

day. Now, I think, if Shri Bhagwan Shankarji moves a Motion, then without losing his priority, we could take up this item on the next day and on his moving the Motion we could postpone it to the next day.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : This matter should be taken in the next sitting and the hon. Minister should reply to it. I should also be given a chance to say my points. This Bill is the property of the House. A final decision should be taken on it and I have no objection to it.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is what the ruling is. That sub-rule is being suspended to enable you to get the priority in the next day.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : It is the property of the House. Priority is to be decided by the House.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : This Bill would not lose its priority. The discussion on the remaining part of the Bill would be taken up on the next day. Now, you can move the motion for adjournment of this.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : It is alright.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Anybody can move this now.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : There is no need of doing so now.

[English]

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the debate on the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, (Omission of article 44 etc.) moved by Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat be adjourned to the next day allotted for Private Members' Bills."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the debate on the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, (Omission of article 44 etc.) moved by Shri Bhagwan

Shankar Rawat be adjourned to the next day allotted for Private Members' Bills."

The motion was adopted.

20.00 hrs.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, I beg to move :

"That provision of sub-rule (i) of Rule 30 and the Proviso to Rule 29 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, in their application of the debate on the Constitution, (Amendment) Bill, 1996 (Omission of article 44, etc.) by Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat, which has been adjourned today to the next day allotted for private Member' Bills, be suspended to enable the Bill to be set down in the List of Business without ballot as the first item therein."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That provision of sub-rule (i) of Rule 30 and the Proviso to Rule 29 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, in their application of the debate on the Constitution, (Amendment) Bill, 1996 (Omission of article 44, etc.) by Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat, which has been adjourned today to the next day allotted for private Member' Bills, be suspended to enable the Bill to be set down in the List of Business without ballot as the first item therein."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad) : We will only have the replies of the Minister and the Mover and no other Member will be allowed to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have exhausted the list. There is no other speaker left. Only the Minister's intervention and the mover's reply will be there.

We now move on to Item No. 23.

20.01 hrs.

ABOLITION OF BEGGING BILL*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Reddy, you have five more minutes. So, you can move the Bill.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam) : Shall I move it now and speak about it the next day?

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 2-5-97.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have extended the House up to 20.05 hours. You have enough time to move the Bill.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : I am seeking a clarification. If I move the Bill today, would I be the speaker next day also?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please come to the subject; otherwise, after 20.05 hours you will not even get time to move it.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : I bet to move :**

"That the Bill to provide for abolition of begging and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

In the Bill I suggest the following :

"Begging by any person in any manner is hereby abolished."

Whoever forces or encourages any person, including a child in his care, custody or charge, for begging or whoever uses any person as an exhibit for the purpose of begging, shall in the first instance, be warned of indulging in such activities and punished with a fine of Rupees five hundred if he indulges in spite of the warning given to him.

Any person found begging shall be arrested by the Police. Here 'arrest' means not just sending him to jail but giving him special treatment about which I would talk in detail afterwards.

The appropriate Government shall formulate such schemes, work out such plans, including plans for provision of education and create suitable infrastructure in every district so as to enable beggars to take up suitable jobs for earning a livelihood.

Despite all efforts made and welfare measures taken by the Central and State Government, the practice of begging continues unabated all over the country for which we all feel sorry. This practice is very much prevalent especially in the metropolitan cities and urban centres.

There are organised gangs who exploit innocent children and force them into begging not for the sustenance of these boys and girls but for gathering arms for the gang leaders and organisers. Some people have made forcing children into begging a business. They kidnap children and force them to go for begging and collect huge amounts.

As per the 1971 census the number of beggars in the country was about 10 lakh. We do not know how many beggars are there in the country today.

Prevention of begging has to go along with programmes for education training and rehabilitation of the children, women and men found engaged in begging. Some alternative sources of livelihood have to be found for the beggars.

Therefore, it is high time that a law for prevention of begging was brought forward and other alternative sources of livelihood were found for these unfortunate people. With these words I move the Bill and propose to have a discussion on it. I request the Chairman to give me more time on the next day so that I can give more details about this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you are concluding, you may not get time again. You have been given time to move and speak on the Bill. If you wish to continue next time, you shall have to continue your speech.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : In spite of all efforts, begging is continuing in the entire country. We feel sad when we find people with torn clothes. Some people are handicapped. We also find some people with unbearable poverty and that too in cold climate.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. Reddy, you may continue next time. Now, the House stands, adjourned to meet on Monday, the 5th May 1997 at 11.00 a.m.

20.05 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, May 5, 1997/
Vaisakha 15, 1919 (Saka)*

**Moved with the recommendation of the President.