

12.13 hrs.

BANKING COMPANIES
(AMENDMENT) BILL*

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat) Sir, on behalf of Shri Morarji Desai, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Banking Companies Act, 1949.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Banking Companies Act, 1949."

The motion was adopted.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

12.14 hrs.

UNION TERRITORIES DRAMATIC
PERFORMANCES (REPEAL)
BILL*

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the repeal of the Dramatic Performances Act, 1876, in force in the Union Territories of Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and Manipur.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the repeal of the Dramatic Performances Act, 1876, in force in the Union Territories of Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and Manipur."

The motion was adopted.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

12.14 hrs.

MOTION RE: REPORTS OF COM-
MISSIONER FOR LINGUISTIC
MINORITIES—contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up further consideration of the

following motion moved by Shri B. N. Datar on the 22nd August, 1962, namely:—

"That this House takes note of the Second and Third Reports of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities, laid on the Table of the House on the 8th August, 1960 and 24th April, 1961, respectively."

We concluded the debate on that motion that day, and now I would call upon the hon. Home Minister to reply to the debate.

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): Mr. Speaker Sir, there were many speeches made on the reports of the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner and I must express my thankfulness to the House for the way in which they dealt with the report. Many constructive suggestions were made, and I can assure the House that they will receive our best consideration and we will also bring to the notice of the State Governments some of the points which directly concern the States.

To begin with, Sir, I might say that we have reached a certain stage after independence and we have to proceed beyond that stage now. The problem of the linguistic minorities has arisen in a major form after the re-organisation of States.

Some of the hon. Members who spoke felt as if nothing new had happened since 1947. They spoke in general terms about emotional integration and the necessity of national integration. In so far as those sentiments are concerned, they are quite good and everybody would like to endorse them. But we have to remember the fact that the question of linguistic minorities came to the forefront after the States Re-organisation Commission submitted its report. The Commission had made special provisions and special recommendations for the linguistic minorities because areas from one State were merged

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with another State as a result of which the question of language arose, besides other questions. It was in that context that the Government of India decided to consider the various recommendations made by the States Re-organisation Commission. Those recommendations of the Commission were more or less accepted by the Government and they, through the Home Ministry, issued a memorandum advising the State Governments as to how they have to proceed in regard to linguistic minorities and what facilities and special concessions should be provided to them. After the issue of the Home Ministry's memorandum it was expected that the State Governments will try to implement the recommendations or proposals contained in the memorandum. I am not prepared to say that the recommendations contained in the memorandum or circular of the Home Ministry were implemented promptly and necessary actions were taken.

Here we have to remember that this was a new problem altogether and there were certain contradictions in the proposals themselves. For example, there was the regional language. As the House is aware, there is a great urge for the development of regional language in each State. While the regional language had to be developed, alongwith that, the languages of the linguistic minorities had also to be promoted and helped to develop. Apparently, there seems to be some contradiction in this matter. Therefore, it was not unnatural that the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Home Ministry's circular was not quick or prompt. Sometimes these things have to proceed slowly. While I am not prepared to justify the slowness and I do feel that we have to try to work out the different proposals and different schemes still . . .

Shri P. K. Deo (Kalahandi): I want a clarification. What is the remedy in cases where the various directives from the Centre, or the various recommendations of the Commis-

sioner, are flouted by the State Governments?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: If the hon. Member will wait for a while. I will deal with that matter.

The Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities was appointed in accordance with one of the recommendations of the States Re-organisation Commission. He has submitted three reports.

If hon. Members will see the first two reports, they will find, as some of the hon. Members have already expressed, that those reports are more or less a compilation of complaints made by the linguistic minorities and different regions or areas in different States. But in the Third Report hon. Members will find some change. I do not say that there has been a substantial change but still they will definitely get an indication that certain principles and policies have definitely been accepted by the State Governments. They are now in the process of implementing them.

