

## (Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

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## LOK SABHA

Friday, 24th September, 1954.

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair]

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I).

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## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

## REPORT OF PHARMACEUTICAL ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Pharmaceutical Enquiry Committee. [Placed in Library. See No. S-358/54.]

## STATEMENT OF CASES WHERE LOWEST TENDERS HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY I.S.D.

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):** I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the statement of cases in which the lowest tenders have not been accepted by the India Store Department, London, during the period ended the 30th June, 1954. [Placed in Library. See No. S-359/54.]

## MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

## BANK EMPLOYEES' STRIKE

**Mr. Speaker:** Before proceeding further, I have now to dispose of two adjournment motions. One of them was received after the House sitting

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began. So, it is out of question to consider it. However, I may state that the subject matter is the same as the previous one. And in the first one which has been received from hon. Member Gurupadaswamy, the subject is:

"The serious situation arising out of various Banks all over the country."

Before I finally withhold my consent which I am inclined to at this stage, my own impression has been that the situation has not arisen suddenly. The Bank award was discussed here threadbare. The hon. Minister for Labour also made a statement as to what Government were doing. I do not see how and what is going to be discussed, or how the situation is of an emergent character. It has arisen it is developing it will develop from day to day. There is nothing which has arisen all of a sudden. I should, however, like to know, not from the hon. Member, but from the Minister if he has to say anything about it.

**The Minister of Labour (Shri K. K. Desai):** As you have very rightly pointed out, the situation is neither serious, not urgent, nor sudden. As you have rightly said; it was developing there. I have known from the reports that there has been a token strike for a day in some banks, and as I have announced to this House, an enquiry commission has been appointed which is bound to go into the matter; and if the situation is, if anything, the other way about, Justice Rajadhyaksha will look into the question and even if there is some seriousness, which I do not admit, it will be lightened as the enquiry will continue. And, therefore, I do not think, Sir, that this question is a fit question for

[Shri K. K. Desai]

the discussion before this House. At the same time, I may also say that as a man of the eminence of Shri Rajadhyaksha is enquiring into the case, it will be highly improper to discuss this issue on the floor of the House at this stage.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy** (Mysore): May I say a few words?

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee** (Calcutta—North—East): May I submit...

**Mr. Speaker:** There is hardly any need to submit now. The hon. the Minister of Labour has already referred to a possibility of unnecessary pressure being brought on an enquiry which ought to be allowed to be conducted in a dispassionate and calm atmosphere. There is no scope for any feeling in this matter, nor is the situation so serious merely because of a token strike of a day. In fact, this subject....

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** If you will bear with me for a moment, my submission is that the token strike as it happened yesterday is a symptom of what might very well happen in the near future, and those who took part in the token strike have already expressed their dissatisfaction with the steps, including the appointment of the Rajadhyaksha Tribunal, which Government have taken so far. That being so, the way the token strike has happened indicates that there is a danger to the working of the financial structure of our country, and possibly a discussion might lead Government to revise and amplify its point of view towards the banking employees.

**Mr. Speaker:** So, some situation which is likely to arise in future is sought to be discussed by anticipation now. Let the situation arise and I am sure the Government will deal with it and the hon. Members will have time or opportunity to discuss, if permissible.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Yesterday's situation was a fact.

**Mr. Speaker:** I do not want to anticipate anything. (Interruptions) I do not give my consent to this.

Now, the next item of business will be:

**Sardar A. S. Saigal** to call attention.

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#### CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

##### RUSSIAN OFFER OF A STEEL PLANT

**Sardar A. S. Saigal** (Bilaspur) Under Rule 215, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Production to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"Russian offer in regard to a Second Steel Plant in India."

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House may remember that on the occasion of the signing of the agreement with Messrs. Krupp and Demag last year, I made a statement on the 24th August, 1953, in which, *inter alia*, I mentioned the following:—

"After a careful assessment of the requirements for steel with the growing industrialisation of the country, Government have come to the conclusion that there still exists the need for the establishment of another unit after providing for the expansion of the present project."

Since, then, some necessary investigations were taken in hand, and we have been considering the steps to be taken further to increase the production of steel in the country by the establishment of a fresh unit or units.

In this context, a few weeks ago the Government of India came to