

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

Date: 25.11.2.51

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

3967

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Thursday, 9th April, 1953

The House met at Two of the Clock.
[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair.]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

3 P.M.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

HOURS OF SITTING

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to inform hon. Members that the House will sit from 8-30 A.M. to 1-15 P.M. with effect from Tuesday, the 14th April, 1953.

The hours for which the office will remain open for receiving notices etc. and for other work will be notified in the Parliamentary Bulletin.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to inform the hon. Members that I have received the following letter from Rt. Rev. John Richardson:

"I beg to submit my application for permission to remain absent from the meetings of the House. Owing to great pressure of work in my Diocese I am prevented from attending the Session of the House of the People which has already commenced on Wednesday, the 11th February, 1953. Most regretful."

The Member has so far completed 57 days of continuous absence from the sittings of the House. He was granted leave of absence on two occasions previously—once on the 25th June 1952 and the second time on the 5th November, 1952.

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Is it the pleasure of the House that permission be granted to Rt. Rev. John Richardson for remaining absent from all the meetings of the House during this Session?

I judge by voices that there is a greater number of voices for granting permission than against.

Leave was granted

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hereafter I will see if the reasons for leave of absence can be given in the Order Paper. If the hon. Member feels that his work in his Diocese is more important than Parliament, he must as well be interested in the other work.

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I may say a word in regard to Mr. Richardson. Hon. Members do not realise that it is not easy for him to get here. He lives in a part of the Andamans and it is exceedingly difficult—it seems he has to wait for weeks to get a boat. It is not merely a question of doing some other work. There is the actual difficulty of getting here—and partly it is our fault for not having been able to arrange proper services from the Andamans by air or sea.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

HOURS OF SITTING

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): You were, Sir, good enough to mention the time of sittings from next Tuesday. I would submit that if we sit for less than five hours a day, it will be difficult; it is difficult enough to carry on the work as it is. The new time you announced is less than five hours. I submit five hours is the absolute minimum, and if we can make it six hours, it is better.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I would only remind the Prime Minister that the last time we sat in the morning, at least thrice a week we were sitting in

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

the afternoon also. It may be rather difficult to ask hon. Members to come earlier than 8-30

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Why not, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am in the hands of the House. If there is a general feeling that we may start at 8-15 instead of 8-30, then we will be able to.....

Several Hon. Members: 8-15.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will then sit at 8-15 and carry on till 1-15 every day from the 14th. If there is so much of work, occasionally we can meet twice a week in the afternoon also.

Several Hon. Members: No, no.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Not immediately.

Shri Sarangadhar Das (Dhenkanal—West Cuttack): We will continue as at present.

There is a great volume of opinion this side.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat): Let us continue as it is.

* **An. Hon. Member:** May I know the reasons for the present change?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members want me to put it to vote? The reasons are: summer is setting in. Is it the desire of the House that I should take the sense of the House for this?

Hon. Members: No, no.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: As soon as summer set in, there were repeated representations to me that I should have started this timing even earlier. I am sure the hon. Prime Minister seems to be agreeing with this and therefore the sense of the House is clear. Anyhow, those who do not want to change over from the afternoon to the morning session will kindly rise in their seats.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee (Calcutta South-East): In the next week let us continue as it is.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: 14th is a little long way. We are only on the 9th today. I will invite the Leaders of the various Groups to have consultations.

Several Hon. Members: No, no.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have absolutely no objection. Am I to ask hon. Members to go into one lobby and the other regarding this? I find a number of hon. Members standing up here on this side also.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: This is not a party question. I have no objection to hon. Members in this side or that side standing in either way. You can see the opinion and decide for yourself.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Gurgaon): Morning hours are all right.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Those who are in favour of the changeover, that is from 8-15 to 1-15, will kindly rise in their seats.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There will be a change and the timings from 14th April will be from 8-15 A. M. to 1-15 P. M.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following papers under article 151(1) of the Constitution:

- (i) Appropriation Accounts of the Defence Services for the year 1949-50. [Placed in Library. See No. IV. O.I. (94)]
- (ii) Commercial Appendix to the Appropriation Accounts of the Defence Services for the year 1949-50 and the Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. IV. O. I. (96)]
- (iii) Audit Report, Defence Services, 1951. [Placed in Library. See No. IV. O. I. (95)]

ELECTION TO COMMITTEES

INDIAN CENTRAL OILSEEDS COMMITTEE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to inform the House that upto the time fixed for receiving nominations for the Indian Central Oilseeds Committee, eleven nominations were received. Subsequently seven Members withdrew their candidature. As the number of the remaining candidates is thus equal to the number of vacancies in the Committee, I declare the following Members to be duly elected: (1) Shri Mathura Prasad Mishra.