

[Shri H. N. Mukerjee]

the Parliament in this session. That is something about which the country is very keenly interested. The opposition has very strong views about it. We want the Government to come up here and say what exactly is going to happen.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: It will be made perfectly clear on the 14th, the date fixed for the report of the Joint Committee.

Mr. Speaker: Let us await the results—I mean the report of the Joint Committee. After they finish their work, the question will arise. If they have not finished their work, let us see why they have not been able to finish it.

Shri Mukerjee: My point is this.

Mr. Speaker: How long are we to go like this? The matter has been referred to the Joint Committee. Even this House has no right to ask it something at this stage. Let it go into the matter and make a report. After that, the House and the Government will be in a position to see. What is the meaning of an hon. Member asking: "What is the Government going to do?". Let us wait until the 14th.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: If you will bear with me for a moment. My submission is that from what the Minister has said just now, certain consequences flow of which the country and this House should take note. It so happens that the country has been given to understand that, for the sake of holding the elections as scheduled, it was very necessary to have the S.R.C. Bill passed in this session, as soon as it was possible. It is very important for the country and particularly for the opposition parties to know for certain if Government has changed its views in this regard. I want Government to make a well-considered and deliberate pronouncement on the subject. I do not wish the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to pop up here and say something which, possibly, will be repudiated by the Home Minister or the Prime Minister. This is a matter to which Government should give proper attention and then come to this House and tell us very definitely as to what it has in view.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: On the 14th the position will be made perfectly

clear. They will know in detail what they are anxious to know.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: There is one point which apparently has not been noticed by you and by the House so far. We are not asking for advance information. Definite commitments made in this House have been broken; because one Chief Minister makes a statement, the whole time-table is thrown out of order. Commitments have been made here that the Bill will be pushed through in the current session of Parliament. The Minister here says that the House will not sit after the 31st.

Mr. Speaker: I would only request hon. Members to consider one matter. Is it open to any hon. Member to rise at any moment and say: "What about this? The hon. Minister or the Leader of the House must be ready with an answer." They go on saying that this has been broken and that has been broken. I would urge upon the hon. Members to give sufficient time so that the matter may be considered. It is not a matter on which, on the spur of the moment, a decision can be taken. The matter is in the hands of the Joint Committee and let us see what it does. It is an organ of this House and hon. Members are there. They are entitled to take an independent view of what happens. It is not merely for the Government to commit this House in advance. Any hon. Member can ask about something and say that the Government is wrong. I am really surprised at this. I am not going to allow this kind of getting up and asking "What does the Government say?". Government has agreed to say something definite every week. When the question was put, it was answered. Let us await the 14th. Nothing is going to happen before the 14th.

MOTION RE : DRAFT NOTIFICATIONS UNDER INDIAN COINAGE ACT

Shri Kamath (Hoshangabad): I have given a motion. I shall read it.

Mr. Speaker: It is on the Order Paper. The hon. Member may kindly explain it to the House and the consequences.

Shri Kamath: I will not read it then.

Mr. Speaker: If he finds it necessary to read, let him read. I have no objection.

Shri Kamath: I will first read the whole thing. I will be brief. I beg to move:

“That this House resolves that the following amendments be made to the notifications of the Ministry of Finance regarding the nomenclature and denominations of the decimal coins proposed to be issued under sections 6 and 14 (1) of the Indian Coinage Act, 1906, which were laid on the Table on the 30th November, 1955 :

(1) Page 2, Part II (b), in column 2—

(i) *against* ‘Rupee or 100 Naya Paisa’ *for* ‘Nickel’ *substitute* ‘Stainless steel’; and

(ii) *against* ‘½ Rupee or 50 Naya Paisa’ *for* ‘Do’ *substitute* ‘Nickel’.

(2) Page 2, Part II, *Designs*—*against* ‘obverse’, *after* ‘thereon’ *add* :
‘सत्यमेव जयते’ at the foot of the Lion Capital.

(3) Page 2, Part II, *Designs*, *against* ‘Reverse’,

(i) *for* भाग wherever it occurs *substitute* अंश; and

(ii) *for* ‘the Ears of Corn’ *substitute* ‘The Tiger’.”

