

15.19 hrs

## APPROPRIATION (No. 3) BILL\*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): I beg to move for leave to introduce a 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 years 1971-72.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a 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 1971-72."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI K.R. GANESH: I introduce † the Bill.

I beg to move:

"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 1971-72 be taken into consideration,"

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: 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 1971-72 be taken into consideration.

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we take up clause-by-clause consideration. There are no amendments. Now 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 K. R. GANESH: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill be passed."

Shri Khadilkar.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): My colleague has dealt with some of the financial criticisms regarding the financial and budgetary policy that were levelled during the course of the debate. But I must confess that, by and large, almost all the participants have supported these demands.

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† Introduced Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[Shri R. K. Khadilkar]

Keeping in view the solidarity and support this House has extended to the people of Bangla Desh, I would like to narrate in brief what we have done. For instance, Mr. Mishra and some others suggested why we just came forward with a Rs. 60 crore allocation for evacuee relief. We must confess that at that time it was a symbolic thing altogether because we expected and even now we expect that primarily this is the responsibility of the international community and as Prof Hiren Mukherjee pointed out they continuously for years to come have borne the full burden of the refugees, who as you know, are called Palestinian refugees. Here also they should come forward. But, unfortunately, their effort is not commensurate with the problem.

So far we have received in cash and kind Rs. 9 crores but in cash Rs. 2 crores and odd. It comes to Rs. 8.40 crores in material and cash put together. This is rather disappointing but we expect soon other commitments regarding food and transport would be fulfilled and more efforts will be made to meet the requirements that are there.

The world community is fully aware of the problem as also the magnitude of the problem, but so far the response is not as commensurate, as I said earlier, to the requirements. Let us hope more relief will come and the United Nations Agencies will come forward with more aid.

I must say that some more aid has come only yesterday and particularly, the problem of transport, vehicles and jeeps and other things is likely to be met very soon. Similarly in regard to food some new commitments have been made.

I have got here the figures of what we have received from Australia, Canada, Germany, France, Japan, Switzerland, UK, USA, USSR, etc. Food items costing Rs. 45 crores will be arriving in India in the next two months Rape seeds, 1,71,000

tonnes; Rice 2,20,000 tonnes; soyabean oil 15,000 tonnes, sugar 65,000 tonnes, milk-powder 7,000 tonnes. Although the response was disappointing, now these things are coming. We need more rice and shelter materials. Also, milk powder and certain nutritional food are our immediate requirements. I hope more quantities will be committed by the international agencies.

One point was made by the hon Member from Tripura. It is true, in Tripura almost the refugee population and the population before the refugees started coming in has reached an equal level. Their population was about 14 lakhs; now more than 12 lakhs have already come in Tripura. The burden on the administration is so very heavy. But I must say this. Whatever other deficiencies he has pointed out are not correct. Members like Mr. Tridib Chaudhury and other foreigners have visited the camps. They have paid compliments to the entire administration. This is such a stupendous problem and this has been handled so efficiently. They were surprised about it. We have to keep in view the daily influx. The latest figure is this, 10 per cent of the total population of Bangla Desh has walked over. Keeping in view this aspect of the problem, the Administration has done extremely well. And, this is not just paying them compliment on behalf of the Department or on behalf of the Government. This compliment has been paid by the foreign agencies. Only this morning I have a communication from an International Agency (OXFAM) in which they have conveyed high appreciation of the administration in this difficult time.

**SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contar) :** Whenever foreign delegation comes on a visit, on any occasion, have they made any adverse comment; can you cite any one instance like that?

**SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR :** Only this morning I received this letter. I mention

Tripura because he has written to me appreciating the arrangement, because they are under high pressure.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA (Domariaganj) Is it worthwhile for my hon. friend to denounce every act of the Administration, especially at this moment when they are doing such a difficult task and carrying on their duty, under strenuous circumstances?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : For the present we have taken credit for Rs. 50 crores that we should get by way of foreign assistance. Rs. 150 crores are committed to our finances. You have to keep that in view. I am surprised when Mr. Mishra said that the last budget was a jugglery, there was a certain amount of deception and all that. We said then, we will come forward with a Demand later on and we have come with it just now. The entire budgetary position will be reviewed before the next session. This is what we have provided till end of December.

