

SHRI BAKAR ALI MIRZA (Secundrabad) : I want to ask a clarification about item 1—statements showing action taken on Government assurances.

MR. SPEAKER : He is just laying it. When it comes up, you may raise it.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY (Kendrapara) : I do not think there will be a discussion so far as these statements are concerned. He wants to put some questions. I think it is permitted.

SHRI BAKAR ALI MIRZA : It has been done before, I have a right to put some questions.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Dwivedy is an old parliamentarian. He knows that these reports will go to the Committee on Government Assurances.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY : Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha :—

"In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the appropriation (Vote on account) Bill, 1970, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 18th March, 1970, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said bill."

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND
TRANSPORT (SHRI RAGHU RAMAIAH)** : With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this house during the week commencing from 30th

March, 1970, will consist of :

- (1) Consideration of any item of business carried over from today's Order Paper.
- (2) Consideration and passing of the Press Council (Amendment) Bill, 1970, as passed by Rajya Sabha.
- (3) Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Calcutta Port (Amendment) Ordinance, 1970, by Shri K. L. Gupta and consideration and passing of the Calcutta Port (Amendment) Bill, 1970, as passed by Rajya Sabha.
- (4) Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Continuance Ordinances, 1969 by Shri K. L. Gupta and others and consideration and passing of the essential Commodities (Amendment) Continuance Bill, 1970, as passed by Rajya Sabha.
- (5) Discussion and voting of the Demands for Grants under the control of Ministry of :

Home Affair's

External Affairs.

11.05 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Forty-Seventh Report

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS, AND SHIPPING AND
TRANSPORT (SHRI RAGHU RAMAIAH)** : I beg to move :

"That this House do agree with the Forty-Seventh Report of the business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 26th March, 1970 "

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the Forty-seventh Report of the Business

Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 26th March, 1970."

The motion was adopted.

11.05½ hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAYS),
1970-71—Contd.

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up further discussion on the Railway Demands. Mr. Onkar Lal Berwa was on his legs. He is absent.

श्री शिवनारायण (वस्ती) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, उस दिन हमने रेलवे गजट पर बोलने के लिये अपने दल की तरफ से तीन नाम दिये थे, तीनों मेम्बर दिन भर यहाँ बैठे रहे, लेकिन किसी को नहीं बुलाया गया।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आज जितना मर्जी आये, बोलिये।

श्री शिवनारायण : लेकिन हमारे साथ डिस्क्रिमिनेशन क्यों होता है, उस दिन हमारे किमी मेम्बर को क्यों नहीं बुलाया गया।

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY (Kendrapara) : Sir, I will confine my remarks to the cut motions that I have tabled, which actually speaking are small local matters. But before I do so, I want to know whether the present Railway Minister is in a position at least to give an assurance to the House that decisions taken by the ministers would be obeyed and acted upon by the Railway Board. I am saying this purposely. As will be evident from the cut motion that I have given, the House might remember that in this House, when the supplementary demands for the railways were discussed, we raised the question about the delay in the construction of the Cuttack-Paradip railway line. Although on the day of inauguration the Railway Minister himself announced that it would be completed by April, 1971, by some machinations or other, the railway authorities delayed it, as a result of which the port paradeep would actually be affected. There

was a special conference convened by the Railway Minister to discuss this question, where the railway officials and myself were present. There the minister rebuked the officials and said, "After you have made my predecessor to announce like that at the Inaugural ceremony, you had no business to raise other questions, trying to explain the causes for the delay." After a great deal of discussion, it was decided that they would try to complete this construction by the end of 1971. After this assurance was given in my presence. Mr. Nanda has replied in the other House saying that it will be completed by the end of 1972. We discussed this matter in great detail. They said, two monsoons are necessary for the earth to settle, over which the rails are to be laid. It was also decided that they would divide it into 14 zones; they would employ small local contractors for the earth work. They would persuade the local cultivators so that the work may be completed before the monsoon this year. All this was decided. Now, not only have they delayed it but even in the procedure, they are awarding contracts to contractors from outside. The value of each contract is fixed at Rs. 40 to 50 lakhs, so that the local contractors would not be able to come forward to take up the job, with the result the whole process is being delayed. I do not know what is the purpose of having a Railway Minister at all, if the Railway Board can undo anything. Can we take cognizance of anything that the minister says here?

I really fail to understand how this is happening and who is responsible for it. Even though I have been repeatedly demanding it, it has not been done. Let us know who is the person, who is the interested railway officer who is behind all this. At the same time, if the Railway Board want to do something, they see to it that it is executed almost immediately.

Then I will refer to another case. I find that Dr. Ram Subhag Singh is not present in the House. When he was the Railway Minister he gave the assurance that the demands of the train controllers would be sympathetically considered and conceded to the extent possible. This is an issue which is hanging fire for the last several years. I have personally met them and discussed these matters with them. I have also enumerated them in my cut motions.