

I would not like to take more time of the House by going into further details but I would certainly like to say that in respect of such demands as affect the P & T Department only, we have in the past discussed matters across the table fully and we can do so in future. In fact, as mentioned earlier, my idea is to have a **STANDING COMMITTEE** which should meet at frequent intervals not merely to discuss the demands but also to keep a constant watch over action taken in pursuance of agreements previously reached. I feel disappointed, Sir, that I did not get a favourable response from the Federation. Perhaps there is still time for the Federation to think afresh and to prefer the somewhat plain but fruitful method of negotiation. Hon'ble Members will remember the dislocation and inconvenience caused to the public by the Telegraphists refraining from performing over-time duty. The Union agreed to call off the movement after discussion with Shri Raj Bahadurji but I am not sure whether even in the absence of such a deliberate movement, some of our officials are performing their duties with zeal and efficiency as they ought to. In the result, we get numerous complaints from the public

A strike of this nature at the present moment would be fraught with grave consequences. The Government will, however, do their utmost to fulfil their obligations, however, onerous they might be. I would once again appeal in all earnestness to the P & T Workers' leaders to choose the path of reason and moderation

COTTON FABRICS (ADDITIONAL EXCISE DUTY) BILL*

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the levy and collection in certain circum-

stances of an additional duty of excise on cotton fabrics issued out of mills.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the levy and collection in certain circumstances of an additional duty of excise on cotton fabrics issued out of mills"

The motion was adopted

Shri Kanungo: I introduce** the Bill

DEMAND FOR GRANT—RAILWAYS.—Contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion on Demand for Grant No. 1 in respect of Railways. As the House is aware, six hours have been provisionally allotted for the discussion and voting on this Demand with discretion to the Chair to extend it by an hour if necessary. Out of this, 30 minutes have been availed of and 5 hours and 30 minutes now remain.

As announced yesterday, Hon. Members may hand over at the Table within an hour the numbers of the selected cut motions which they propose to move on this Demand.

Shri Sonavane (Sholapur—Reserved—Sch Castes): At about 11:27 I have given some cut motions. I would request that those cut motions may also be allowed and circulated to the Members

Mr. Speaker: He has given notice just now. Let him indicate the numbers

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): Sir, I rise to a point of order on discussion on the Railway Budget procedure. My point of order is whether after the coming into force of the Constitution, in view of article 112, the Convention relating to the separation of Railway finances from the General finances can survive, and

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