

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed,"

The motion was adopted.

15.32 hrs.

THE SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES OF MINISTERS BILL*

SHRI H. M. PATEL (Dhandhuka) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the salaries and allowance of Ministers.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the salaries and allowances of Ministers."

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : I rise to oppose this Bill. I have to remind the House and my hon. friend Shri H. M. Patel and Piloo Mody who has also sponsored this Bill, of the Bill moved by my hon. friend Shri Dandekar. The idea of it was just to curtail certain rights and privileges in terms of money of the hon. Ministers. But here, if you read the Bill, it does not do that. We want the Ministers in this country to reduce their expenses, and not to pass another legislation to give them the same benefits that they are enjoying now. I appreciate the idea and the intention of the sponsors of this Bill, but this Bill does not meet the requirements. Now the Ministers are getting something income-tax free. Let there be a simple Bill by which whatever they are getting is charged income-tax.

If you read the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it says ;

"The main object of this Bill is to make clear to the Public the true extent of the over-all emoluments now being received by the Council of Ministers of the Central Government, and to indicate to the tax-payers in particular the true cost thereof."

Lastly it says ;

"It is not intended to make, nor does

the Bill in fact make, any substantial change, whether by way of increase or decrease, in the money value of the present aggregate real emoluments of the Ministers."

If it is decreased, I will welcome it, but what is the use of sponsoring a Bill which does not decrease their salary ?

Today two lakhs of Central Government employees have been denied increase in dearness allowance even after the cost of living index has gone upto 225. Why should we think that the Ministers should continue to get what they are getting ? I would request him to bring another Bill suggesting decrease in their salaries which I will support.

Members of Parliament do not suggest decrease in the Minister's salaries because they are afraid of decrease in their own salaries. I would request Mr. Patel, therefore, to withdraw this Bill and bring another Bill which I will readily support.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : It seems to me that the hon. Member has not fully appreciated the importance of a Bill of this kind. It really focusses attention on the existing actual emoluments of the Ministers. Just as an ordinary member of the public has to pay income-tax, it is important that the average citizen realises what emoluments he pays to the Ministers. There is no particular reason, at this stage, as we see it, to cut down their emoluments. What is objectionable is in the first instance that the ordinary person gets an idea that the Minister receives a salary in terms of a couple of thousand rupees...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are going into the merits.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : He went into the merits and said that he could understand a Bill which sought to reduce the emoluments. I will have no objection if he moves an amendment suggesting reduction of their emoluments.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law

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relating to the salaries and allowances of Ministers."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Article 141 and insertion of new article 143A, etc.)

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Muvattupuzha) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN : I introduce the Bill.

LAND ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of section 11 and 23 and insertion of new section 15A)

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA (Tamluk) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Land Acquisition Act, 1894.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Land Acquisition Act 1894."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA : I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of article 16)

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA (Tellicherry) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA : I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED CASTES) ORDERS (AMENDMENT) BILL*

†SHRI C. CHITTABABU (Chingleput) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for inclusion of certain castes in the lists of Scheduled Castes and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for inclusion of certain castes in the lists of Scheduled Castes and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

†SHRI C. CHITTABABU : Introduce the Bill.

PREVENTION OF POLLUTION OF AIR AND WATER BILL*

PROF. S. L. SAKSENA (Maharajganj) : I beg to move for leave to introduce my Bill to stop factories, municipalities, local bodies, motor-vehicles, households burning poisonous fuels and other agencies and individuals from emitting poisonous gases in the

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†The Member spoke in Tamil.