

[Shri Kidwai]

cedure in Revenue Courts of Ajmer, under sub-section (4) of section 203 of the Ajmer Tenancy and Land Records Act, 1950. [Placed in Library. See No. S—309/54.]

MOTION RE: ALLOCATION OF TIME

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House that the Business Advisory Committee met on the 6th and 8th September, 1954, for allocation of time to the Government legislative and other business before the House.

The Committee agreed to the following allotment of time:—

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| 1. The Special Marriage Bill | 37 hours. |
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(Out of which 17 hours and 34 minutes have been spent so far during the current session. The balance of 19 hours and 26 minutes will be divided as follows:

16 hours and 26 minutes for the discussion of the remaining clauses and three hours for third reading).

I might state here that the Business Advisory Committee is meeting today at 4 o'clock with a view to decide the allotment of time to the various clauses and the Schedules to the clauses.

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| 2. The Constitution (Third Amendment) Bill. | 10 hours. |
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(There will be two stages in regard to this Bill. The first stage will consist of motion for reference of the Bill to a Joint Committee and the second stage the discussion of reports of the Joint Committee and the consideration and passing of the Bill. The allocation of time will be four hours for the first stage and six hours for the second stage).

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| The Indian Income-Tax (Amendment) Bill. | 6 hours |
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| 4. The Central Excises and Salt (Amendment) Bill. | 3 hours |
| 5. The Indian Tariff (Amendment) Bill. | 2 hours |
| 6. The Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Bill. | 6 hours |
| 7. The Administration of Evacuee Property (Amendment) Bill. | 4 hours |
| 8. The Merger of Chandernagore | 2 hours |
| 9. The Taxation Laws (Extension to Jammu and Kashmir) Bill. | 1 hour |
| 10. The Indian Tariff (Second Amendment) Bill. | 7 hours |
| 11. The Madhya Bharat Taxation on Income (Validation) Bill. | 1 hour |
| 12. Supplementary Demands for Grants. | 6 hours |
| 13. Debate on Foreign Affairs | 8 hours |
| 14. Debate on Flood Situation | 4 hours |

It has already been notified to the hon. Members that the current session of the House will terminate on the 30th September, 1954. In order to make available the time for disposal of all urgent business that is to be put through during the rest of the session, the Committee have recommended that sittings of the House should be fixed on Saturdays, the 18th and 25th September and that there should be no Question Hour on these two days.

The Committee also recommended that time permitting, the following Bills may also be taken up for consideration and passing during the current session:—

1. Motion for reference of the Hindu Minority and Guardianship Bill to a Joint Committee.
2. The Government Premises (Eviction) Amendment Bill.
3. The Coffee Market Expansion (Amendment) Bill as reported by the Select Committee.

I shall now ask the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to move a formal motion with regard to the approval of this report by the House.

Shri Velayudhan (Quilon cum Mavelikkara—Reserved—Sch. Castes): There is one point, Sir. May I know whether the report of the Scheduled Castes Commissioner will come up for discussion in this House?

Mr. Speaker: So far as I know, it is not included in the list which I have read out.....

Shri Velayudhan: That is why I am asking whether.....

Mr. Speaker: He need not ask; if it is not included, it is not coming; it is not in the plan.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Hoshiarpur): May I know, firstly, if this list will be circulated to us and secondly whether the Bills will be taken up in the order in which you have read them out?

Mr. Speaker: I may clarify the position that the order in which I read out the various Bills is not necessarily the order in which the Bills will be taken up but sufficient intimation will be given to the Members in respect of Bills to be taken up from time to time. That is the present position.

Shri Raghavachari (Penukonda): You have been pleased to give us the recommendations of the Business Advisory Committee about the proposed programme, just now. It will be better if a motion is moved so that we have some time to consider about this.....

Mr. Speaker: The point is this. All such motions are more or less treated as formal and the Business Advisory Committee, which was representative of all the groups and as many other invitees as possible, have come to the above conclusion. It is, therefore, better to have it adopted; otherwise, there will again be difficulties. Time will be taken up and the adjustment or allotment will be disturbed. The Committee has calculated every hour and if any time is taken beyond what the Committee has decided, the House will have to sit longer hours or may have to prolong further. I think that the best

practice is to adopt this report of the Committee; this is a formal thing.....

Shri Jaipal Singh (Ranchi West—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): I am not clear in my mind whether, despite the fact that the Business Advisory Committee is represented by all sections in this House, there is any opportunity to this House, when formal motion to accept the report is made, to move an amendment. For example, I might refer to something that has been hinted to you a few seconds back about the possibility of a discussion on the report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Tribes. Does it mean that, if there is an automatic and formal acceptance of the recommendations of that Committee, the opinion of this House is completely ruled out in regard to the submission of amendments by some of us?

Mr. Speaker: I can clarify the position. There are two views to look at these things: one is the strictly theoretical and legal and the other practical and constitutional. If a strictly legal view is going to be taken, certainly there is always scope for amendment on any motion made in this House. But, if we are going to develop healthy conventions for the purpose of making the best use of the time of the House, then the best convention would be that such reports, made by the Committee after consideration for a long time and examining all details, should be accepted by the House without any amendment. That would be the best convention.

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur): Does it mean that rule 37 of the Rules of Procedure which has been passed by you or framed by yourself stands amended? Because it says like this: "Provided that not more than half-an-hour shall be allotted for the discussion of the motion and no member shall speak for more than five minutes on such a motion.....". The House will have every right to send it back to the Committee with the necessary recommendation.

