

13.15 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): Sir, I rise to announce that Government business for the week commencing Monday, the 19th August, 1963, will consist of—

(1) Consideration of any item of business carried over from today's Order Paper.

(2) Consideration and passing of:—

- (i) The Customs and Central Excises (Amendment) Bill, 1963;
- (ii) The Major Port Trusts Bill, 1962 as reported by the Select Committee;
- (iii) Consideration of a Motion to be moved by Shri M. L. Dwivedi regarding Annual Report of the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd., New Delhi for the year 1961-62, on Thursday the 22nd August, 1963 at 3 p.m.

The business announced will be taken up after the disposal of the No Confidence Motion of Acharya J. B. Kripalani.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): Sir, I rise on a point of clarification. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs in the course of the Budget Session earlier this year promised the House that no Bill would be put through the House in this session unless it was introduced in the House in the first week of the session. Does he stand by that promise or is it that a Bill can be introduced any day the Government likes and takes up in this session? I hope he will stand by his promise.

Shri Warrior (Trichur): Sir, at the end of the last Session a Bill was introduced called the Seventeenth Constitution (Amendment) Bill. It was introduced on the penultimate date of the last session, and therefore we expected that it would be taken up in the beginning of this Session.

It is a very important Bill and it is not coming up even next week.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Sir, I would like to raise two issues. One is that next week we are discussing a Motion to be moved by Shri M. L. Dwivedi. I would like to know from the hon. Minister why a discussion on the motion regarding sugar situation in the country, which has already been taken and admitted and which has become more or less in scandal is not put down for next week. I would like to know whether he would like to give some time to discuss it next week. The motion regarding the report on the State Trading Corporation can wait.

Secondly, there is another important motion tabled by me and some other hon. Members. We wanted a discussion on the report submitted by the Solicitor-General on the Ruby and New Asiatic Insurance Companies. Last time the hon. Deputy Finance Minister and the Finance Minister also promised that the entire report of the Solicitor-General and the Auditor's Report will be placed on the Table of the House—that was a 140—page report. That has still not been placed on the Table of the House. What I am seriously thinking is that because these two concerns are of Birlas the Government is unable to submit that report. I seek your help and guidance whether such a report can be concealed from this House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: You are making all sorts of insinuations.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to know whether a discussion on the sugar situation is coming up and when the report of the Solicitor-General along with the Auditor's Report on the Ruby and New Asiatic Insurance Companies will be placed on the Table of the House.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: All that I have promised to the House in the last session with regard to the introduction of the Bills is that the Government would make all efforts to introduce

[Shri Satya Narayan Sinha].

them by the middle of the session. I have said that generally all the Bills should be placed before the House by the middle of the session. But in case of an emergency or there is some important thing we cannot stick to that. But generally we are going to adhere to that promise and all Bills will be placed before the House by the middle of the session. If any Bill is introduced after that, unless it is very important, we will not take it up in the current session.

With regard to the promise made by my colleagues to place the report on the insurance companies, I really do not know what the position is. Next week, Sir, three days will be taken up on the No Confidence Motion, and therefore, with regard to the discussion on the sugar situation....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If there is time you will have it.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The discussion on State Trading Corporation can wait.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: This motion on the sugar situation was not recommended to us by the sub-committee on No-day-yet-named-motions. Anyway, if the matter is not discussed during the debate on the No Confidence Motion, which I hope my hon. friends will do, we will take it up some time.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What about the report on Ruby and New Asiatic? Even the Prime Minister promised that he would place it on the Table of the House.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I do not know whether my colleagues have promised that.

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri B. E. Bhagat): We have never made a promise to place a copy of the report on the Table of the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What about the Constitution (Seventeenth) Amendment Bill, which has been introduced?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, I rise on a point of order.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: Certainly, we will discuss it. In the Business Advisory Committee no time has been fixed for it.

Shri Vasudevan Nair (Ambalapuruzha): Unfortunately, the hon. Minister was talking to his colleague when Shri Warior raised his point. That Bill was introduced in the last day of the last session. We suggested even then that it should be discussed immediately and passed because it is an important Bill. Then we were promised that it would be taken up at the earliest opportunity in the next session. We want to know the fate of that Bill.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: This matter was brought up before the Business Advisory Committee. Since there was some difference of opinion among members and some members wanted as many as 24 hours, the Speaker suggested that it might not be decided in that meeting and it might be taken up in the next meeting.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Barrackpore): May I explain what happened in the BAC? There was no question for this being referred to the next meeting. Only, the number of hours for this Bill was not decided in that meeting. Now the question is when it is going to be taken up, either this week or next week. That has to be decided.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: How can that be decided if the hours to be allotted for that Bill are not yet decided?

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: If there was a promise or assurance on the floor of the House, it was the duty and responsibility of the Minister of

Parliamentary Affairs to inform the members of the BAC that this has to be taken up and disposed of because a promise has been given that it will be taken up soon. This was never mentioned by the Minister in the meeting of the BAC.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Now that the hon. Prime Minister is also present here, I want to say that the hon. Deputy Minister of Finance had stated that the report of the Solicitor-General on Ruby and New Asiatic will be laid on the Table of the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the Minister has given any such assurance, he may point it out. Why should he presume that the Minister has given an assurance. He can please write to the Speaker about it.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Is it the position that it will never be laid on the Table of the House because it relates to Birlas?

Shri Warrior: Can we now get an assurance from the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs about the Constitution (Seventeenth) Amendment Bill?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It has been introduced. Only the exact time when it will come up for consideration has to be fixed.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: That this matter was to be taken up first in this session because of that promise was never mentioned by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs in the meeting of the BAC. It was somehow left over, in spite of its importance, without being considered. I was not present here on the last day of the last session and so I was not aware as to what had exactly taken place here. If in fact an assurance or promise was given on the floor of the House, it was the job of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to inform the members of the BAC that this has to be taken up first and, therefore, the number of hours to be allotted for this has to be decided. It was not such a difficult thing for us to have done. But

the point was that it was somehow slipped out under the guise "well, we could not come to a decision on the number of hours to be allotted".

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It may be raised in the next meeting of the BAC.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: It was not slipped out. We discussed it openly, when all the members were present. I do not understand why this kind of insinuations are being made.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Sir, I want to ask the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs through you why it was not mentioned or brought to our notice, that this has to come up first before the House because there was an assurance?

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I have never made a promise that it will be taken on the first day of the next session. I only said that it would be taken up at least in this session. Who told you that I will take it up even before the discussion on the non-confidence motion will be taken up? After all, it does not enjoy such a high priority.

Shri Warrior: The non-confidence motion was not there when the promise was made during the last session.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This matter will be decided by the Business Advisory Committee. Now we will take up the next item.

13.24 hrs.

IRON ORE MINES LABOUR WELFARE CESS (AMENDMENT) BILL—
Contd.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now take up further discussion of the Iron Ore Mines Labour Welfare Cess (Amendment) Bill, as passed by Rajya Sabha. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty will continue her speech.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): How much time is left for this Bill?