

Shri Sadhan Gupta (Calcutta South-East) : May I have a clarification? As a result of this Treaty will the people of Pondicherry be able to participate in the next general elections as citizens of India? Secondly, what would be the position of Pondicherry in the scheme of States reorganisation? Has any thought been given to that?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru : Firstly, these have to be ratified before they take effect. It may be that the ratification takes place in a month or a few weeks. After that, Pondicherry and other establishments will continue their separate existence in accordance with the Treaty itself and also in accordance with our assurance given to them. We cannot make a change in their status without their own consent—that is, the consent of the people. Therefore, it is not proposed to make any change at this stage. They will continue separately and not be absorbed or merged into any other State. I am talking about the major parts or territories. What exactly will be done to others, I cannot say,—maybe some small part and it is difficult to keep that part. As for the type of Government that may be established there, that is a matter for separate consideration.

Shri Gaagii (Poona Central) : May I ask one question? Apart from the local administration which may be determined later on, what about the representation of areas in the Lok Sabha?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru : These are matters which certainly should be considered. From the population point of view, they are relatively small areas, but, nevertheless, of certain importance. What the hon. Member said deserves consideration.

MINUTES OF SITTINGS OF COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Sardar Hukam Singh (Kapurthala-Bhatinda) : I beg to lay on the Table the minutes of the sittings of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions (Forty-seventh to Fifty-ninth) held during the Twelfth Session.

AMENDMENTS TO RESERVE BANK OF INDIA (NOTES REFUND RULES)

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat) : On behalf of Shri A. C. Guha, I beg to lay on the Table, under the proviso to section 28 of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, a copy of the Reserve Bank of India Notification No.

7, dated the 28th April, 1956, making certain amendments to the Reserve Bank of India (Note Refund) Rules, 1935, together with the Statement showing the relevant rules of the Reserve Bank of India (Note Refund) Rules, 1935, amended by the said Notification. [Placed in Library. See No. S-203]56]

PRESIDENT'S ASSENT TO BILLS

Secretary : I have to inform the House that the following Bills, which were passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current Session, have been assented to by the President :

1. The St. John Ambulance Association (India) Transfer of Funds Bill, 1955.
2. The Indian Red Cross Society (Amendment) Bill, 1955.
3. The Travancore-Cochin Appropriation Bill, 1956.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

THIRTY-FIRST REPORT

श्री बी० जी० मेहता [गोहिलवाड] : श्रीमान्, मैं रेलवे मंत्रालय के सम्बन्ध में एस्टीमेट्स समिति की इकतिसवी रिपोर्ट पेश करता हूँ।

TRAVANCORE-COCHIN STATE LEGISLATURE (DELEGATION OF POWERS) BILL

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar) : I beg to move :

"That the Bill to confer on the President the power of the Legislature of the State of Travancore-Cochin to make laws, be taken into consideration."

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Shri Feroze Gandhi (Pratapgarh Distt.—West cum Rae Bareilly Distt.—East) : Under rule 212, I have given notice of a motion to raise a discussion on the situation arising out of the Kharrapur incidents day before yesterday. I would like to know if you have allotted any time for it. I had asked for 1½ hours today.

Mr. Speaker : I must refer the matter to the hon. Railway Minister and find out his convenience.

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri) : I have no objection. The situation in Kharagpur is pretty serious and I shall welcome a debate on that question in the House. If a debate could be held today, I have no objection.

12 NOON

Shri Gadgil (Poona Central) : I would suggest two hours instead of one and a half hours because it will have to deal with two things : the situation as it exists today and the avoidance of repetition of such incidents in the future. These are too terrible things to be true, but they are true. I would, therefore, very respectfully urge you, Sir, to allot half an hour more.

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur) : May I make a submission, Sir ? Before we start the discussion we should be pretty sure about the facts. Will it be possible for the hon. Minister to circulate to us, as early as possible, before we enter on the discussion, the relevant and material facts of the case so that to that extent we can make an economy of time ?

Mr. Speaker : Does the hon. Minister propose to make any statement ?

Shri L. B. Shastri : If you so desire, Sir, I can give the facts in the beginning before the discussion starts. I shall merely give the facts or read out a statement if you so desire.

Mr. Speaker : Now, we must take up this Bill realting to Travancore-Cochin. two hours have been allotted for it. Then there is the Income-tax (Amendment) Bill for which an hour has been allotted. Thereafter, we are to take up the working of the Preventive Detention Act. Is it the desire of the House that this discussion should be taken up before the Preventive Detention Act ?

Some Hon. Members : Yes. It should be taken up before the Preventive Detention Act.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha) : So, we will start this discussion at 2-30 p.m. Now, do hon. Members require two hours for this discussion ?

Mr. Speaker : We are starting the Travancore-Cochin Bill at 12-00. It will go up to 2-00. Then the Income-tax (Amendment) Bill take one hour.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha : So, till 3-00 p.m. we are scheduled to go with these two Bills.

Mr. Speaker : Shall we take up the Preventive Detention Act at 3-00 p.m. or shall we take up this discussion at 3-00 p.m. ?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Gurgaon) : Let us take up this at 3-00 and then after two hours we shall take up the Preventive Detention Act.

Mr. Speaker : All right. Then this discussion under rule 212 sought to be raised by Shri Feroze Gandhi will be taken up at 3-00 p.m. and will be carried on till . . . Is it the desire of the House that two hours must be given for this discussion ?

Some Hon. Members : Yes, two hours.

Mr. Speaker : Very well. It will go on from 3 to 5 and thereafter we will take up the Preventive Detention Act for one hour and another four hours on another day.

TRAVANCORE-COCHIN STATE LEGISLATURE (DELEGATION OF POWERS) BILL

Mr. Speaker : Shri Datar may proceed.

Shri Datar : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House is aware that on 23-3-1956 a Proclamation was issued and the President took over the administration of the Travancore-Cochin State. Under this Proclamation, the legislature has been dissolved ; but under article 357(1) it is open to Parliament to confer the powers of legislation on the President. In accordance with these provisions, this Bill has been brought forward.

As you are aware, Sir, there is considerable congestion of work in Parliament. When the Travancore-Cochin legislature was dissolved and the President took over the administration of the State there were as many as 23 Bills pending before the State legislature. Out of these reports in respect of 5 Bills had been received from the Select Committees and the Bills were ready for final hearing. So far as 9 Bills were concerned—I am referring to official Bills,