

13.11 hrs.

**CONVICTION OF MEMBER**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that I have received the following telegram, dated the 14th November, 1973, from the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Diamond Harbour:—

"Shri Madhuryya Haldar, Member, Lok Sabha, courted arrest on the 12th November, 1973, along with others, in the Court of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Diamond Harbour, 24 Parganas, West Bengal, in case No. 0510/73, in contempt of Court proceedings during mass demonstration. He was convicted and confined till the rising of the Court for the day."

**COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS****FOURTEENTH REPORT**

SHRI A. P. SHARMA (Buxar): Sir, I beg to present the Fourteenth Report of the Committee on Petitions.

**COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES****SIXTH REPORT**

DR. HENRY AUSTIN (Ernakulam): Sir, I beg to present the Sixth Report of the Committee of Privileges.

**COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL****(I) REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE**

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA (Dausa): Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill further to amend the Companies Act, 1956, the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 and the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969.

**(ii) EVIDENCE BEFORE JOINT COMMITTEE**

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the record of evidence tendered before the Joint Committee on the Bill further to amend the Companies Act, 1956, the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 and the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969.

13.13 hrs.

**NATIONAL LIBRARY BILL****EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE**

SHRI AMARNATH VIDYALANKAR (Chandigarh): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do extend upto the last day of the Monsoon Session, 1974, the time for the presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill to provide for the administration of the National Library and certain other connected matters."

SHRI SEZHIYAN (Kumbakonam): In this case, I want to know as to why they want to take such a long time—that is, till the end of the monsoon session of 1974. There is an impression in the House and in the country that the Committee is taking too long a time to finish their deliberations, in the allotted time. When they ask for time initially, they should be well aware of the responsibility undertaken by them to finish their job. But now it is about 2 years and I do not know whether they will take another 2 years. Instead of the last day of the monsoon session, why cannot we say last day of the first week of the Budget Session. I beg to move:

That for 'Monsoon Session' substitute 'last day of the first week of the Budget Session'.

**SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR** (Ahmedabad): One of our Committees received hundreds of Memoranda but we selected only some of them. If the Memoranda are more, they can certainly select a few of the Memoranda and thus save time. I do not think that more time should be taken on that score. So, what I would like to submit is that the Chairman of the Committee may ask for time till the last day of the first week of the next Budget Session.

**SHRI AMARNATH VIDYALANKAR:** The reasons for extension of time are given in the note which has been circulated to Hon. Members. Apparently it was a very innocuous Bill but later on some of its provisions were found to be very controversial and the Members of the Committee belonging to the Opposition will bear me out in what I say. It was on the request of some of the Members belonging to the opposition, who insisted that the Bill should not be rushed through, that this has to be done. We were to complete evidence and going to consider clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill. But it was then suggested that because certain provisions of the Bill are very controversial, therefore, in the interest of amity and goodwill and in order to overcome those controversies, this should be done, and it was unanimously decided by the Committee that time should be extended.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** But why does he want to skip over the next session and go to the monsoon session?

**SHRI AMARNATH VIDYALANKAR:** When I placed this matter before the Education Minister and conveyed the wishes of the Members that certain provisions of the Bill were desired to be reconsidered, the hon. Minister assured me that he would do so and he wanted some time for consideration. One matter which he mentioned was that he was appointing a director of that library, and it was thought that the Public Service

Commission had been moved and the director would be appointed, and it was the desire of the Members of the Committee that his advice also should be available to them. Therefore, in the interests of making the Bill more acceptable to the House, it would be necessary that some more time should be given.

**SHRI SAMAR GUHA** (Contal): I am also a Member of that Committee and I quite agree with what has been said by the hon. Member. It has been said that the National Library Bill is an innocuous one. But actually it is not so innocuous. It has exercised the minds of not only the employees of the National Library but of a number of eminent personalities.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** What does he want to be done?

**SHRI SAMAR GUHA:** Some objection has been raised by certain friends, and, therefore, a little background has to be given, which has not been given so far by my hon. friend. I would point out that there have been agitations, and there have been conferences and conventions attended by very eminent personalities not only from Bengal but from other parts. When we visited Bombay...

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** I do not understand this. What does the hon. Member want to be done?

**SHRI SAMAR GUHA:** I want to submit that the hon. Minister of Education has suggested that he is going to appoint a director and see the functioning and the working process of the National Library. If it proves satisfactory, some of the provisions of the Bill will be radically changed. So, a very considerate and very reasonable attitude has been taken by the Education Minister, and I hope the House will bear with us on this matter. We from the Opposition had all agreed that this should be deferred so that an opportunity may

be there to see the working of the new arrangement that had been made.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: May I submit....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He has already spoken. Why does he want to speak again for a second time?

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Before hearing me, how can you know what I want to say? I want to invite your attention to a very important problem which I think is of grave importance....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Why does he not say what he wants to be done?

This way, he is taking away the time of the House.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: In the memorandum, in paragraph 4....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, what does he want to be done?

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: I would invite your attention to an important point in paragraph 4 of the memorandum, where it has been mentioned that because opposition has been made to the Bill, more time was required. My point is that this Bill has not been circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: May I tell the professor that I had also the misfortune to belong to that group once? Let him not be so long-winded.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: This Bill has not been circulated, but it is already before a Select Committee of the House which is discussing it. Therefore, why should the memorandum say that because there are people opposing it in the country, they require more time?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Gwalior): May I suggest a *via media*?

