

other Handloom Industries Development (Additional Excise Duty on Cloth) Act, 1953."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI : I introduce† the Bill.

COURT-FEES DELHI (AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Court-fees Act, 1870, as in force in the Union territory of Delhi.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Court-fees Act, 1870, as in force in the Union territory of Delhi."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : I introduce† the Bill.

14.16 hrs.

STATEMENT RE-COURT-FEES (DELHI AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1967

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the explanatory statement giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Court-fees (Delhi Amendment) Ordinance, 1967 as required under rule 71(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1497/67].

14.16½ hrs.

COTTON FABRICS (ADDITIONAL EXCISE DUTY) (REPEAL) BILL

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Dinesh Singh I beg to move :

"That the Bill to provide for the repeal of the Cotton Fabrics (Additional Excise Duty) Act, 1957, be taken into consideration".

As you will no doubt observe, this is a very short Bill which only seeks to repeal

the Cotton Fabrics (Additional Excise Duty) Act, 1957. The House might recall that the enactment proposed to be repealed under this Bill was intended to ensure that cloth produced from the automatic looms licensed for installation during 1957-58 should be mainly exported. For this purpose, it provided for the levy of an additional excise duty on any quantity of cloth so produced which was diverted from the external to the home markets. In actual practice, however, it was found that this condition proved onerous and very few mills came forward to instal such automatic looms. The matter was, therefore, reviewed in 1958 by the Textile Enquiry Committee. That Committee recommended a modified scheme and it was decided that instead of a penal excise duty as is provided for in the enactment and is sought to be repealed, the mill should furnish the bonds reinforced by appropriate bank guarantees to secure their export performance. There was thus no occasion to have recourse to the provisions of this Act.

With these words, I beg to move that the Bill be taken up for consideration.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the Bill to provide for the repeal of the Cotton Fabrics (Additional Excise Duty) Act, 1957, be taken into consideration."

SHRI S. S. KOTHARI (Mandsaur) : Sir, the Government can hardly claim credit for the repeal of this Bill, which is actually a dead letter in law. The Bill seeks to withdraw a duty which was actually never imposed. If the Law Ministry scrutinises the statute-book, it would find that there are a number of such redundant measures or parts thereof which are unnecessarily burdening the statute-book and are liked dead branches, which should gradually be cut off. I think the Government had better give attention to this still more. At present the excise duty on cotton fabrics and yarn comes to about Rs. 100 crores. One fifth to one-third of the cost of cloth is constituted by excise duties. The result is high prices which the common man has to pay. If Government wants to re-

† Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

* Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 14-11-67.