

Sardar Majithia: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Are these people discharged before the fifteenth year?

Sardar Majithia: As I said, they were initially engaged for eight or nine years.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I agree, but for the other part of the contract would they be taken to the reserve?

Sardar Majithia: They are liable for reserve service.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Are these people sent away even before the reserve period?

Sardar Majithia: In the reserve period they do not serve; they go back home and they are given a retaining allowance and they are called upon to have a refresher training for about a month or so in a year and so on. As I said, I would like to get some more details about it before I say anything on it.

Shri Damodara Menon: May I suggest that in view of what the hon. Minister has said viz., that he wants time to gather information, you may postpone the consideration of this adjournment motion.

Shri Velayudhan (Quilon cum Mavelikkara—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Will there be an assurance from the hon. Minister that this retrenchment will not take place? Now, the Minister said that he will have to collect more information about it. Will he give an assurance to the House that during this time the retrenchment will not take place?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He will collect the information before the session is over, I am sure, and will not put it off till the next session. It seems to be a part of the original contract that they will be on active service for eight or nine years and for the balance of the period of fifteen years they will be on the reserve getting some

retaining allowance and so on. Therefore, if it is so, in the usual course, I do not see how this adjournment motion arises. However, as the hon. Minister says that he will gather facts, I do not see any urgency and therefore, so far as the adjournment motion is concerned, I am not allowing it but I would request the hon. Minister, as early as possible, to give a statement to the House after collecting all the necessary data. If, arising out of that statement, any further discussion is necessary, hon. Members are aware that there is the half an hour, one hour or two hours discussion and they can invoke the aid of any one of these rules.

Shri Damodara Menon: May I suggest before you give a ruling that the adjournment motion is disallowed that we may await the information that the hon. Minister will give us?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Very well. When is it likely?

Sardar Majithia: I can do it on Monday; I can come out with the statement on Monday.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Very well. Then, this will stand over till Monday. At present, I don't think there is any urgency about it. Anyhow, let it stand over. //

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

ALLOCATION OF TIME re: REPORT OF RAILWAY CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to inform the House that the Business Advisory Committee met on the 8th and 10th December, 1954 and agreed to allocate 6 hours for the disposal of the Resolution regarding the Report of the Railway Convention Committee.

I shall now ask the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to move a formal motion for approval of this Report by the House.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to move:

"That this House agrees with the allocation of time proposed by the Business Advisory Committee for the disposal of the Resolution re: Report of the Railway Convention Committee as announced by the Deputy-Speaker today."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That this House agrees with the allocation of time proposed by the Business Advisory Committee for the disposal of the Resolution re: Report of the Railway Convention Committee as announced by the Deputy-Speaker today."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So, this becomes the allocation of Time Order of the House.

PREVENTIVE DETENTION (AMENDMENT BILL)—Contd.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now the House will resume further consideration of the following motion moved by Dr. Kailas Nath Katju on the 9th December, 1954, namely:—

"That the Bill further to amend the Preventive Detention Act, 1950, be taken into consideration."

I think Mr. N. M. Lingam was in possession of the House. He will continue his speech.

Shri N. M. Lingam (Coimbatore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, yesterday I was explaining the circumstances in the country which necessitated a measure of this kind. Before I go in some detail to all aspects of the question, I shall attempt to deal with the more important criticisms levelled against the Bill.

The point has often been raised if the ordinary law of the land is not

enough to meet the conditions envisaged by the Government, and that are sought to be tackled in this Bill. I need only remind the House of the great debate that took place in 1952 when the entire field of the Bill—not only the amending Bill but the entire Bill—was gone into. So, I will be only traversing ground already covered, if I go into this question. Suffice it to say that the House found the ordinary law inadequate to meet situations that were arising in the country and that were likely to arise.

So, Sir, I do not propose to bore the House by going into that question once again. It is really for this House to consider how far the extension of this measure is justified and how the Act in the past has been administered. I think, Sir, as you were good enough to point out the other day, a discussion confined to these questions would be most useful.

The other criticism levelled against this Bill is that it is a measure to hide the want and poverty of the people in the land so that Government may remain entrenched in power indefinitely. The hon. the Leader of the Communist Party said, that, but for the agitation of the people the meagre relief that Government have been providing would not have been there. So, he urged that in order to give facilities for people to express their discontent, there should be no measure of this kind. But, our stand has been and is that it is precisely with a view to tackle the problems of poverty and squaller that we want a measure of this kind. We do not want to be diverted in our attention. We want the energy of the entire nation to be applied to the solving of the major problems of poverty and want. Members opposite, on the other hand, want that there should be no restriction on the people to agitate so that interested parties may exploit the situation for political purposes. This is the difference in approach between the two parties to this question. The spokesman for the Praja Socialist Party