

FINANCE BILL

Ch. Banbir Singh (Rohtak): I beg to present a petition signed by a petitioner in respect of the Finance Bill, 1955.

*DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR
1955-56—(Contd.)

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up the Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Defence, and I shall call upon the hon. Minister to reply. If the Minister takes—as I presume, he will—50 to 60 minutes, we shall have about four hours left. Five hours have been allotted to the Communications Ministry. Now, if the debate regarding the Communications Ministry is not completed today, the difficulty will be that the two Ministries to be taken up tomorrow, which are, I believe, allotted two hours and three hours, cannot be taken up. We shall always be lagging behind by one hour. So the alternative is that we either sit today for one hour more and finish the debate regarding the Communications Ministry or curtail the time of the other two Ministries, which are the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Natural Resources. The time allotted for the Ministry of Health is two hours and that for the Ministry of Natural Resources, three hours. So I would ask what the House wishes to do.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Basirhat): We are actually working almost every day an extra half an hour or one hour. So I would submit that we can sit for an hour extra and finish the debate regarding the Communications Ministry and then continue, according to the allotment of time tomorrow with the other two.

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): We can have half an hour each day....

Shri Gidwani (Thana): I would suggest that we cut one hour from the time allotted to the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Mr. Speaker: There are two proposals. I am not going to have a discussion to a very great extent on them. One is that we sit one hour extra today and the other is to cut off one hour from the time allotted to the Ministry of Natural Resources tomorrow. What is the sense of the House?

Sardar Hukam Singh (Kapurthala-Bhatinda): There are some meetings of Select Committees fixed. Immediately after the House rises, we have to attend those meetings. If the House sits up to 6 P.M., then we have to sit after 6 P.M. and go up to 7 or 7-30 P.M.

Mr. Speaker: Then the upshot is that some time has to be cut off from the allotment to the Ministry of Natural Resources. That is what it comes to.

Shri Gadgil (Poona Central): Half an hour.

Mr. Speaker: So we do not sit then today for one hour more.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: At least for half an hour more.

Mr. Speaker: We will come to a compromise. We sit for half an hour more today and cut off half an hour from the time allotted to the Ministry of Natural Resources.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): That is right. Life is made of compromises.

The Minister of Defence (Dr. Katju): Shall I take half an hour?

Mr. Speaker: As much time as the hon. Minister wants.

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.