This notification has had a somewhat chequered career. It was laid on the Table of the House at the end of November. Then, I tabled certain amendments. It was not taken up in the last session. I enquired here when I came back for this session as to what fate has overcome the notification. The Parliament Secretariat was very helpful to me in this matter, as in many other matters. I hold the view that this Secretariat is far more efficient than the other Secretariat across the Raj Path or the Great Place. They have been very helpful in this matter, because, though I had not retained copies of the amendments I was able to get the copies from here. I gave notice again of the amendments from the point of view of ‘safety first’. I had given notice of the amendments during the last session, but I was afraid that they might have lapsed and so I gave notice in this session again, and here they are for what they are worth.

Sir, insatiable curiosity, which, as the philosopher says, is the mother of all knowledge, drove me to find out the po-

sition in the other countries of the world and this brief research has yielded this result. Out of about 50 countries of the world—I do not propose to read all the names and take the time of the House unnecessarily—about 25 have got silver for their highest denomination coin, 23 have got gold for their highest denomination coin,—whatever it is, I do not want to mention the names of the coins also;—one country, Argentina,—has got nickel and one little country—I do not know whether it is a free country or a colony, I am not sure—Azores, has got copper for its highest denomination coin.

Shri U. M. Trivedi (Chittor) : 90 per cent of the people do not know where Azores is.

Shri Kamath: That is what I got from this book, which seems to be a standard book on this subject. So, out of the 50 countries, there are 25 with silver, 23 with gold, one with nickel and one with copper for their highest denomination coin.

We Sir, of free India, one of the biggest countries and powers in the world—anyway, one of the biggest countries, if not powers. . .

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He will kindly bear with me; does it arise out of the notifications? There is already an Indian Currency and Coinage Act, or the Mint Act. I remember, a number of years ago the rupee silver was changed into nickel. Even before this decimal notation was introduced, there was a nickel rupee. Now the decimal has only tried to change this fraction of 16 annas in the rupee into 100 cents or divisions. In this, the scope of the new Bill is very limited. It does not go into the question as to what ought to be the metal in which the highest coin ought to be maintained. That is all governed by the existing Act. Now, the only question is whether it should be 16 divisions. Even that decision has been taken. I do not know exactly what the position is. Possibly in the ‘reverse’ and the ‘obverse’ some more figures and other things may be suggested. I would like to know what exactly the position is.

Shri Kamath: In the rupee that would be struck at the Mint under this Act which we have passed, there will be 100 cents, rather *naye paise*. That is to say, will it be worth 1½ times the present rupee? Is the new coin not the same rupee as we are handling now?

An Hon. Member : It is the same coin.

Shri Kamath: Therefore I propose this when the new coin is minted under the new Act which we, in Free India, have passed. In this connection I would invite your attention, Sir, to this. The British Government, after World War II. . .

Mr. Speaker: Is this new coin 1½ times the old coin? I think the new coin is the same as the old coin, is it not? The only thing is that the new coin is divided into 100 portions, and that is not in the coin. The coin will be equal to 100 units, whereas the old coin was equal to 16 anna units or 192 pies units. That is all the difference. The value of the previous rupee coin is the same as that of the new coin. Only the fractions are different. There is no change in the rupee coin and, therefore, it is beyond the scope of the Bill or the notification.

Shri U. M. Trivedi : The hon. Minister should take stock of this position, that, if a man of Shri Kamath's calibre, an I.C.S. Officer, can commit a mistake of changing the new rupee to 1½ times the present rupee, what will happen to the poor public? The hon. Finance Minister should take stock of that position.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member must have reinforced his argument on this at an earlier date. Now, this is a different matter. Let us proceed to the other point.

Shri Kamath : I am coming to that. The British Government, after World War II, resorted to nickel.

Mr. Speaker: That is beyond the scope of this. I do not want to shut out any interesting matter that is brought up before the House. I am also interested in hearing as many good things as possible. But, here, this is foreign to the scope of this notification. We are not finding out whether it ought to be gold or silver. We start with a nickel coin. Whether it should be 100 cents or the old 16 annas and 192 pies is the point here. The question is, so far as small coins are concerned, what denominations they ought to be and what ought to be the figures.

