

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will permit him but not now. The next item is "Statement by Ministers". They may lay them on the Table.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have already said that the statement will be circulated to hon. Members.

12.43 hrs.

CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO SQ
NO. 1203 RE PRODUCTION OF
NON-FERROUS METALS

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : Sir, I lay on the Table a statement correcting the answer given on the 21st April, 1969 to supplementaries by Sarvashri Pattiam Gopalani and S. Damani on Starred Question No. 1203 regarding production of non-ferrous metals.

12.43½ hrs.

STATEMENT RE. GOVERNMENT, REACTION TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON SALARY, ALLOWANCES AND OTHER AMENITIES TO MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAGHU RAMAIAH) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a statement* regarding Government's reaction to some of the recommendations of the Joint Committee on Salary, Allowances and other amenities to Members of Parliament.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Sir, the statement may be read out.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Even if they are read out there is no time for putting questions (*interruptions*). Copies of all statements will be circulated now.

SHRI S. M BANERJEE (Kāṅpur) : Sir, I raise to a point of order. My point of order is with regard to item 22 on the Order Paper.

12.45 hrs.

PETROLEUM (AMENDMENT) BILL**

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (DR. TRIGUNA SEN) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Petroleum Act, 1934.

SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL (Chandigarh) : Sir, I rise to oppose the introduction of this Petroleum (Amendment) Bill. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons which has been attached with this Bill one reason that has been given is that they want to change the nomenclature and no reason has been stated regarding the enhancement of penalty. You will see that by clause 14 the penalties are being enhanced from a fine of Rs. 500 to one month's imprisonment and Rs. 1000 fine. This is being done in every minor cases. Even for the breaches of ordinary rules, even for persons who are temporarily in charge of either a place where petroleum is stored or even when someone is transporting it. You will be pleased to see that in the original Act Chapter I deals with this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : At this stage you are allowed to make a brief statement and not allowed to go into the merits of the Bill.

SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL : I am not going into the details. On the contravention of a very minor rule, a person in charge of a place of storage of petroleum, a person transporting petroleum or a person dealing with petroleum if he refuses or neglects to show to any officer any receipt-acle or plant or even if he fails to render reasonable assistance to any officer during inspection he will be liable to be punished with imprisonment as well as a fine of Rs. 1000.

My submission in this behalf is that there must be some rationality behind puni-

*Please cols.....

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[Shri Shrichand Goyal] shing for certain offences. Even a very ordinary breach of a rule and a very serious breach of a provision of the law are being treated alike. Some criterion should have been laid down for punishment of these offending persons. Nothing has been indicated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons whether the offences are going up, whether the provisions are being mis-used by people etc. Without advancing any argument and without taking the House into confidence as to what is the intention they are bringing forward this Bill which will hit hard so many persons.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Petroleum Act, 1934.”

The Motion was adopted

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

STATEMENT RE-GOVERNMENT REACTION TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF JOINT COMMITTEE ON SALARY, ALLOWANCE AND OTHER AMENITIES TO MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT—contd.

SHRI J. B. KRIPALANI (Guna) : Sir, there was something said about salaries and allowances of Members of Parliament. I do not know what it is. We could not hear what the Minister said and what is going to be done. I want to know what it is.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : A statement has been laid on the Table of the House and it will be circulated to hon. Members.

SHRI J. B. KRIPALANI : Have they taken a decision ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No, no. It is not a Bill, it is only a statement (*Interruptions*).

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I rise on a point of order. This is not a mere statement (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please resume your seat. What I suggest is after three items, motions for concurrence, are over, I will ask him to read the statement.

SHRI SURENDRA NATH DWIVEDY: (Kendrapara) Today is the last day of the session. The point that Acharyaji made was this (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Have some patience; just listen what I say. He will circulate it and you will be permitted to put questions in the evening.

SHRI SURENDRA NATH DWIVEDY: Let him read it out. (*Interruptions*)

श्री रवि राय (पुरी) : उनको पढ़ने के लिए कहा जाये ।

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If I permit him to read, I will not permit questions then,

श्री प्रकाश वीर शास्त्री (हापुड़) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जो कार्य सूचि आपके कार्यालय की ओर से वितरित की गई है आज और जो कल की कार्य सूचि थी और उस में से जो कार्य शेष रह गया है, उन दोनों को देखने से यह स्पष्ट हो जाता है कि उस सब को आज हम समाप्त नहीं कर पायेंगे। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, अब तक की यह परम्परा रही है कि जब भी कोई अधिवेशन समाप्त होता है तो प्रायः शुक्रवार को समाप्त होता है लेकिन अगर कोई महत्वपूर्ण कार्य शेष रह जाए, बिधेयकों के रूप में या चर्चाओं के रूप में तो शनिवार भी उसमें सम्मिलित कर लिया जाता है। यह अब तक की परम्परा रही है। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि आप हमारी ओर से अध्यक्ष महोदय, से निवेदन कर दें कि वह इस विषय पर गम्भीरता से विचार कर लें ताकि इन सब को समाप्त किया जा सके। इसके लिए अगर आवश्यक हो तो इस अधिवेशन को कल