

THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

Block 'C'
Acc. No. 25028.....
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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Friday, 23rd May, 1952

The House met at a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

Clauses 1 to 3 were added to the Bill.

The Title and the Enacting Formula were added to the Bill.

Dr. Katju: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

9-15 A.M.

SAURASHTRA (ABOLITION OF LOCAL SEA CUSTOMS DUTIES AND IMPOSITION OF) PORT DEVELOPMENT LEVY REPEALING BILL.

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to repeal the Saurashtra (Abolition of Local Sea Customs Duties and Imposition of) Port Development Levy Ordinance, 1949, be taken into consideration."

Hon. Members would very likely have read the Bill as also the Statement of Objects and Reasons. It is not necessary for me therefore to take up the time of the House in explaining the provisions of the Bill. The Bill is intended to replace an Ordinance which was passed to repeal certain port levy duties, imposed by the Saurashtra Government for the purposes of carrying out some improvements. That object has now been achieved, and the levies were no longer necessary. An Ordinance has been promulgated to repeal those levies. We are now bringing in this Bill in order to replace that Ordinance.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill to repeal the Saurashtra (Abolition of Local Sea Customs Duties and Imposition of) Port Development Levy Ordinance, 1949, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

DISPLACED PERSONS (CLAIMS) AMENDMENT BILL

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to amend the Displaced Persons (Claims) Act, 1950, be taken into consideration."

The House would be aware that the Displaced Persons (Claims) Act was passed in the year 1950. Its duration was for two years. It received the assent of the President on the 18th May and became law. It was expected at the time that the work of the verification of the claims would be finished within a period of two years. About 10,50,000 claim sheets were received. A claim sheet, according to our definition, means a claim with regard to all the properties situate within the jurisdiction of a Claims Officer. Now, the verification of 10,50,000 claim sheets was by no means an easy matter. These properties are situate in Pakistan. We wanted to exchange records, the municipal records and registration records, but Pakistan was not amenable to that. Displaced persons had entered India under rather difficult conditions and many of them could not bring their title deeds. Therefore we had to undertake a task which is perhaps unique in its difficulties. Our Claims Officers are not in a position to visit the property. In many cases, there is no written document in support of the claim, and the verification has to be done by a method of checks and cross-checks.

38 P.S.D.