Shri Kamath : In one of the previous sessions, that is at the end of July, 1955, when I raised this question as to whether

the Government would postpone the debate till the Government made up its mind regarding the designation, denomination etc., the Prime Minister gave an assurance. This has been brought before the House only in pursuance of that assurance. There is nothing in the Act compelling the Government to place the notifications before the House. The Prime Minister gave a solemn assurance in this House on the 29th July, 1955—I will read out the relevant portion, Sir—when he said:

“If that has not come within the law then we shall bring a small amendment to make that clear. Our whole inclination and desire is to keep the paisa. The slight technical matters will have to be examined. We shall place this matter before the House quite in good time before the actual thing is done so that the House will have every opportunity to consider it.”

Now, Sir, I want to get your leave. . .

The Minister of Revenue and Defence Expenditure (Shri A. C. Guha): As far as I recollect, Sir, you also intervened in the debate. The assurance was given that the matter may be discussed only as far as the designation of the lower unit coin is concerned.

Mr. Speaker: You wanted to call it cent, or whatever it is. It was asked: “Why don't you retain the name 'paisa' which has got so much of currency and because our people are accustomed to it?” That is the only point here.

Shri A. C. Guha : Sir, the assurance was on a specific issue and you also then intervened. There was a persistent demand that the old term 'paisa' should be retained. The Prime Minister gave a sort of assurance that we shall try to retain the term, the notification will be there and the Members can raise a discussion on that point.

Shri Kamath : Do you think, Sir, that the question of metal is out of order?

Mr. Speaker : Legally, it is out of order and it does not arise. But I would like to avoid that expression 'out of order' with respect to Shri Kamath and I will tell him that it does not arise.

Shri Kamath : Is it not open to the Government to consider metal for the new coins?

Mr. Speaker: Now if they change over to silver, they will have to modify the Currency and Coinage Act or the Mint Act. By modification of the Act, they have changed over from silver to nickel of so much weight, quality and so on. If these stipulations are not there, any man can spuriously manufacture the coin and there is no method of comparison. Therefore, so much of silver of such fineness or gold of so many karats and so on, are all things which are known to the hon. Member. These do not arise out of this notification. The hon. Member can proceed with other matters.

Shri Kamath: I want to say only one thing. We had silver before 1946.

Mr. Speaker: It is unfortunate that long ago we gave up silver and so much money was realised.

Shri Kamath: If Parliament cannot make a recommendation in this regard...

Mr. Speaker: It was considered before Shri Kamath was here.

Mr. Speaker: It was done during the interregnum.

Shri Kamath: Oh! I see. I am sorry.

Shri Kamath: Then I go to my other amendments. I think that is all right: nickel for rupee, half a rupee or a four-anna coin, I mean the *chauanni*.

12 NOON.

My last two amendments are about the designs —“सत्यमेव जयते”— at the foot of the Lion Capital. At present only the terms Bharat in Hindi and India in English are inscribed thereon. I would certainly like to have the entire crest that we have adopted for Government purposes, inscribed on these coins. Not only the Lion Capital of the Asoka Pillar but also inspiring words *satyameva Jayate* should be inscribed on these coins. Of course, their deeds may not conform to these inspiring words, but these words may be a reminder to the Government as well as to the people. I do not know why the Government forgot about this particular matter when they included the Lion Capital, the Asoka Pillar and all that. Perhaps it was an oversight, and through an oversight they have forgotten *Satyameva Jayate*. I think if those words are included here, that would be a good thing considering the manner in which and the way in which our Government is conducting its business! I think it would be very

wise to have these words *Satyameva Jayate* on the new coins.

I would then come to the other aspect, namely the word भाग. I am not very keen on that, but I thought अन्न was a better word instead of भाग. भाग In Hindi means a different thing in a certain context. Therefore, I thought it might be अन्न.

The next amendment is:

for 'the Ears of Corn' substitute 'the Tiger'.

