

Scindia, Shri Madhavrao
Sezhiyan, Shri
Shakya, Shri Maha Deepak Singh
Shastri, Shri Shiv Kumar
Singh, Shri D. N.
Subravelu, Shri
Vijay Pal Singh, Shri

MR. SPEAKER: The result* of the division is: Ayes 111; Noes 34.

The motion was adopted.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN:
I introduce† the Bill.

12.40 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. CENTRAL EXCISES
AND SALT (AMENDMENT) ORDI-
NANCE

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):
I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Central Excises and Salt (Amendment) Ordinance, 1973, as required under rule 71(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

12.40 1/2 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) PRESS REPORTS ABOUT SALARY, ALLOWANCES ETC. OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Shyamnandan Mishra to raise a matter under Rule 377.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begusarai): Sir, it is with great reluctance but with a sense of duty that I have to refer to a news-item circulated by a news agency regarding the salary, allowances and amenities en-

joyed by the Members of Parliament. To say the least, this news-item has been exaggerated very much and we find that this is a gross misrepresentation of the factual position as it obtains today.

The newspaper report says that the salary, allowances and amenities of a Member of Parliament amount to no less than Rs. 5000 per month. The position seems to be completely incorrect. It could be claimed that the Members of Parliament in India receive probably the lowest so far as the salary, allowance and amenities are concerned and, particularly if you consider the price rise which has taken place to the extent of 22 to 23 per cent, their economic plight seems to be extremely miserable. There is no doubt about it.

As salary, a Member of Parliament gets only Rs. 500 a month. It has been claimed in the news-item that we are almost on par with a Member of British Parliament who gets 3,250 pounds a year. The comparison is totally wrong. Even if you take into account the total daily allowance that a Member of Parliament gets during the course of a year, the amount that he gets per month would not exceed Rs. 1000 to Rs. 1200 per month. This is an amount which is earned even by a Section Officer in the Government of India....

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: (Bhagalpur): The Parliament sits for not more than six months in a year. Therefore, this daily allowance of Rs. 1500 per month becomes Rs. 750 per month. So, Rs. 750 plus the salary of Rs. 500 come to Rs. 1250 per month. Not more than that.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: If the account is taken of the expenses that a Member of Parliament has to incur, that is, on his transport to fulfil his official engagements and even social calls which are so necessary, the secre-

*Shri Tarkeshwar Pandey also recorded his vote for AYES.

†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.