

[Shri Raghu Ramiah]

in your hands ; if you want to extend it, you can do so.

MR. SPEAKER : If we extend the time and take up the Constitution Amendment Bill at 4 o'clock, we will have one more hour for this. But one thing. All of them cannot be accommodated. Let them take 5 minutes each. Then they will be able to have their say.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA : (Delhi Sadar) : Are you taking up the Constitution (Amendment) Bill at 4 o'clock ?

MR. SPEAKER : We have extended the time and we will continue the debate now. At 3-30 or so the Home Minister will start and then after that we will take up the Constitution (Amendment) Bill.

13.06 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha Adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.*

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Five Minutes Past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[Shri Vasudevan Nair in the Chair]

Re : PROPOSED STRIKE BY LIC EMPLOYEES

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : I rise on a point of order...

SOME HON. MEMBERS : There is no business before the House. Where is the point of order ?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : The business before the House is that the communal situation in the country to be taken into consideration. I would to invite your kind attention to rule 340, and I want that the debate on the communal situation be adjourned. I move a motion that this debate be adjourned. I shall give you my reasons for it. As I am sure, you are aware, the National Federation of Insurance Field workers of India have ..

MR. CHAIRMAN : Is the hon. Member moving a motion ?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I am moving that the debate be adjourned. I shall give

you my reasons for it. 8500 development officers of the LIC under the banner of the National Federation of Insurance Field Workers of India are going on strike from 10th December, 1969. This is a very important matter. Their representatives are here and they want to have negotiations with the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance, Shri Khadilkar. We had tabled a calling-attention-notice, but unfortunately that has not been accepted. I am raising this issue because from 10th onwards, it is going to be a continuous strike, and they want the withdrawal of all action taken against the employees...

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is here and...

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : May I request you to direct the Prime Minister or the other two Ministers in the Ministry of Finance, particularly Shri Khadilkar who is dealing with this, to make a statement today on this matter so that the strike may be averted and the negotiations can start immediately, provided the chairman directs ..

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member's point is already noted by the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

श्री रवि राय (पुरी) : सभापति जी, आठ हजार लोग हड़ताल करने वाले हैं : 15 दिनों में इसको उठा रहे हैं लेकिन सरकार सुन नहीं रही है। एल आई सी के चैयरमैन, भिडे साहब दबाव डालते हैं। इसके लिए कुछ करना चाहिए। 1 तारीख में एल आई सी के 8 हजार डेवलपमेंट आफिसर्स हड़ताल करने वाले हैं। खाडिलकर साहब इस सम्बन्ध में उनसे बातचीत करें और कल यहाँ पर अपना बयान जरूर दें। ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not necessary for him to resort to that rule for making this submission. Usually, at this hour, hon. Members bring to the notice of the House as well as to the Ministers concerned certain issues like this. We have been told that there is an important issue pending before the Minister of Finance, and the issue has already been brought to their notice ..

SHRI BENI SHANKER SHARMA (Banka) : I support Shri S. M. Banerjee.

SHRI RABI RAY *rose*—

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think the hon. Member is also supporting Shri S. M. Banerjee.

श्री रवि राय : दस तारीख को वे लोग हड़ताल करने वाले हैं। आप सरकार से कल बयान देने के लिए कहिए। यह बहुत गम्भीर मामला है।... (व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs will kindly convey it to the hon. Minister of Finance. I hope he will convey the feelings of the Members to the hon. Minister Shri Khadilkar.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : He should make a statement today.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I cannot say when he will make a statement.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : You can direct him from the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I cannot direct the hon. Minister as to when he should make the statement.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (A'ipore) : In view of the urgency and seriousness of the matter, because the strike will begin from day after tomorrow, we are pressing that an early statement should be made so that the strike can be averted.

श्री हुकमचन्द कछवाय (उज्जैन) : मन्त्री महोदय आज ही चार बजे अपना स्टेटमेंट दें।  
... (व्यवधान)...

SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL (Chandigarh) *rose*—

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member is also on the same subject ?

SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL : Yes,...

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think it is not necessary.

SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL : Kindly permit me also to say a few words.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The subject is the same, and I do not think it is necessary.

SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL : But the reasons are different. My reasons are that these field workers provide the lifeline of the LIC. They are the persons who are responsible for the earnings of the entire LIC. They have been agitating and pressing upon the Government for the last one year and they have been trying to find a way out and to have negotiations, but they have failed in their attempt. Therefore, they are resorting to this method.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister of Finance is not here, and if he were present he would hear all that hon. Members are saying. But he is not here. So, let not hon. Members repeat the same thing.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : आप मन्त्री महोदय से कहें, वे स्टेटमेंट दे सकते हैं।  
... (व्यवधान)...

श्री रवि राय : वे खाडिलकर साहब को बता देगे, वे खड़े होकर कहते नहीं हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have repeated more than once that opinions expressed by several hon. Members belonging to the different parties in the House should be conveyed to the Minister of Finance, and I hope the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has taken note of the seriousness of the situation and he will convey it to the hon. Minister concerned.

SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL : Let them try to avert the impending strike.

SHRI SHEO NARAIN (Basti) : Kindly ask the hon. Minister to say something on this.

14.13 hrs.

MOTION RE : STATEMENT ON COMMUNAL SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY—*Contd.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will