

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

811

812

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Thursday, 26th November, 1953

The House met at Half Past One of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair.]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

2-25 P.M.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

ALLOTMENT OF TIME FOR THE BUSINESS

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House that the Business Advisory Committee met on the 19th November and appointed a sub-committee to consider the allotment of time for Government Bills and other business before the House during the current session. The sub-committee met on the 23rd November and made a report. The Business Advisory Committee met again on the 24th November, 1953, and considered the report of the sub-committee dated the 23rd November, 1953. The Committee again held a special meeting on the 25th November, 1953, i.e., yesterday, and came to the following conclusions as regards the timetable for the various Bills and other business. Members will carefully note the time allotted by the Business

Advisory Committee for the various legislation.

Name of the Bill	Time allotted.
1. The Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Bill.	1 day (only the Clauses remain.)
2. The Ancient and Historical monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Declaration of National Importance) Amendment Bill.	1½ hours.
3. The Employees' Provident Fund (Amendment) Bill.	2 hours.
4. The Manipur Court Fees (Amendment and Validation) Bill.	} 2 hours
5. The Telegraph Wires (Unlawful Possession) Amendment Bill.	
6. The Indian Patents and Designs (Amendment) Bill.	
7. The Reserve Bank of India (Amendment and Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill.	
8. The Banking Companies (Amendment) Bill.	1½ days.
9. The Travancore-Cochin High Court (Amendment) Bill.	} 2½ days.
10. The Calcutta High Court (Extension of Jurisdiction) Bill.	
11. The Live-Stock Importation (Amendment) Bill.	
12. The Repealing and Amending Bill.	} Two days but if necessary, the allotment be extended by a day.
13. The Special Marriage Bill, 1952.	

As regards the two Tariff Bills, the Committee suggested that three days might be reserved for both the Bills.

[Mr. Speaker]

but it was not possible to make any definite allotment as one of the Bills had not so far been introduced.

The Committee has further made allotment in connection with the following items of business which will be taken up during the current session:

1. Foreign Affairs ... One day.
2. Resolution on the Preventive Detention Act. ... Two days.
3. Scheduled Caste Commissioner's Report. ... One day.

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur): What will be the proportion?

Mr. Speaker: We do not go by proportion. A Bill may contain just one formal Clause, which may be put in two minutes, or it may contain two hundred Clauses which may take two months. We go by Bills, we go by their contents, merits, possibilities of reasonable discussion and so on.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri (Gauhati): May I know if the hon. Speaker will be bound by the decisions of the Advisory Committee?

Mr. Speaker: I am just clarifying the position.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram (Visakhapatnam): May I make a submission before that?

Mr. Speaker: First let me finish my announcement. These are the recommendations of the Business Advisory Committee which met, carefully took stock of the whole thing and considered the possibilities of reasonable discussion. The Committee represents Leaders of all Parties, and it is that Committee which has made these recommendations. Now, it is ordinarily expected, reasonably expected, that every Member will make an effort, if the business of the House is to be put through in a reasonable time and in a proper way for the best governance of the country, and will co-operate with this time-table.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Shahabad South): That is the difficulty. The Leaders of the Parties themselves take up all the time.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It is presumed that they are leaders because they have followers, and the followers have to follow them.

So, this is the time-table that has been fixed now, and we shall go by this time-table.

Shri S. S. More: May I seek some information? I presume that all this allotment is for the whole of the remaining period of the session.

Mr. Speaker: This is all given, but if there is time available,—which, there is, I think—some Bills which are yet to come will be taken up.

Shri S. S. More: I want to plead for one Bill, viz., the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, which is already there. When it was moved during the last session, the hon. Minister in charge of the Bill was very particular to assert that this measure was necessary for the PEPSU elections, particularly. The Select Committee have done their job at great inconvenience, and therefore I would rather say that some allotment must be definitely made for the consideration of this Bill. Otherwise all our labours would be wasted.

Mr. Speaker: The point is that the report of the Select Committee is not yet presented to the House. Unless the report is there before the House, and unless all the Bills that are considered urgent and important are passed, it will be difficult to go on with allotments. The Committee have done their best to allot time in such manner as they thought best.

Shri S. S. More: We disagree on this point.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member may disagree individually, or if he has any other Members belonging to

his party, collectively. But the decision of the House will have to prevail in this matter.

Shri S. S. More: Is it being put to the vote of the House now?

Mr. Speaker: I take it that excepting the hon. Member, there is no other dissentient voice.

Shri S. S. More: I accept what you say, but my submission is that the Business Advisory Committee have allotted time in such a precise manner that they are practically robbing us of the power of discussion, as a matter of fact. They have allotted time limits, such as two hours, one hour, five days, ten days and so on.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member is making allegations and observations, without even having studied what the Bills mentioned are. Let the Bills be taken up one by one. Then, if the hon. Member has any complaint to make, if it is a reasonable one, certainly this House will reconsider it.

Shri S. S. More: With due deference to you, and with my greatest regard for you, I want to submit that I am making this submission, after studying some of the important Bills, and I feel that proper time has not been allotted to this Bill.

Mr. Speaker: We will take that into consideration, when each Bill is taken individually.

Shri S. S. More: That means the matter will remain open.

Mr. Speaker: Not open. The matter will not remain open. The hon. Member may try to speak, if he can catch the eye of the Chair.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: May I make a submission, Sir? The order of the day which you have announced just now.....

Mr. Speaker: Not the order of the day, but the time-table which I have mentioned.....

