

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)  
OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Friday, 4th September, 1953

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

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

9-23 A.M.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I have to inform the hon. Members that Shri N. Sathianathan, M.P., completed 63 days of continuous absence on the 27th August, 1953, and thereafter attended the meeting of the House on the 28th August, 1953. He has now sent an application for leave of absence which briefly reads as follows:

"Ever since my return from Delhi on the 8th April, 1953, I was keeping bad and indifferent health and I am still under treatment. In fact, I attended the session on the 28th August, 1953, as against my Doctor's advice and I was forced to return immediately again. I may not be able to go back to Delhi for some more time.

I therefore regret my absence in the House without its leave and in the above circumstances the above lapse may be condoned by the House and that the House may be also pleased to excuse my absence till the end of this session."

Is it the pleasure of the House that the absence of Shri Sathianathan for 63 days from 8th April to 27th August, 1953, be condoned and that permission be granted to him for remaining absent from all meetings of the House till the end of the current session, as requested by him in his letter?

**Hon. Members:** Yes.

*Absence was condoned and leave granted.*

ESTATE DUTY BILL.—Contd.

Clause 7.—(Interests ceasing on death).—contd.

**Shri A. M. Thomas (Ernakulam):** I would not have intervened at this stage to put forward my views in this matter but for the question of policy raised by the previous Speaker. The amendment which has been tabled by my hon. friend Mr. Sarmah and twenty other hon. Members reads like this:

"for the purpose of this Act all property shall be deemed to be governed by the Mitakshara system of Hindu law of succession."

I find an attempt in this amendment to reach perfection and afford equal treatment as far as the incidence of this taxation measure is concerned. Much has been said on the invidious distinction made in the application of this contemplated measure. The whole debate at all