

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

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LOK SABHA

Saturday, 20th August, 1955.

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

12.06 P.M.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 97 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Negotiable Instruments (Amendment) Bill, 1955, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 18th August, 1955."

NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL

Secretary: Sir, I lay the Negotiable Instruments (Amendment) Bill, 1955, as passed by the Rajya Sabha, on the Table of the House.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE REPORT OF TARIFF COMMISSION ON EN- GINEERS' STEEL FILES INDUSTRY

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): Sir, on behalf of Shri T. T. Krishnamachari, I beg to lay on the Table a
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copy of each of the following papers, under sub-section (2) of section 16 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951, namely:

- (1) Report (1955) of the Tariff Commission on Engineers' Steel Files Industry.
- (2) Ministry of Commerce and Industry Resolution No. 17(3)-T.B./54, dated the 13th August, 1955.
- (3) Ministry of Commerce and Industry Notification No. 17(3)-T.B./54, dated the 13th August, 1955.
- (4) Statement under proviso to section 16(2) of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951, explaining the reasons why the documents referred to at (1) to (3) above could not be laid within the prescribed period.

[Placed in Library. See. No. S-260/55]

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE TWENTY-THIRD REPORT

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

"That this House agrees with the Twenty-third Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 19th August, 1955."

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That this House agrees with the Twenty-third Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 19th August, 1955."

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar (Tiruppur): I have seen the detailed list of allotment of time; to certain clauses half an hour is allotted, to certain clauses one hour. I should.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. This matter has been discussed on a previous occasion when I said that if any further suggestions as to details are to be made, it is better for hon. Members to approach the members of the Business Advisory Committee and they may adjust or, if necessary, in the House itself the Speaker may adjust these things in the light of the discussions on the amendments and all that; but, generally, it has now been agreed that we do not question the report here.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: I am not questioning it I am only suggesting that this time-limit may not be very strictly adhered to and that it may be adjusted according to the circumstances.

Mr. Speaker: The overall time, I believe, is sixty-four plus four, that is sixty-eight hours. Within that time it is possible to make adjustments, looking to the progress of the Bill. In all there are sixty-eight hours.

The question is:

"That this House agrees with the Twenty-third Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 19th August, 1955."

The motion was adopted.

MOTION RE REPORT OF PRESS COMMISSION.—Contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion of the Report of the Press Commission.

As already decided, the House will sit till 6 P.M. today.

Shri Dabhi (Kaira North): May I know if there is going to be a time-limit on speeches?

Mr. Speaker: Is it necessary to fix any time-limit? What is the limit that the House would like? Shall we say, ordinarily half an hour?

Some Hon. Members: Fifteen minutes ordinarily.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. As a large number of hon. Members are anxious to speak, instead of ordinarily half an hour as I stated at first, it will be ordinarily fifteen minutes, but not exceeding half an hour in any case.

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): Let the first announcement stand.

Shri Joachim Alva (Kanara): I hope this limit will apply after I have concluded, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: The fifteen minute rule will not apply to him, as he started yesterday, but the half an hour rule will apply to him.

He has, I may remind him, already spoken for nineteen minutes.

Shri Joachim Alva: I was speaking yesterday about the Huns, the Vandals and the Scythians who have now invaded large fields of Indian journalism. On a former occasion, one of the ablest Indian civilians, Lord Hailey, speaking in this very House in reference to the onslaught of the Swarajists in this House said that the Vandals, the Scythians and the Huns had come into this House. They tried to capture the soul of Indian nationalism, but what has happened is that they have tried to destroy the soul of Indian nationalism and I shall try to prove this to you. Five owners control 29 papers with 31.2 per cent. of circulation in India, 15 owners control 54 papers with 50 per cent. circulation in India, with the result that 20 owners control 85 per cent. circulation in India through their 83 papers. This is a very large percentage. The 85 per cent. of the circulation that is wielded by 20 owners in India is indeed a very dangerous thing, and that is exactly why we have to strive and control at any cost to keep the newspaper owners out of the coterie and also the news agencies. The P.T.I. is already in their pockets, but Government, I hope will come out with strong measures to see that it is out of their pockets. The U.P.I. is already controlled by some of them in the sense that the boss of one of the largest concerns has a large interest in the U.P.I. I cannot help mentioning these things for the simple reason that I regret