Dr. Lanka Sundaram:may be printed in the Parliamentary Bulletin today so that we can keep a handy record. Otherwise, there will be confusion.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, that will be done.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Gurgaon): May I make a submission? Evidently the Business Advisory Committee came to these conclusions, when that Bill was not before them—I am referring to the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill. Now that the Select Committee have finished the consideration of that Bill, and the report is likely to be presented in a day or so, I would beg of the Business Advisory Committee and your good self, to be pleased to consider the question of giving precedence to this Bill, because the elections in PEPSU and Travancore-Cochin are to be held shortly. The basis on which the hon. Minister of Law placed this Bill before us was that this Bill will be utilised in these elections. It is very necessary, particularly so far as the PEPSU elections are concerned.

Mr. Speaker: If my impression is correct, in answer to some question or in the course of some debate, it was stated that those elections are not coming so soon as that, and that the Bill might as well wait.

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): The elections will take place, however, in the middle of February or March.

Shri B. S. Murthy (Eluru): May I make a submission? Is it not possible to allot one more day for the discussion of the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, because the Harijans may not get a chance.....

Mr. Speaker: The Business Advisory Committee have taken all these into consideration. Hon. Members may have their own different inclinations for particular subjects. But we have

[Mr. Speaker]

to take into consideration the general convenience.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Mos. of the Harijan Members do not get a chance on other subjects. Therefore, at least one chance may be given to them on this subject.

Mr. Speaker: They are given one full day.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: On a point of information, Sir. I understand some notices of one-hour discussions are pending. Did the Business Advisory Committee take these things into consideration?

Mr. Speaker: They will be taken in the usual course of business. What has been allotted here is the time-table for the Bills.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: May I respectfully submit, that since there are several days which have not yet been allotted, and there is yet some time, this Bill may be taken up?

Mr. Speaker: That will be considered by the Business Advisory Committee, when that Bill comes before them, and not till then; and it is a question of priority.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Defence (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): May I say a word, Sir, about the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill? Government are equally anxious that we should get it through. In fact, it is rather difficult, I understand from the Election Commissioner, to go ahead without knowing whether he is acting under the old law or the possible new law. He is in a fix; so he wants to know where he stands. If you tell him, go under the old law, he will go ahead; otherwise, he has to wait, he does not know when this Bill would be passed, and so he cannot take any steps. That is his difficulty.

Another possible difficulty is this, and I speak here subject to correc-

tion: the Select Committee has made some recommendations which prolonged the period going before the elections. That again is in difficulty, because it has to be fitted in within a certain period. It has made that period somewhat more complicated than it was previously intended. Either one should be clear—I do not mind which—that this Bill is passed, and I proceed accordingly, or that it is not passed, and I proceed accordingly, if it is remaining in the air, it is rather difficult for the Election Commissioner, and for Government.

Shri Frank Anthony (Nominated—Anglo-Indians): It is for Government to decide. (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: 24th December is the last day we have fixed. We do not go beyond that. Within this, we have selected.....

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am merely placing some information before the House. I had nothing to say about the statement you made, I entirely accept it on behalf of Government. There are, I believe—do not quite know—about four or five days left over.....

An Hon. Member: More.

Mr. Speaker: I think about four or five days are left.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: These can be utilised for that Bill.

Dr. Lakshmi Sundaram: Actually it is a question of the priority which Government would like to give to this particular Bill. They have not indicated their desire so far.

Mr. Speaker: They will arrange. At any rate, as it was then their desire that these Bills should be taken up, the Business Advisory Committee have considered these Bills and allotted the time, but if a situation arises, there may be a reconsideration by the Business Advisory Committee.

But so long as that reconsideration has not taken place, we will go by this programme.

REPORT OF ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

SIXTH REPORT ON THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Shri M. A. Ayyangar (Tirupati): I beg to present the Sixth Report of the Estimates Committee on the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

MUSLIM WAKFS BILL

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas): I beg to move:

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the better governance and administration of Muslim Wakfs and the supervision of Mutawallis' management of them, in India, be further extended upto the last day of the first week of the next session."

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): This is the fourth or fifth time that the extension is being asked for. May we know the reasons for the same?

Shri Biswas: The reason is this. As a matter of fact, the Select Committee held several meetings.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram (Visakhapatnam): And no quorum.

Shri Biswas: The first two meetings were without quorum, but in subsequent meetings, there was a quorum, but then these meetings were interrupted first by the Diwali holidays, and then by the consideration of the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, and that occupied the whole of the time till yesterday. So there was no time to

go on with this Bill, and there was also little chance of this Bill being taken up and passed this session. Therefore, naturally, we gave priority to the other Bill, viz. the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill.

Mr. Speaker: Does the House take it that this is the final application for extension?

Shri Biswas: That is the intention.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the better governance and administration of Muslim Wakfs and the supervision of Mutawallis' management of them, in India, be further extended upto the last day of the first week of the next session."

The motion was adopted.

DHOTIES (ADDITIONAL EXCISE DUTY) BILL

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with further consideration of the Bill to provide for the levy and collection of an additional excise duty on dhoties issued out of mills in excess of the quota fixed for the purpose.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Pandit D. N. Tiwary (Saran South): Sir, my misfortune is that the hon. Minister does not understand the national language in which I propose to speak.

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): Even if he understands, the matter won't improve.

पंडित डी० एन० तिवारी: कन्द-
मिलनों में यह विधेयक पास हो जायेगा
और कानून बन जायेगा, लेकिन
सायब सब लोगों ने इस के फार-
रीबिन ऐफेक्ट्स पर गौर नहीं किया है।