some other party. Americans offered to undertake this project, Japanese also offered.....

SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA (Kota):
There is no quorum in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The bell is being rung.....The bell has stopped ringing.

There is no quorum. The House stands adjourned to meet at 11 A.M. tomorrow.

11.52 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven
of the Clock on Thursday, March. 20
1969/Phalguna 24, 1890 (Saka).*