Shri Vidyalkar wants that time should be extended up to the last day of the monsoon session. May I suggest that it may be extended up to the last day of the next session? After they meet and discuss, if necessary, they can come forward with another motion for extension.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I think that what has been suggested by him is acceptable to the House.... (Interruptions) Now, I shall put it to the House. When there are two opinions and there is no compromise, I have no alternative but to put it to the House. There are two opinions. No more debate on this.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: (Kanpur): I only want half a minute. I am also an equal here.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, order.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): If the suggestion is that we may extend it to the end of the next session and then we can reconsider the position, then I think the hon. Minister is willing. I would appeal to the Chairman also to accept it.

SHRI AMARNATH VIDYALKAR: I accept it.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Neither the hon. Minister nor the Chairman can do it. I do not understand this. The Memorandum has very rightly pointed it out. There has been opposition from a very responsible quarter. There has been agitation. Unfortunately, many of my hon. friends have perhaps not gone into the whole question; perhaps they are not acquainted with the background.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let there be an end to it.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: It will be setting a wrong precedent. The

[Shri Samar Guha]

Joint Committee has taken a unanimous decision and to alter it on the floor of the House will be a bad precedent. I draw your attention to it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, order.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: As I said, the Joint Committee has unanimously decided and adopted a certain resolution; how can the hon. Minister or the Chairman overrule it? At least let there be a *via media*. You can refer it back to the Committee. Otherwise, it will be a bad precedent.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Let them come to the House again at the end of the budget session for a further extension, if necessary.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begusarai): Do they expect the monsoon to irrigate them with ideas? Why are they waiting for the monsoon session? Let them bring it in the budget session.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Let there be an amicable solution found. Let the director be given a chance to function....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, order.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Just by ringing the bell, I cannot be shut out. This is not good (*Interruptions*).

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will you not hear me, Sir?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am prepared to hear you, but if I do, somebody also gets up and there is no end to it.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I am the only person.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If you are, I am willing to hear you.

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN (Kangra): I am the next one. Kindly hear me also.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Prof. Samar Guha has said....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Do not refer to Samar Guha. Why don't you make your submission?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Whatever Mr. A has referred to, I am not in agreement with it. Let there be no question of waiting for the monsoon session. Suppose there is no monsoon?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: There will be a session.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I take it that this is the motion suggested by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs by way of amendment:

"That the Committee be given time till the last day of the next session".

Is that so?

SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will first put the amendment suggested by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to the text of the motion. If this amendment is acceptable, then the original motion does not arise.

The question is:

"That the Committee be given time till the last day of the next session".

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I now put to vote the motion as amended. The question is:

"That this House do extend up to the last day of the next Session, the time for the presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee on

the Bill to provide for the administration of the National Library and certain other connected matters."

*The motion was adopted.*

**SHRI SAMAR GUHA:** The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has set a very bad precedent.

13.25 hrs.

**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377**

(i) **REPORTED ARMED ATTACK BY LANDLORDS ON ADIVASIS IN MAHARASHTRA**

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE** (Rajapur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Adivasis of Shahada and Taloda taluks of District Dhulia in Maharashtra are being subjected to armed assaults with the help of paramilitary organisation set up by rich landlords in these localities, most of whom are Gujjars. These landlords have usurped lands of the Adivasis through unscrupulous means and are terrorising them with the help of arms.

The exploitation of these Adivasis by Gujjars attracted a group of Sarvodaya workers to these localities and they became a part of Shramik Sangthan that was set up to carry on the campaign for the recovery of usurped lands.

These Adivasis were attacked with arms and at Patilwadi where the armed Gujjars opened fire on the Bhils, one Adivasi was killed and several others were injured.

As a result of the work of the Adivasi organisation the wages of the agricultural labourers went up by 40 to 50 per cent and this provoked the landlords and made them set up a paramilitary organisation.

On 5th October, a meeting of Adivasi landless labourers, held near the village Chirido in Shahada Taluka, was attacked by the paramilitary organisation of landlords led by the

Surpanch of a near by village Palawadi. For these assaults, axes, iron bars and country pistols were freely used.

When the Government decided to distribute some forest land amongst Adivasis, the Surpanch who led the armed assault on Adivasis pressurised the administration and the distribution of land was stayed. In these localities, there is a collusion between the members of this paramilitary organisation of the landlords and the law and other machinery of the Government.

Under the garb of "Crop Protection Forch", the rich landlords have strengthened the paramilitary organisation. On the letter-head of Satpura Tapi Area Co-operative Sugar Mill, Ltd., Shri P. K. Patil, Chairman of the Co-operative Sugar Mill, has addressed letters to landlords seeking to set up an organisation armed with pistols and rifles involving the capital expenditure of Rs. 4.2 lakhs and recurring expenditure of about Rs. 19 lakhs.

With your permission, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to lay\* on the Table a photostat copy of the letter circulated to landlords.

I urge the Home Minister to investigate the matter and prevent the rich landlords from organising the paramilitary organisation utilised for attacking the Adivasis struggling for their legitimate demands of redistribution of lands.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE** (Kanpur): This P. K. Patil should be arrested. His letter is there.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** Order, please. Prof. Madhu Dandavate can hand it over to me. Shri Madhu Limaye.

श्री मधु दानवटे (कांका) । उपाध्यक्ष महोदय. मुझे अधिक कुछ नहीं कहना है ।

\*The Speaker not having subsequently accorded the necessary permission, the document was not treated as laid on the Table.