

[Shri Morarji Desai]

countries and institutions concerned with a view to ensure that in keeping with the understanding already reached as much as possible of this assistance is disbursed during the current year.

12. In our present circumstances, we will also have to impose cuts in all imports, whether Government or private, which are at present being permitted against free foreign exchange. Although import policy has been tightened on a number of occasions, I do believe that, under the circumstances, a further tightening is both feasible and desirable. The specific measures that we propose to take will be announced in the immediate future.

13. Finally, we have to rectify the unfavourable trend in invisibles. For this we shall have to plug all the loopholes through which the foreign exchange, which should normally be earned by the economy, is being diverted to illegitimate purposes. One of the loopholes has been the fact that people have been free to travel abroad even when no foreign exchange has been released to them by us. The Reserve Bank has been asked to issue new regulations to close this source of leakage by stopping journeys of this kind. Simultaneously, changes are being made in the regulations governing travel for purposes like business and education with a view to effect sizable savings. More intensive measures to counter smuggling of all kinds are also under consideration.

14. All these measures which I have outlined in somewhat general terms will necessarily impose a measure of burden on the economy and cause hardship to some people. I have every confidence, however, that Hon'ble Members and the country at large will support whatever action is required to put our balance of payments in a stronger position. The social discipline and the solidarity

that we need today to put our foreign exchange position in order would be needed in an increasing measure in the years to come if we have to carry forward our plans of development in a steadfast and confident manner. And there comes a point in the history of every nation when it must demonstrate that it is prepared to take whatever action that may be necessary to pursue the paramount objectives so vital to its sense of dignity and purpose.

15. At the same time, I would emphasize that there is no cause for feeling that the Plan has been or should be slowed down. On the contrary, if anything, there is greater need now for speed. The economy will gain in strength if the projects for which foreign exchange has already been assured are completed as quickly as possible. In respect of the remaining projects also, we should go ahead with all the preparatory work, so that they could be speedily executed as soon as the foreign exchange has been arranged. Lastly, we should not forget that a very large number of plan projects need only small amounts of foreign exchange and depend mainly on indigenous supplies for their completion. These too should proceed with all expedition.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): May I request that, in view of the importance of the statement and in view of the fact that the Finance Ministry's Demands and the Finance Bill will come up for discussion next week, copies of the statement may be made available to Members?

Mr. Speaker: Any Member who wants will have it from the Publications counter.

12.23 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

CENTRAL ADVISORY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education (Shrimati Sounda-

ram Ramachandran): On behalf of
Dr. K. L. Shrimali, I beg to move:—

“That in pursuance of paragraph 3 (2) (d) of the late Department of Education, Health and Lands Resolution No. F. 122-3|35-E, dated the 8th August, 1935, as amended from time to time, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, three members from among themselves to serve as members of the Central Advisory Board of Education, subject to the other provisions of the said Resolution.”

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

“That in pursuance of paragraph 3 (2) (d) of the late Department of Education, Health and Lands Resolution No. F. 122-3|35-E, dated the 8th August, 1935, as amended from time to time, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, three members from among themselves to serve as members of the Central Advisory Board of Education, subject to the other provisions of the said Resolution.”

The motion was adopted.

12.24 hrs.

ADVOCATES (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL*

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Bibhudendra Mishra): On behalf of Shri A. K. Sent, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Advocates Act, 1961.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Advocate; Act, 1961.”

The motion was adopted.

Shri Bibhudendra Mishra: I introduce the Bill.

12.25 hrs.

MOTION RE: JOINT COMMITTEE
ON OFFICES OF PROFIT

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Bibhudendra Mishra): I beg to move:

“That a Joint Committee of the Houses to be called the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit be constituted consisting of fifteen Members, ten from this House and five from Rajya Sabha, who shall be elected from amongst Members of each House according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote;

That the functions of the Joint Committee shall be—

(i) to examine the composition and character of all existing ‘Committees’ and all ‘Committees’ that may hereafter be constituted, membership of which may disqualify a person for being chosen as, and for being, a member of either House of Parliament under article 102 of the Constitution;

(ii) to recommend in relation to the ‘Committees’ examined by it what offices should disqualify and what offices should not disqualify;

(iii) to scrutinize from time to time the Schedule to the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959, and to recommend any amendments in the said Schedule, whether by way of addition, omission or otherwise;

That the Joint Committee shall, from time to time, report to both Houses of Parliament in respect of all or any of the aforesaid matters;

That the Members of the Joint Committee shall hold office for the duration of the present Lok Sabha;

*Published in Gazettee of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 8th June, 1962.