I shall quote what the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities has said in respect of it. He says:

"Generally speaking, the linguistic policies of the State Governments conform broadly to the agreed scheme of safeguards. It is hoped that the few instances of material departure pointed out in this Report will be rectified early by the State Governments concerned. A sense of dissatisfaction, however, still persists among linguistic minority groups. In many cases the representatives of linguistic minorities do not seem to be sufficiently aware of the facilities already made available to them by different States. Some dissatisfaction also arises from the slowness of the official machinery . . ."

and so on. It means that the Commissioner has clearly said that the scheme of safeguards and policies of Home

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Ministry have been accepted by all the State Governments and steps are also being taken to give effect to them. Of course, he has mentioned there about the dissatisfaction in cases where necessary facilities have not yet been provided, but it is mostly due, as the Commissioner has said, to the slowness of the administrative machinery, that is, either at the State level or at the District level active steps have not been taken to implement the various proposals.

However, I would like to inform the House in this context that during the last six months we have taken special steps in this direction. I myself felt that the question of the linguistic minorities has to be tackled at the highest level and we must discuss these matters with the Chief Ministers. Therefore, a special meeting of the Chief Ministers was held some time back. All the proposals, specially the proposals of the circular sent by the Home Ministry to the States, were considered and discussed threadbare. The Chief Ministers did not confine themselves only to those proposals which were contained in the Home Ministry's circular but they went beyond that and considered the matter in a much wider scope. I am not aware but I hope Hon. Members have read the proceedings or are aware of the recommendations or decisions made by the Chief Ministers' Conference.

After the Chief Ministers' Conference the matter was discussed in a much bigger forum—I mean the National Integration Conference. The National Integration Conference fully endorsed the recommendations or the decisions of the Chief Ministers' Conference. After the conference was over, I made it a point to get these matters examined and discussed in the Zonal Councils. Perhaps, it was Shri Surendranath Dwivedy who said that the Zonal Councils are just sleeping over the matter. I would like to inform him that it is not so. I must pay my compliments to Southern

Zonal Council who took up this matter for the first time. They initiated consideration over this matter in right earnest and they took decisions which have more or less become a model for other States. In the Southern Zonal Council, it was decided that the various facilities regarding language, textbooks, and recruitment should all be provided as recommended by the Chief Ministers' conference. After the Southern Zonal Council, the Western Zonal Council met and they also have taken decisions more or less on the same lines. What is most important is that the Chief Ministers' conference decided that there should be a committee of the Vice-Chairmen of the Zonal Councils. The Vice-Chairmen are the Chief Ministers and the Home Minister has to preside over that committee. This committee of Vice-Chairmen is, in a sense, an implementing body. It has to see that the decisions taken are properly and fully implemented. It is not merely a deliberative body. Therefore, when this committee meets, there are no speeches made. We just see as to what each State has done in order to give effect to the various proposals. This committee has met once before and we are going to meet again on the 26th in Bombay. Besides the Members of the Zonal Council, I make it a point to inform the other Chief Ministers also, especially those Chief Ministers who indicate that they find some difficulty in the implementation of the various proposals. We have received reports from some of the State Governments who find some difficulty and some of them have even raised objections in regard to the implementation of certain proposals. As I said, this time, again, for this committee meeting, I have invited especially the other Chief Ministers also from whom we have received this information to come and have a discussion in the committee itself. The last meeting, as I said, which was in Delhi, was very useful from that point of view. I have no doubt that the second meeting would be much more useful.

In the committee of Vice-Chairmen of Zonal Councils, we took an important decision. It was generally the opinion of all the Chief Ministers that this matter should be entirely their charge. That is they should chiefly deal with this problem and no other Minister. This work has been entrusted to all the Chief Ministers. The Chief Ministers have decided that the Chief Secretary has to take charge of this work in the Secretariat. It is good because matters concerning linguistic minorities pertain to different Ministries or different departments and the Chief Secretary can certainly bring about better coordination and could definitely be more effective. The Chief Ministers have now taken charge of this work. Of course, it might be said that the Chief Secretary is a very busy officer. He is. Therefore, it has also been decided that there will be a Special officer appointed in each State to help and assist the Chief Secretary in this work.

Besides that, it has also been decided that in each Zonal Council, there will be a Standing committee of the Chief Ministers and other Ministers concerned. Wherever difficulties arise or differences exist, the matter will be considered at the highest level. That is, the Chief Ministers of the Zonal Councils will meet and try to thrash out the differences. For example, the Western Zonal Council has formed a Standing committee in which they made the Education Ministers also members of the Standing Committee. For, the Education Minister is very closely concerned with some of the problems concerning the linguistic minorities.

