

[Shri M. B. Rana].

and functions of certain authorities for the investigation of administrative action taken by or on behalf of the Government or certain public authorities in certain cases and for matters connected therewith, upto the first day of the next session."

The motion was put and adopted.

(ii) MOTION re: APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER TO JOINT COMMITTEE BY RAJYA SABHA

SHRI M. B. RANA: I beg to move the following:—

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do appoint a member of Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee on the Bill to make provision for the appointment and functions of certain authorities for the investigation of administrative action taken by or on behalf of the Government or certain public authorities in certain cases and for matters connected therewith, in the vacancy caused by the death of Shri Harish Chandra Mathur and do communicate to this House the name of the member so appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee."

The motion was put and adopted.

RE: MOTION OF NO-CONFIDENCE

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Viswanatham, you have given a motion of no-confidence.

SHRI TENNETI VISWANATHAM (Visakhapatnam): In view of the Adjournment Motion which has been accepted, I do not wish to move it.

13.02 hrs.

GOLD (CONTROL) BILL*

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide, in the economic and financial interests of the community for the control of the production, manufacture, supply, distribution, use and possession of, and business in, gold, ornaments and articles of gold and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): I rise to oppose the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: You had better do it after Lunch. Strengthen yourselves after Lunch.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I can do that even now. (*Interruption*).

MR. SPEAKER: I know you are capable of doing it without Lunch.

13.03 hrs.

ARREST, CONVICTION AND RELEASE OF FOUR MEMBERS

MR. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that I have received the following communication dated the 21st July, 1968 from the Magistrate, First Class, Delhi:—

"I have the honour to inform you that Sarvashri Yajna Datt Sharma, Kanwar Lal Gupta, Ram Swarup Vidyarthi, and Hardayal Devgun, Members, Lok Sabha, who had been arrested today for staging a demonstration in the Connaught Circus area in contravention of a prohibitory order under Section 144 Cr. P.C. were produced before me today for trial. In the trial they pleaded

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guilty and on conviction were sentenced by me to imprisonment till the rising of the Court. After I rose for the day, they were released."

13.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after lunch at seven minutes past fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

GOLD (CONTROL) BILL—contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri S. M. Banerjee.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Sir, I would like to say . . .

श्री देवेन सेन (ब्राम्हण) : पाठ्य
होदय, मैंने भी इस विषय का गंभीर
जाने का विरोध करने की सूचना दे दी है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Under the rules the hon. Member will have to give notice. Out of them only the hon. Member whose notice was received first will get an opportunity.

श्री देवेन सेन : यह विषय बहुत महत्व
रखता है। इसलिए मैं इस पर बोलना
चाहता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is true that if it is challenged on the question of competence then there is some latitude for the debate.

श्री मधु लिये (मुंगेर) : हम
तो काम्पैटेंस पर भी और सिद्धान्तों पर भी
इस का विरोध कर रहे हैं।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No, unless you can make out a point that on the basis of competence you are challenging, you cannot get an opportunity. Even then, it would be limited to a few minutes.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose this Bill at the introduction stage. I have carefully read the Statement of Objects and Reasons. It says that:

"in the light of experience gained from the actual working of the gold control measure, some new provisions were also introduced with a view to removing administrative lacunae and providing certain additional facilities to the general public."

The Bill is being introduced to replace the Ordinance. The Ordinance was promulgated on the 29th June, 1968. It is true that we can move a motion separately disapproving of the Ordinance. In fact, there is a motion in the name of Shri Yashpal Singh towards that end. Here all I would like to say is that gold control has failed and the purpose for which it was brought forward has been defeated. It is high time that government realises the futility of this measure, the failure after failure of this measure and scrap it in the interest of the country and in the interest of the goldsmiths and also in the interest of the government. Let the Finance Minister, who is capable of admitting his failures, who has the courage of conviction to undo things also . . .

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Question.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Well, that is my belief. Let him declare boldly that the government has miserably failed in this matter. The gold control measure was intended to serve three purposes. Firstly, the price of gold will come down and it will compare with the international price; secondly, smuggling in gold