Mr. Speaker: The whole point is this. Hon. Members ought to realise that I do not want to go against any

[Mr. Speaker]

rules. But, if he goes on with amendments and all that, then the allotment as I stated will become meaningless, and the House can go on sitting and talking and talking without coming to any definite conclusion as to when these things have to be discussed. Therefore, I hope that the hon. Members will not try to move any amendments to formal resolutions of this type.

As regards the question raised by the hon. Member, Mr. Velayudhan, I might disclose that the Committee anxiously considered the question of taking up the debate on the Scheduled Castes Commissioner's report. The Committee felt that the report deserved a full discussion and it should not make an allotment this session and hurry up the matter because more time was not available. There is urgent business of the Government which has to be put through. There is some legislation which has to be gone through, like the Constitution Amendment Bill. There are some financial proposals also and all these cannot be delayed. Therefore, if they wanted to have the pleasure of having the report discussed, the Committee may allot one or two hours but it was felt that that should not be done and it is a matter which could await discussion till the next session which is likely to meet in November, as the hon. Members know. That is another point and the Committee will take that into consideration. Therefore, I suggest that it is no use taking up more time over a discussion of such a formal motion because it has been properly thrashed out by the Business Advisory Committee. At that meeting in addition to the Members that were present, I believe an equal number of invitees were also present—about 18 or 20 hon. Members of the House. It is not possible to give recognition to each Member under the style of independent Member but all representatives of people were taken.....

Shri B. S. Murthy (Eluru): Are there any Harijans in that Committee?

Mr. Speaker: It is not a question of Harijans or non-Harijans. It is a question of the entire business of the House. It is a matter of regret that people are viewing the whole situation and the problems of the country on a sectional basis. It is not a question of Harijans or non-Harijans. We are all enjoined by the Constitution to take certain steps and it is for the purpose of having a better opportunity of discussion—and a fuller discussion—that the Committee after considering all circumstances, decided that it should be postponed by a month or two—that means, at the next session.

Shri B. S. Murthy: I am sorry that I have been misunderstood...

Mr. Speaker: No explanations are necessary. This question—whether there was a Harijan in the Committee—implied that it was only a Harijan Member who could safeguard the interests of the Harijans. I refuse to accept that proposition. I think every one of us has the interest of Harijans and Scheduled Castes at his heart—every Member of this House who has taken the oath to support the Constitution is prepared to do his best in this matter. He need not have any doubts on that point.

Shri Jaipal Singh: While I am inclined to agree about the formal and automatic acceptance of the Committee report, may I humbly suggest that, if an opportunity were given to us before such things were moved it would enable us to approach you or the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to draw his attention to certain facts which have obviously been overlooked? I am not in any way trying to upset the transmission of this discussion to the next session; I mean I have no objection whatever. But some of us—I am not talking sectionally at all, we do not look at it sectionally, but we have the misfortune to be misunderstood by the House every time—we are particularly interested in certain matters, we have been sent here to represent those matters. The discussion and the debate on the Commissioner's Report has be-

come a hardy annual. It has been the tradition to discuss it. But this year we find that if it is transferred to the next session it will become two years late, so that our suggestions will have no value to the Commissioner or the Government in the submission of its Report for 1954.

Shri Velayudhan: What about the reply from the Minister?

Mr. Speaker: Let there be no further waste of time over this.

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

"That this House agrees with the allocation of time proposed by the Business Advisory Committee in regard to the Government legislative and other business before the House which has been announced by the Speaker today."

Shri S. S. More: Will there be some discussion?

Mr. Speaker: What is to be discussed? I do not understand.

Shri S. S. More: I have to make my submission with great regret. I brought to your notice Rule 37. I do feel I am trying to serve the interests of the country according to my conception. I feel it is the unavoidable right of this House to pass the allocation order. And we are not supposed to pass it without the necessary discussion. It might be a very short discussion. Not more than half an hour could be given. And it will not be a waste of time in view of the fact that the House has to give its sanction to this particular order.

Mr. Speaker: It seems to my mind that on propositions which are generally accepted there is no charm in having a discussion. And the Rule can be observed. No Member's right is being deprived of, as I said. There is always the right. If a Member wants to say something he has always a right to do so. All that I would appeal to hon. Members is not to take up the time of the House when

the matter was thrashed out in a Committee, and there is no point in having any further discussion. That is what I am saying. If the hon. Member thinks that on any motion made there must be a discussion, matters would stand differently. What I was saying was with a view to make the best use of the time at our disposal.

Shri S. S. More: I am entirely with you in that respect. But you will realise our difficulty, particularly of this section of the House. Now a long list of Bills has been given to us here on the floor of the House. We have not gone into them. If the report of the Business Advisory Committee had been supplied to us previously we would have come here prepared. We are anxious that the country's money should be properly spent, as anybody here. But we feel that there should be a full understanding of the problem and there should not be hurry and hustle which is likely to do some disservice to the country's cause.

Mr. Speaker: He has had his discussion now over the points, and I will put the motion to the House. Before I do so I shall make a point clear. If we had time at our disposal, I would have certainly taken up this motion a day later, after having circulated the proposals of the Business Advisory Committee. But the difficulty is that the Special Marriage Bill is already on. And any postponement of the adoption of this report is likely to disturb the arrangements before the House. The Constitution (Amendment) Bill is coming now. So in order to be able to limit that discussion within certain reasonable limits it is necessary that there should be an adoption of this report by the House now.

The question is:

"That this House agrees with the allocation of time proposed by the Business Advisory Committee in regard to the Government legislative and other business before the House which has been announced by the Speaker today."

The motion was adopted.