I personally think that these various steps that we have taken during the last six months have definitely helped in bringing about some improvement in the situation. At least, in three matters, although there is considerable scope for improvement, definite steps have been taken. The first step is that all States are providing facilities for instruction through the mother-

tongue at the primary stage. Secondly, most of the States have taken action also to implement the safeguards in regard to provision of suitable educational facilities at the secondary stage of education. Thirdly, while arrangements for making use of minority languages in municipalities etc. where such languages are spoken by 15 per cent or more of the population, are not fully effective in some States, the State Governments are taking steps in that direction.

The reports received from the State Governments indicate that most of the State Governments have taken or propose to take action shortly to amend their recruitment rules and instructions so as to bring them in conformity with the principles laid down at the meeting of the Chief Ministers and Central Ministers last year.

With your permission, I would now like to deal with some of the points which were raised by hon. Members. Shri Daji said that even the Commissioner's suggestion for the maintenance of a register containing advance names of the pupils etc. had not been carried out. I might inform him that from the information readily available, it appears that except for three or four States all other States have either introduced or have decided to introduce such registers.

He also said that the Madhya Pradesh Government refused to issue orders in Oriya, so far as the cantonment municipalities' and other similar bodies' orders and notices were concerned. I must admit that I have not got information on this point, but the hon. Member must be aware of what exactly the position is. If that is so, I have no doubt that this will have to be rectified, and we propose to draw the attention of the Madhya Pradesh Government especially to this.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy who is not here at the moment—I do not think, therefore, that I should take time of the House in dealing with all the points that he had raised—dealt

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with the question of the limited powers of the Commissioner, and he said that he could not enforce his recommendations. I shall deal with that a little later

As regards one script for tribal languages, he said that there was some sinister move in the recommendation of the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner. I am sorry that I was unable to understand what he actually meant by that remark. As far as I can see, the Commissioner has said that the Santhalis live in different States and use different scripts. So, he has suggested that as far as possible, one script should be provided; they should accept, or agree to, one script being used, in whichever part they live, whether they live in West Bengal or in Orissa or in Bihar. I shall have to verify this matter further. First, I must make it clear that there can be no imposition in this matter. Secondly, it is not a bad idea to have one script for the Santhalis to use if they live in different States; and I do not know what that one script could be. If Shri Surendranath Dwivedy would have been here I think that he would have readily agreed that this script should be Devnagari.

Shri P. K. Deo: He said about the Roman script being used for the Santhali language in some of the States.

Shri Heda (Nizamabad): That was an old thing, not now

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: It is said that that was an old thing. Anyhow, somewhere, in the past, the Roman script may have been used.

Shri Daji (Indore): The commissioner's report says that one State is using the Roman script, while another is using the Devanagari script. That was what was objected to.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I have seen that. But as I said naturally, if you have to develop one script for a particular language, a common script, it should be, as far as I can think of—

and my suggestion would be—Devnagari.

Shri Heda: The tribals also are demanding it.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: The tribals, of course, are very clear in their minds. Even the Assam tribals or the tribals living in Assam, who differ on many other matters *vis-a-vis* the State Government, are quite clear that they will use their language and English, till English has been replaced by Hindi, and once it is replaced by Hindi, they say that they would all welcome Hindi, and they will try to learn, and they want to have Hindi as the official language of the country. Therefore, as I said, in so far as the tribals are concerned, they are quite clear, and they have always welcomed the idea of having the Devnagari script and the Hindi language being used for Government work as well as for the medium of instruction in schools and colleges.

Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda said that Bengali was not being used in court papers, notices, etc. especially in Silchar in the district of Cachar, and that basic training school examination papers were also set in Assamese in Cachar. Naturally, I shall have to make enquiries, but I would specially ask the commissioner to look into it and enquire about this matter also. If that is true or correct, then it is essential that necessary steps will have to be taken by the State Government to rectify it.

She has also said that the safeguards in the memorandum of the Home Ministry are not implemented by the Assam Government. I must say that that is a rather sweeping statement. The fact of the matter is that during the last six months, the State Government of Assam have taken several steps to give satisfaction to the linguistic minorities or to the Bengali-speaking residents of the district of Cachar, and they have done it with grace and in a good spirit. I am aware of this that recently, the

number of primary schools teaching through Bengali has gone up. Until some time back when the Assam language trouble arose, the figures of the number of primary schools in the district of Cachar had gone down considerably, but when we pointed this out to the State Government, they said that they were trying to rectify it, and the number of primary schools has definitely gone up.

