

1985 Re: Calling PHALGUNA 11, 1886 (SAKA) Re: Ministers' 1986
Attention resignations

(xxiv) The Rice (Southern Zone) Movement Control Amendment Order, 1965, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 217 dated the 8th February, 1965.

(xxv) The Southern States (Regulation of Export of Rice) Second Amendment Order, 1965, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 218 dated the 8th February, 1965.

(xxvi) The Orissa Rice Procurement (Levy) Second Amendment Order, 1965, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 244, dated the 10th February, 1965.

[Placed in Library, see No. LT-3879/65].

(2) a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 1842 dated the 24th December, 1964, under section 12A of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library, see No. LT-3880/65].

ANNUAL REPORT OF EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Jaganatha Rao): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Annual Report of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, for the year 1963-64, under section 36 of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948.

[Placed in Library, see No. LT-3881/65].

12.46 hrs.

RE: CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Mr. Speaker: There was another calling attention notice but because only one can be taken up now, that will be taken up at 4 P.M. today. That concerns the hon. Minister of Railways and is by Shri Limaye, Shri Ram Sewak Yadav and others.

Shri Seshiyam (Perambalur): At 4:25 the hon. Prime Minister is replying to the debate.

Mr. Speaker: This would be at 4 o'clock. We will finish it before 4:15.

12.46½ hrs.

RE: RESIGNATION BY MINISTERS

Mr. Speaker: The House will recall that on the 18th February, 1965, Shri Nath Pai raised a point that in accordance with the traditions of the House of Commons, UK, the Minister of Food and Agriculture should make a statement in the House about his resignation from the Council of Ministers. I promised to look into the matter and let the House know my reactions.

I have looked into the matter and I find that under rule 199(i) it is not obligatory on the part of a Minister who has resigned from the Council of Ministers to make a statement in the House. Further in this case we do not have any official information whether the Minister tendered his resignation and whether it was not accepted by the Prime Minister or it was withdrawn by the Minister himself. All those details are the internal affairs of the Cabinet.

In the circumstances, I do not think that it is obligatory on the part of the Minister to make any statement in the House.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): Sir, I have to bow down to your ruling, but may I urge only one thing because you said that what happens in the Cabinet as such internally we cannot demand a right to know fully? May I point out that the Prime Minister issued a statement saying, "It all happened all of a sudden; I am taken by surprise; Shri Subramaniam rushed to the press with his resignation"? These three sentences are verbatim quotations from the statement, after the alleged resignation by Shri Subramaniam, given by the Prime Minister. In these circumstances you will perhaps consider once again whether Par-

[Shri Nath Pal]

liament is the only body which is to be left out when such events are taking place and all that we are to be satisfied with is just looking into the next day's press and get any announcement on these important matters. Shri Subramaniam ought to have been persuaded by you, though it may not be obligatory, to give an explanation as to why he felt tempted upon to tender his resignation and what led him later on to withdraw it. In view of the background of the resignation this was a fair enough proposal that I made.

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): I have only one submission to make in addition to what my hon. friend, Shri Nath Pal, has said. If they had not said anything at all themselves, either of them, to the public, your ruling would be considered to deal with this problem completely and satisfactorily; but, unfortunately, I should say, to weaken that ruling what they have done is that no less a person than the Prime Minister came out to the public giving out whatever had happened as amongst themselves. Under those circumstances, either you suggest to them that they should conform to the usual conventions that, whatever happens amongst themselves as Ministers, they should not be talking about it in public; or, when they do it, they should be prepared to come to the House and make a statement giving all the details.

Shri Nath Pal: Only as a healthy convention.

Mr. Speaker: I cannot make a general rule. I have no powers to direct any minister to make a statement when he tenders his resignation, as is reported, and withdraws it or his resignation is not accepted. I have nothing further to do in that... (Interruption) Our rules only enjoin upon, or rather, give one privilege to, a Minis-

ter that if his resignation is accepted and he goes out, he has a right to make a statement. That is the only thing that is contained in our Rules; otherwise, we have nothing that we can enforce. Particularly, the Speaker cannot ask the Minister that because he tendered his resignation to his chief or boss, to the Prime Minister, he must make a statement here as to what were the reasons. I cannot do that.

12.50 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam): I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Section 5(1)(i) of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves to serve as members of the Animal Welfare Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Section 5(1)(i) of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves to serve as members of the Animal Welfare Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was moved.

12.51 hrs.

INSURANCE (AMENDMENT) BILL*

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Insurance Act, 1938.

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary Part I, Section 2, dated 1965.