

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Twenty-four Minutes Past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair.]

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

JUTE (LICENSING AND CONTROL) AMENDMENT ORDER

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFFI QURESHI): On behalf of Shri Dinesh Singh, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Jute (Licensing and Control) Amendment Order, 1968, published in Notification No. S O 3893 in Gazette of India dated the 30th October, 1968, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. [Place in Library, See No. LT-2312] 68].

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS (RAILWAYS), 1968-69.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): I beg to present a statement showing Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 1968-69.

14.25 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: INDIAN RAILWAYS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE AND INDIAN RAILWAYS (AMENDMENT) BILL—contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now resume further consideration of the following resolution moved by Shri George Fernandes, on the 25th November, namely:—

"This House disapproves of the Indian Railways (Amendment) Ordinance 1968 (Ordinance No. 10 of 1968) promulgated by the President on the 14th September, 1968."

The House will also take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri C. M. Poonacha on the 25th November, 1968, namely:—

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Railways Act, 1890, be taken into consideration."

SHRI S. KUNDU: (Balasore): I rise to oppose this Bill with all the force at my command. I feel that this Bill appears very innocent on the face of it and to be innocuous, but surreptitiously and indirectly, it is going to crush the trade union rights for even, which the workers have achieved after long years of struggle. If anyone were to read carefully the provisions of this Bill he will arrive at this irresistible conclusion that the Bill has been brought forward only to do away with the trade union rights and the rights of arbitration and the right to go on strike, once and for all. Therefore, I would call this Bill a black bill, a Bill which is anti-people and which is a draconian piece of legislation.

When I see this Bill and I look at Shri C. M. Poonacha, I am reminded of a legislation which was passed in 1800 in England, known as the Combination Act. There a similar provision was made whereby strike was declared illegal and to organise a Union was declared illegal and workers had to undergo a lot of suffering and had to wage a series of struggles for nearly 20 years, till in 1820 another Bill was passed after which the Combination Act was repealed.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE (Bombay Central): Anti-combination Act.

SHRI S. KUNDU: Let not my hon. friend try to show off his knowledge and call it Anti-Combination Act. It was called the Combination Act.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE: I withdraw my remark.

SHRI S. KUNDU: So, 1820 is a landmark in the struggle of the trade union workers throughout the world.