Shri Deshpande also mentioned about a number of schools with Marathi medium in Mysore State and said that they had not increased. This is also a matter which will have to be looked into by the Commissioner.

As far as the Commissioner's own powers are concerned, and also the question of the location of his office, I wish to say a few words. In so far as the location of his office is concerned, it has been there in Allahabad since he was appointed, and a number of years have passed. Shri P. K. Deo seems to suggest that his office should be located somewhere where there is a good deal of trouble. I do not think, and it is not a very good idea to locate his office in a place where he will, all the time, be surrounded by those who differ amongst themselves.

Shri P. K. Deo: They can get first-hand information.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: They can get first hand information in different ways. They can meet people; they can discuss things with them. But, why locate it in a place where they will, perhaps, not be able to think calmly and think out proposals how to rectify the defects and remove the deficiencies? I do not think Allahabad is a bad place.

Shri P. K. Deo: It should be the Triveni of culture.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: The Triveni, of course, is there. And, then, it is one of the important educational centres of the country, and especially of U.P. I think it is a good idea to have his office removed from Delhi

as well as from troubled areas. Delhi also, in some way, creates difficulties. I would not go into details; otherwise, I shall be in a soup.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): Why not Simla?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Simla He will be completely cut off and, perhaps, during winter, he will have to come down. So, he will have to keep two offices, one in Bangalore and the other in Simla. The two hon. Members are sitting side by side.

Shri Hanumanthaiya (Bangalore City): Welcome to Bangalore.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Definitely.

In so far as the powers are concerned, the safeguards for linguistic minorities mostly relate to the State field of administration. And, it is not feasible to give him executive authority to enforce the safeguards. His job is to find out the facts and to see whether the various facilities given to the minorities are being given effect to. All this work has to be done by the State Governments. If the idea is to have central control over it, my feeling is— and I hope other hon. Members will also agree—that it would create enormous problems, and everything will be delayed.

Secondly— and this is also important— we should not create a sense of feeling in our people that everything has to be decided from the Centre. Those people who live in the States must develop friendship; they must not think that their problems have to be solved by someone from above. The problem should be considered, should be settled and the difficulties solved by the State Governments and the people amongst themselves. So, it is essential that the entire responsibility should be that of the State Government. Of course, it is for the Centre to keep itself in close touch with what is happening. And, then, as I said, there

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are various agencies now established, the Zonal Councils as well as the Committee of the Vice-Chairman of Zonal Councils, to see as to what is actually happening.

I may also inform hon. Members that I have laid stress on the fact that the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities has not only to sit in his office. He has to go to the spot himself. I entirely agree with some hon. Member who suggested, and I think it is Shri Heda, that he should not wait for complaints. It should be his duty to visit areas, to go to different localities and rural areas and find out what their complaints are. In fact, I have myself, already, suggested this to the Commissioner. Now, I have also asked him to attend all the meetings of the Zonal Councils. Formerly, he did not do so. When he is present there, he is able to tell the Zonal Councils, the Ministers or the Chief Ministers, as to what are the shortcomings and what are the drawbacks, and what is not being done.

He was present at the meeting of the Western Zonal Council. It was really useful. In fact, I had asked him to attend the meeting of the Chief Ministers also. He was present at the National Integration Conference. I have done all these things with a view to keep him posted with the thinking of all of us, the Government and of others as well as for the Governments or the Chief Ministers to know what the realities are. In this way, the Commissioner is finding his work quite useful.

He has met me and spoken to me. And, recently, when he met me he said that he is now getting full co-operation of the State Governments. Formerly, it is true, the Commissioner was not able to meet the Ministers concerned or others. He found some difficulty. Now, there is, no such complaint and he gets cooperation from the State Governments, from the officers as well as from the Ministers.

In fact, the Chief Minister of Maharashtra suggested to me that, in their Standing Committee meetings or in the meetings which he holds with the Ministers concerned in the State, he would like the Commissioner to be present and discuss matters with them. So, in this way, it will be found that the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities would really be doing very useful work and would be effective. But ultimately, it is the State Government which is, and should be, responsible for this work; and we should have full faith in them.

