

that in other respects the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

that this House recommends to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of 8 members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee."

The motion was adopted.

16.47 hrs.

EAST PUNJAB AYURVEDIC AND
 UNANI PRACTITIONERS (DELHI
 AMENDMENT) BILL

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health (Dr. D. S. Raju): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the East Punjab Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners Act, 1949 as in force in the Union territory of Delhi, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, the Bill was discussed on the 4th December, 1962 in the Rajya Sabha at great length and it was passed. This was in pursuance of an Act which was passed in 1949. That Act, known by the name of the East Punjab Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners Act has been extended to Delhi. The substance of it is this.

The Act provides for the registration of all practitioners who are practising *ayurveda* and *unani*. According to this Act, all people who are practising must get themselves registered or enlisted. Without doing so, they would be liable to prosecution. There are two or three important sections of this Act. Section 16(1) deals with qualified practitioners. Hon. Members know there are so many varieties of doctors in *unani* as well as *ayurveda* who are qualified with GCIM, DIMS,

Ayurvedacharya and certain other qualifications. They come under section 16(1). They are all qualified practitioners and registered under section 16(1). There is no difficulty about them.

There is another section 16(2) which provides for practitioners who are not qualified. They are practising for a number of years. They could not get any qualifications, but all the same they are practising. That is why section 16(2) was provided for them. Under this section all those practitioners, *ayurveda* and *unani*, who had been practising for ten years could get themselves registered. There are still some more doctors, *vaids* and *hakims* who, unfortunately, do not come under this provision also. For them a special section, section 34(2) was provided which stipulated that if they could prove at the time of registration or enlistment that they were in actual practice before the registrar, their names could be entered in a list. This is the third category. This is called 'enlistment'. They can also practise. So far all these various categories of practitioners of *ayurveda* and *unani* these three sections have been provided according to this Act which came into force in the year 1954.

Several doctors have registered or enlisted themselves under these various categories. But, subsequently, a few *vaids* and *hakims* could not get themselves registered. So the question arose as to their prosecution. But the Board of Indian Medicine—*ayurveda* and *unani*—for Delhi thought it wise not to prosecute them because they are small practitioners earning Rs. 100 or so and they thought if they are prosecuted it will be very hard upon them and they will be subject to unnecessary harassment. That is why an extension is sought to be given to them by means of this amending Bill. We propose to give them another six months' time to get themselves either registered or enlisted.

It appears there are about 300 more *hakims* and *vaids*. This Bill was passed in the Rajya Sabha on 4th

[Dr. D. S. Raju]

December, 1962. Almost a year has passed after that. Very frequently these *hakims* and *vaids* are enquiring from us as to when the Bill is going to be passed in Lok Sabha. That means they are aware of it. The remaining people are anxious to get themselves registered or enlisted. It is more on compassionate grounds that I come forward now requesting for the time-limit to be extended by another six months. I do hope hon. Members will agree on this score. There is no controversy about it. We do not want to hit them unnecessarily, but we would like all the practitioners of *ayurveda* and *unani* to be either registered or enlisted so that we will know who are all practising and who are not. We can also regulate their practice and if anything happens we will know who is responsible for it. That is the reason why this time-limit is sought to be extended. We would like every practitioner, whether *ayurveda* or *unani*, to take advantage of this provision for extension of time-limit by six months.

This, in brief, Sir, is the Bill before the House and I hope it will be passed without much difficulty.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the East Punjab Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners Act, 1949 as in force in the Union territory of Delhi, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Shri S. M. Banerjee rose—

Mr. Speaker: Yes, Shri Banerjee.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Sir I support this Bill.

Shri S. C. Samanta (Tamluk): Sir, we are glad that this Bill has at last come. It was passed in the Rajya Sabha a year back and it was long overdue. I would like to know from the hon. Minister why this Act will not be applicable to all the States in

India. It is true that Health is a State subject, but there should be some instructions from the Central Government to have control over these things.

Mr. Speaker: Different States might be having their own enactments.

Dr. D. S. Raju: They are having their own Boards.

Shri S. C. Samanta: We know that the Central Government had appointed so many committees to enquire about both the systems of *Ayurveda* and *Unani*. Therefore, there should be some sort of control so that uniformity can be maintained in all the States. The Central Government should give thought to it from that point of view.

I know that in many States, though not in all the States, both *Ayurved* and *Unani* have been taken in right earnest and they are moving in the right direction. So, if there be some direction, control and advice from the Central Government, it will be conducive to the growth of these systems of medicine. With these words, I support the Bill.

Mr. Speaker: Shri B. K. Das.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा (कोटा)
अध्यक्ष महोदय, हाउस में कोरम नहीं है।

Shri B. K. Das (Contai): Sir, I welcome this Bill.

Mr. Speaker: He will have to wait till there is quorum. The quorum bell is being rung.

Yes, now there is quorum. He can continue.

Shri B. K. Das: Sir, I welcome this Bill. It is welcome because many of those persons who have been practising these two systems of medicine have been rendering very useful service to the country but, for some reason or other, they are not able to register themselves under the

provisions of the Act. Now they will be able to register themselves, they will be recognised as physicians and so they will be in a better position to serve the people.

Here I want to point out one thing. The Chopra Committee had recommended that people practising these systems should be given training for three years so that they might form a corps of rural practitioners who will be doing very useful service to the rural people. I find that nothing has been done in that direction. If some such steps are taken, if some arrangements are made for giving them training, those physicians who may not have had the opportunity of getting proper training in *Ayurved* or *Unani* might like to avail themselves of this opportunity to qualify themselves and thus be of useful service to the people in the rural areas.

Shri Samanta has rightly enquired about the conditions of practitioners in other States and you, Sir, pointed out that the other States might have their own laws. That might be so. But if the Central Government takes some step in right earnest in the

matter of giving training to the Ayurvedic practitioners and thus giving them an opportunity for registration, other States may also follow the example of the Central Government.

With these words, I welcome this Bill.

17 hrs.

श्री यशपाल सिंह (कैराना) :
 अध्यक्ष महोदय, बड़ी खुशी हुई इस बिल को पढ़ कर और अभी यह मौका है कि यूनानी के साथ और वैद्यक के साथ जो आज तक बेइंसाफ़ा हुई है, उस बेइंसाफी को दूर किया जाए...

श्री स० मो० बनर्जी : कल करेंगे ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वे कहते हैं कल करेंगे । कल ही सही ।

17.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, November 22, 1963/Agrahayana 1, 1885 (Saka).