

12.04 hrs.

RELEASE OF MEMBER ON PAROLE  
(Shri M. Narayana Swamy)

**Mr. Speaker:** I have to inform the House that I have received the following communication dated the 17th September, 1965, from the Superintendent, Central Prison, Hyderabad:

"I have the honour to inform that Shri Madala Narayana Swamy, Member, Lok Sabha, who was detained under the Defence of India Rules, 1962, was released on two months' parole on the 17th September, 1965."

12.04½ hrs.

COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

THIRD REPORT

**Shri S. V. Krishnamoorthy Rao:** I beg to present the Third Report of the Committee of Privileges.

12.04½ hrs.

SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND BILL  
—contd.

**Mr. Speaker:** We shall now take further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Raj Bahadur on the 17th September, 1965, namely:—

"That the Bill to provide for the institution of a provident fund for seamen, be taken into consideration."

Out of 3 hours allotted, 1 hour and 5 minutes has already been exhausted.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur):** Where is the hon. Minister of Transport? He is not here.

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman):** I am

representing him. He is caught up in the other House.

**Shri P. R. Chakraverti (Dhanbad):** I congratulate the hon. Minister on his initial venture to introduce this measure which has long been overdue. Undoubtedly it would have been better and more consistent if the Department of the Social Security had taken the initiative in these measures, now that it is going to be an integrated measure, but anyhow, I am glad that as an initial venture the Minister of Transport has come forward with this Bill.

So far, the people concerned had been denied this privilege, and their number was running to some thousands; it may be that more than 50,000 to 60,000 people are directly concerned in this matter; for so long, they had been denied all facilities, so far as the social security measures are concerned. So, this Bill is an innovation and a healthy innovation. But I have got to make some suggestions with regard to the clauses which have been inserted in the Bill. In the initial stage, they have fixed up the contribution to be 6 per cent instead of 8½ per cent or practically 8½ per cent as in the case of the other industries. I would say that they should have started in the beginning itself at the level that is now prevalent in the other industries, namely 8½ per cent mainly because of the hazardous nature of the work which these seamen are made to undertake. They have got all sorts of dangers in their avocation; besides, they also have the artificial form of living somewhere far away from the social structure, where they have to live without their families; they are made to stay in congested places and even undergo all the inclemencies of weather, storm and other difficulties. So, I would suggest that the rate of contribution should have been 8½ per cent at the initial stage, and then it should have gone up by gradual stages to 10 per cent. That is my first suggestion.