I do not want to take more time. There are some other points also. For example, Shri Heda said that 50 per cent of the officers in the All India Services should be from outside the State. I may tell him that it is already being done. I do not think that we have reached that figure; but our objective is that 50 per cent of the Services should be from outside the State, and we will try to give effect to it.

Shri Mohsin expressed anxiety about the position of the linguistic minority candidates when the regional language becomes the medium of examinations conducted by the State Service Commission. This question was considered by the meeting of the Chief Ministers in August last and it has been laid down that, for recruitment to a State service, language should not be a bar and, besides the official language of the State, option should be given to use English or Hindi as the medium of examination. Under the decisions taken by the Southern Zonal Council, the linguistic minority candidates in that zone will also have the option to answer examination papers in any of the principal minority languages in use in that State.

As regards recruitment rules, Shri Mohsin said that in the Telegraph department certain discrimination was made against candidates who had

taken Urdu. I may inform him that the rules to which he referred to have already been modified; and candidates who had taken Urdu or a language other than the regional language in their secondary course are not placed at any disadvantage under the revised rules. Shri Vidyalankar suggested that this report should be placed before the State legislatures so that there also the minorities might get an opportunity of placing their views before the State legislature. Generally, it is for the State Governments to consider. But personally speaking, it is better that this report is discussed here, in this bigger and wider forum. The States may fear that there may be bitter feelings expressed which may increase the differences that exist. But here the position is entirely different. We have to look from the all India context and such discussions do not create here any bitterness and we are able to think over the matter constructively. I have no objection, however, if any State Government wants to discuss it; but what is more important is that they implement what has already been decided. I do not know whether it is being done; we will send the report of the discussions held here in this House to all the State Governments. They will be able to know the views of the Members and that would further help them in making the necessary changes or modifications in what they are doing at present.

Shri Soy, a tribal Member, said about the poor educational facilities for 38 lakhs of adivasis in Bihar. He said that facilities had decreased after Independence. Judging from facts given in the report, it does not appear to be correct. The number of primary schools providing instruction through Santhali medium has increased from 314 to 386 in 1960-61 and the number of pupils, from 13,000 to 18,000. Anyhow, the matter could be examined further.

Shri Abdul Wahid said that linguistic minorities should be practical and learn the State language without

being over sensitive about their rights. It is quite right; it is a very wise advice. I think Shri Tahir said that Hindi text books in U.P. caused bitterness. I do not know if this could be said in a general way. Recently, there was a text book on which the Muslims felt greatly agitated and I am glad to say that the U. P. Government took prompt action to withdraw the text book from use in their institutions.

Shri Mohammed Tahir (Kishanganj): I have several text books like that.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I shall be glad to get them if he could furnish those text books and to look into them and to take them up with the State Government. Shri Jadhav said that Dong was a Marathi-speaking area but the number of Marathi schools and teachers was declining. I shall draw the attention of the State Government and if necessary the Commissioner will also be asked to look into these matters.

I can only say that we have not to start on a clean slate. I fully endorse what Shri Tyagi said: do not talk of linguistic minorities or other minorities; think only in terms of unity and nationalism. It is perfectly all right. But we are not writing on a clean slate. We have to face the reality. Since Independence there is a general urge among the people to develop their language and their areas and try to uplift their people. These feelings were suppressed all these years during the reign of the Britishers and no one was able to state what he actually wanted. All these emotions have come up. There is no point in suggesting that they should all be suppressed. It is also to be admitted that we have to do these things in a democratic way and democracy has its good points as well as bad points. Democracy means governance by discussion and persuasion and that is the best way in the existing circumstances. Basically and fundamentally we believe in democracy

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and the democratic way of doing things and I have no doubt that this process has on the whole kept the people peaceful. Of course differences creep in during this interim period. We find that there are sometimes conflicts and clashes. They will come up. But this is a very difficult period in the history of our country. Therefore, we should not get unnerved when we see the conflicts and clashes and there is talk of this minority or that minority. We will have to show patience. It would give results. Apparently democratic process is a bit slow and so we get sometimes impatient. But it gives the people the feeling that they could complain of their difficulties and that they are being considered. I do not accept the point that democracy means delay and delay means cropping up of other difficulties. I do not think that any other process or method will bring about better results or quicker results.

