

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am saying that the operation of some of the provisions of the Constitution have been suspended. Clause (2) of article 151 relates to the laying of the report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General on the Table of the State Legislature. That is the most important thing.

MR. SPEAKER: Those points can be raised tomorrow. But since he had got an opportunity today, he will not be given another opportunity tomorrow.

12.21 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

FIFTY-THIRD REPORT

SHRI G. G. SWELL (Autonomous Districts): I beg to present the Fifty-third Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

12.21 hrs.

RULES COMMITTEE

FIFTH REPORT AND MINUTES

SHRI SEZHIYAN (Kumbakonam): I beg to lay on the Table the following Report and Minutes of the Rules Committee:

(i) Fifth Report under sub-rule (1) of rule 331 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha; and

(ii) Minutes of the sitting of the Committee held on the 17th March, 1975.

12.23 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

HUNDRED AND THIRTY-NINTH REPORT

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Sir, I beg to present the Hundred and Thirty-ninth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Hundred and Thirtieth Report relating to the Ministry of Commerce (Coffee Board).

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): What is the action taken on this? We made a submission before this particular report also?

MR. SPEAKER: I have made it very clear that in such cases the report goes to the Government for action. Then the comments or reactions of the Government go to the Committee first and at that stage no reference is made in this House. Why should he depart from the procedure? It is unfair. He can comment on it at a later stage, after it has gone to the Committee. He did it on one or two earlier occasions also. It should not be done.

12.23 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. PROCUREMENT AND PRICING POLICY OF WHEAT

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): In the context of the overall economic situation and improved prospects of wheat crop, the report of the Agricultural Prices Commission on price policy for wheat for the 1975-76 marketing season was considered at a Conference of the Chief Ministers and in the meeting of the Consultative Committee of Parliament.

After careful consideration, it has been decided to accept the recommendation of the Commission to maintain the procurement price for wheat at

Rs. 105 per quintal for all varieties. Keeping in view the basic aim of the policy to maximise procurement for Central Pool a suitable bonus scheme will be introduced. The issue price of wheat for stocks released from the Central Pool for the public distribution system will remain unchanged at the present level. In the interest of maximising procurement, restrictions will be continued on the inter-State movement of wheat by treating each State as a separate Zone and no movement of wheat would be allowed outside a State except on Central Government account. The mode of procurement such as purchase in regulated markets and/or through a system of levy will be decided by the State Governments. The marketing of wheat within the State will be regulated by the State Governments through appropriate administrative/statutory measures as may be deemed necessary by them.

It is hoped that with determined implementation of the policy by the State Governments, it would be possible not only to attain the target of procurement recommended by the Commission but also to bring about an overall improvement in the food economy

12.25 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of section 5(1) (i) of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may

direct, one member from among themselves to serve as a member of the Animal Welfare Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act, vice Shri Banamali Patnaik resigned."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Section 5(1) (i) of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one member from among themselves to serve as a member of the Animal Welfare Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act, vice Shri Banamali Patnaik resigned."

The motion was adopted.

12.25 hrs.

PROVIDENT FUNDS (AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): Sir, on behalf of Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Provident Funds Act, 1925.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Provident Funds Act, 1925."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH: I introduce the Bill.

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 24-3-75.

†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.