

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Wednesday, 17th March, 1954

The House met at Two of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

3-7 P.M.

MESSAGES FROM THE COUNCIL OF STATES

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following two messages received from the Secretary of the Council of States:—

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 162 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Bill, 1954, which was passed by the House of the People at its sitting held on the 9th March, 1954, and transmitted to the Council of States for its recommendations and to state that the Council has no recommendations to make to the House of the People in regard to the said Bill."
- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of

rule 162 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1954, which was passed by the House of the People, at its sitting held on the 9th March, 1954, and transmitted to the Council of States for its recommendations and to state that the Council has no recommendations to make to the House of the People in regard to the said Bill."

ALLOWANCES OF MEMBERS

Dr. Lanka Sundaram (Visakhapatnam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I desire to draw attention to the reported decision regarding the reduction of travelling allowance to the Members of the Council of States and to ask the intentions of Government as to what they propose to do with reference to the allowances of Members of this hon. House.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): As you are aware, Sir, this point arose because of the abolition of the first class in certain Railways. In the last session the Accountant-General took objection on the ground that when the first class had been abolished why Members were being paid one and three-fifths of the first class. Our attention was drawn to that and we consulted the Law Ministry. The Law Ministry was definitely of the opinion that legislation was necessary

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[Shri Satya Narayan Sinha]

to regularise the whole position. We, therefore, advised the two Secretariats of Parliament to continue the status quo pending legislation. For want of time we could not put through the legislation in the last session.

You are also aware, Sir, that a Committee was appointed sometime ago,—which was of course nominated by you,—to consider the question of daily allowance and travelling allowance of Members. A resolution incorporating the decisions of the Committee was placed on the Order Paper of this House, but for some reason or other it could not be moved.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: What was the reason?

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: The reason was that the Members were very sharply divided. On the prorogation of the House, Sir, that resolution has naturally lapsed. Government has, therefore decided to place that resolution on the Order Paper of the 27th of this month. The intention of Government is to refer the whole matter to the same Committee, or to any other committee as the House desires—of course, that committee will be nominated by you, in view of the changed circumstance that has arisen, on account, as I said before, of the abolition of the first class. We shall expedite the work of the Committee and as soon as its report would be presented, we shall try to bring legislation incorporating the decisions of the Committee before the Houses. It will be the earnest endeavour on the part of Government to see that that legislation is put through in both Houses before we disperse for the next session.

COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION

PRESENTATION OF FIRST REPORT

Shri Pataskar (Jalgaon): I beg to present the First Report of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

GENERAL BUDGET

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with the further discussion of the first stage of the general discussion on the Budget.

Shrimati Jayashri (Bombay—Suburban): I take this opportunity to congratulate the Government for maintaining peace and stability in the country as also stability in the economic position of our country.

[**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair**]

We are all proud of our foreign policy India with its ideal of peace and goodwill has attracted many foreign nations who have offered to ensure her friendship and help and we are all grateful for that. The challenge to democracy today is not to be through war but in peace. Democracy, if it is to be the cornerstone of a new civilization, must justify itself in the coming years in the welfare and happiness of the people. It must produce quick, even spectacular results. Solidarity, unity, self-reliance and all-round development require a bold policy of Planning and development of the cultural, social and economic resources of our people. This can be achieved by contacting the masses and reminding them of their capacity to recall and control authority. The motive force in the Plan therefore should come from the people themselves.

Government have laid great hopes on the community projects but so long as the millions of our women are ignorant, superstitious and in disease, I am afraid that these community project schemes cannot make much headway. The social structure is the foundation on which we want to build a welfare state. I am sorry to say that so far our Government has been indifferent to the social problems on which, as I said, this welfare state has to be built. I would give only one example.

We all know that old evils such as dowry, child marriage, are the cause of rural indebtedness and have been affecting our progress. Some of us