

Members were also present by invitation. Representatives of the groups were there. They all considered the matter *in extenso* and therefore, I hope there will not be many amendments. All the same I do not want to shut out anything. Let us take it day after tomorrow. In the meanwhile, whatever has been laid down will be followed. We are now proceeding on the basis of this.

#### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Easirhat):** May I enquire how long the Goa debate will last?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It will start at 2.30 P.M.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** And end at what time?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** We shall think of it later. The hon. Speaker said yesterday that as the discussion proceeded, if more time was really needed, we could see about it and for the present it was 2½ hours. What is the reaction of the hon. Minister.

**The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha):** The Prime Minister is going to reply at 5 P.M. The hon. Members will proceed till that time; the Prime Minister will reply at 5 P.M.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** Yesterday this came up before the Business Advisory Committee and that is why I am raising this. It was specifically put and the Business Advisory Committee took a decision that the debate should continue till half past six. Suddenly we are told something else. Why are we being told that the Prime Minister is going to reply at 5.

**Shri Satya Narayan Sinha:** You were there in the Chair, Sir. It was a sort of informal discussion and the decisions were subject to the Prime Minister's approval. The Prime Minister has got very important engagements already fixed. The Speaker also made it

perfectly clear that 2½ hours should be allowed for this and if necessary half an hour might be added. I had talked with the Leader of the House and he said that at 5 the discussion might end and he will start his reply.

**Shri Asoka Mehta (Bhandara):** There were two proposals. One was that the debate can go on till a particular hour today and the Prime Minister can reply tomorrow. If we had been told that the Prime Minister would not be free to reply to the debate, then we would have decided that we could continue the debate till such and such time and the Prime Minister's reply can come tomorrow. We were never told yesterday that the Prime Minister would not be in a position to sit here longer in case the debate was continued. Even now the debate can be continued till 5.30 or 6 and the Prime Minister can reply tomorrow. It is an important question and every party wants to participate in the discussion. The whole purpose of having this debate would be lost if the discussion is sought to be confined to just 2½ hours.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is in our midst and he has heard the whole thing. He will talk to the Prime Minister and decide the matter. We will take it up at 2.30. Let us now proceed with the work on hand.

What was suggested at the Business Advisory Committee was nothing more than this, so far as I remember. No doubt the demand from all quarters and Members of the Advisory Committee was that as many as four hours ought to be allotted for this debate—speeches of the hon. Members and the reply of the Leader of the House. The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs said that he would have to consult the Prime Minister. He thought that the Prime Minister would be agreeable and would not have any other work. Now he finds that there is some other work. Anyhow, he will talk to him again and all these matters will be considered by them.