It is essential that the difficulties of the minorities are always borne in mind. Of course the minorities have also their responsibilities and obligations. I agree that we should not always think in terms of complaints and create a feeling that there is injustice throughout the country. That feeling does not really help them. But I must say that the majority community has to be much more careful and vigilant, and we should try fully to understand and realise the difficulties of the minorities. Ultimately, we have all to subordinate the regional interests and the local interests. The national interest will have to be supreme and we have gradually to create an atmosphere in our country in which the States and the different communities living in the States will live peacefully, and there will be an urge to see that there is a feeling of complete patriotism and nationalism amongst our people and that our countrymen are prepared to subordinate their local interests when even it is needed.

13 hrs.

I shall not take more time of the House. I wish once again to thank hon. Members for the suggestions they have put forward. I can tell them that when we get the report, we will not in future delay its consideration by this House. We will place the report as early as possible. I have no doubt that the views expressed in this House and the advice given by this House will be fully attended to and with the help of Parliament we will be able to generate a feeling of satisfaction among the minorities and thus create a true national spirit and national feeling in the country.

Shri P. K. Deo: There are two points for clarification. Firstly, the southern Zonal Council has done a splendid job in making various recommendations for the preservation of the language and culture of the linguistic minorities in that area. May I know if a similar attempt is being made in the other zonal councils in this regard? If nothing is done, may I know if the initiative will be taken from the Centre?

Secondly, regarding the minorities which are not covered by the zonal councils which is the proper forum, there is one point to be clarified. For example, there are Oriyas in Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh. Is the problem connected with them to be discussed in the southern Zonal Council or the central Zonal Council? I want to know how far this matter could be discussed in the eastern Zonal Council of which Orissa is a member.

Shri K. N. Tiwary (Bagaha): Shri Mohammad Tahir promised to submit a certain number of books to the hon. Minister. We would request the hon. Minister, through you, to tell us whether those text-books are in Urdu or in Hindi and whether the authors are Hindus or Muslims.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah (Adoni): In the report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities, they have said that they sought some information from the Orissa Government about educational facilities to the linguistic minorities. They have also said that though they tried to get information from the State Government, they were not able to get it. There is only one school in Berhampur to which the State Government was giving aid. Even though in Berhampur and Parlakimedi areas, there are a large number of Andhras, not much attention is being paid to the linguistic minorities there and.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. No speech can be made at this moment.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Shri P. K. Deo and also the hon. Member have referred to Orissa and Andhra Pradesh. I would merely say that we are really sorry that we have not been able to hold a meeting of the eastern Zonal Council for some time past. We have now fixed a meeting of the eastern Zonal Council for the 12th September. I hope that these matters will be discussed at the meeting of the eastern Zonal Council. There are certain areas in Madhya Pradesh where Oriya-speaking people live. I can tell him that if he wants to write to me, he can, and of course we can also make enquiries from the State Government as well as from the Commissioner as to what the position is. We can discuss it in the central Zonal Council.

Shri P. K. Deo: U.P. and Madhya Pradesh?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Yes; if necessary we can ask a representative of the Orissa Government to attend the meeting. Then, about the text-books, I have nothing to say. It is for the hon. Member to furnish the text-books. Then we will see who the author is and what the language is.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That this House takes note of the Second and Third Reports of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities, laid on the Table of the House on the 8th August, 1960 and 24th April, 1961, respectively."

The motion was adopted.

13.05 hrs.

ADVOCATES (THIRD AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Advocates Act, 1961, be taken into consideration."

This amendment has been necessitated because of the fact that the State Bar Councils have not been able to formulate any rules yet as a result of which, particularly with regard to students who have passed their examinations after February, 1962, they are finding it extremely difficult to get themselves enrolled as advocates. Even those who practised as pleaders in the olden days find it difficult to get themselves enrolled. We made blanket provisions by the original Act by which we extended the date subsequently, and ultimately the date was extended up to 28th February, 1962 by the last amendment to the Act, so that all those who passed before the 28th February, 1962 were entitled to be enrolled as a matter of course without any rule being framed in respect of enrolment of advocates.

As the rules were not framed we were requested by the All-India Bar Association—the request was communicated to the Attorney-General by the President of the All-India Bar Association—that we should make a provision extending the date from 28th February, 1962 to 28th February, 1963 in section 24 of the Act. As we found that we have to come repeatedly to this House