We have been asked how long are we going to feed them and how long it will take for us to send them back. As I have said on an earlier occasion, I do not know whether Shri Shyamnandan Mishra and others have lost faith in the people. I have faith in the people who are fighting there and shedding their blood. They are determined to liberate their territory. We have pledged our solidarity support with them. I do not share the pessimism of Shri Jagannathrao Joshi and others who have said, oh, this is a problem which will be perpetual, and we shall have to shoulder that burden...

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begusarai) : Does he equate himself with the people? He is synonymous with the people?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : Of course. This criticism is uncalled for.

One point was made by Shri Chintamani Panigrahi of which I must take note. He said that some foreign observers, either from the UN or otherwise, had gone to Bangla Desh and they were carrying on repairs, that is, communications repairs. I have also come across such a news. The number of observers, I am told, is about a hundred; some of them are engineers; and they are trying to repair the lines of communication. I do not know how far this news is correct, because it has not been verified. But I have seen press reports, and I have got some reports independently also, and I think that these foreign elements have gone there to repair the communications so that the Yahya Khan military junta or military command there, which has almost been besieged and confined to some centres will operate very easily. If this is the relief that UN agency going to offer to the people of Bangla Desh, I think that the sooner they stop it, the better it would be, because it will have an adverse effect; it will not be relief but it will give more freedom and manoeuvrability to the forces which are confined almost to the cantonments like Dacca, Comila and others.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : Will the hon. Minister make it clear whether we are right in understanding what he says, namely that the foreigners are being invited by the Yahya Khan regime to help them in building their communications, so that the oppression continues? Are the foreigners helping them like that?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : I am not in a position to say whether they have come at the invitation of that Government. But since the hon. Member had raised that point, I was just meeting it. I have seen that news item; beyond that, I cannot say anything.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I think we need not spread out too far.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA : Why does he not refuse assistance from the USA which has been doing so much of mischief ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : I shall now make a reference to one of the remarks made by my hon. friend opposite. He was making fuss about this problem and deprecating that our policy had failed and all that. He has said that because of this new treaty, we have lost our freedom. I must repudiate that criticism with all the emphasis at my command, because if he has understood the treaty, leaving aside his allergy...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That discussion will come up tomorrow.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : But that remark of his needs to be rebutted here and how.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We are going to discuss it probably for the whole of tomorrow.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : I shall conclude in half a minute

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA : Is he the authentic exponent of the treaty ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : I am not elaborating on that. But I shall merely say that because of this, India will not be losing her freedom. On the contrary, India will be a stronger bastion of peace in this part of the world and aggression or potential aggression from aggressors will be deterred and they will be deterred from executing their designs. Other points were also raised by other Members, but they did not devote much of their attention to ma-

ters concerning relief and other aspects. Only some points were made by the hon. Member from Tripura, and I have replied to him already.

The other aspects of the case were covered by my colleague.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

“That the Bill be passed.”

*The motion was adopted.*

15.36 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE : ACCIDENTS ON THE EASTERN RAILWAY

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai) : This discussion is about two recent tragic accidents in the Sealdah Division of Calcutta in the first of which 11 persons lost their lives and in the second, 7 persons were killed. I will not deal with the details, but I would like to say at the outset that when there is a discussion under rule 193, for the discussion to be fruitful, we should know the results of the preliminary inquiries held into these accidents. In the case of the first accident, two trains collided against each other, in the second, into a train that was standing, another train telescoped from behind. There is something peculiar and unnatural in this; something must have gone wrong either with the driver or the pointsmen or the people dealing with the signals or there must have been wire-cutting and interference with transmission of messages. One cannot have a fruitful discussion without knowing these details except to wail for those who fell victims to these two tragedies.