I had some coins here with me showing the tiger. The tiger appears on the old eight-anna and four-anna coins. But in the subsequently minted coins, the Ears of Corn appear. You know, Sir, that we had the elephant in the crest of the Constituent Assembly. Later on we discarded the elephant, and I think it is time that we had the Royal Bengal tiger or merely the Indian tiger inscribed on these coins.

Mr. Speaker: The tiger eats away whereas the corn can be eaten. Therefore, it is a good change from the tiger to the corn.

Shri Kamath: I am reminded of a story in this context, but there is no time. It is an election story.

Shri Asoka Mehta (Bhandara): Let us hear the story.

Shri Kamath: There is no time now. I shall tell it outside the House.

I hope my friends would not take it amiss when I say that these Ears of Corn seem to be an act—for want of a better word I shall say—of tampering with the election symbol of a recognised political party. I mean, it is not merely a symbol by itself but it is a colourable imitation of that election symbol. I do not think it is wise for the Government to adopt a symbol or a colourable imitation of a design of any political party.

Shri A. C. Guha: What is the election symbol involved here? I could not follow.

Shri Kamath: I do not mean the Congress Party. Of course, their symbol is the bullocks, and we know it. I am talking of the Communist party. My friends here, the Communists have got a symbol and what is proposed for the new coins is a colourable imitation of that symbol.

Mr. Speaker : Is the hon. Member afraid that the whole Government is becoming Communistic?

Shri Kamath : It might create that impression which I do not want to be created. There may be an impression that there is a sort of coalition between the Congress and the Communist party. I would not like that impression to be created in the country.

Shri Asoka Mehta : Not prematurely.

Shri Kamath : I accept that wording, that amendment.

Mr. Speaker : As I said, the tiger eats away but the corn can be eaten.

Shri Kamath : The tiger is not the symbol of a recognised political party. There are four recognised political parties, in this country. One has got a pair of bullocks with the yokes on, I believe. Another party has got a hut as symbol. The third has got some other symbol—I mean the Jan Sangh party, and the fourth which is the Communist party has a sheaf of corn and a sickle. The sickle is missing in the coin here, but there is the sheaf of corn. I would, therefore, personally prefer that any other design which does not resemble any party symbol of any recognised political party—an election symbol—should be adopted by the Government. None of these symbols of these four political parties should be adopted or adapted by the Government. Therefore, I would suggest that our good old tiger will be the best in the circumstances.

One last word and I have done. I hope the Government will not take the view, so far as this matter is concerned, that the Prime Minister took when he was intervening in the debate in July last. He was pleased to say in another context on the same Bill—in a different context—that “if we think it is right, then it is right”. Regarding the propositions made here, he said that it is not fair to consult the people and the country about this matter, and for that matter, he asked “Do we consult the people on the theory of relativity, not knowing that comparisons are odious sometimes. There is no relation between the theory of relativity and decimal coinage. This is a practical proposition here. Very few know the theory of relativity, and I doubt whether anyone or anybody has understood it well. The Prime Minister said, “if we think

it is right, then it is right”. That should not be the approach.

Shri Asoka Mehta : That is the theory of relativity!

Shri Kamath : I hope Government will not approach problems including this one in that spirit. Government will certainly concede any salutary changes that may be proposed by this House, and just because it is not supported by a majority, we should not reject a salutary change off-hand. May I, therefore, commend these amendments to the acceptance of the House and ask the Minister of Revenue and Defence Expenditure to consider the suggestions that I shall make in regard to another aspect of this question? We are missing the Finance Minister here for the last so many days. I do not know what the matter is.

Shri A. C. Guha : Is it also relevant for the discussion here?

Shri Kamath : I will put to him my difficulty. During the interregnum or the interim transitional period, I do not know whether the Government have fixed any definite dates for the following. Firstly, when will the Act come into force? Secondly, will the *naye paise* and the *purane paise* be in concurrent or simultaneous circulation? Thirdly, have they fixed the date on which the *paise* will be withdrawn from circulation? I also want to know whether after the last date for the withdrawal of the *purane paise*, those *naye paise* will simply be called *paise* or not. I think we should revert to simple *paise*. There is no point in keeping to the term *naye paise* for all time. That aspect is not clear from the notification. The Government should make it clear as to what their schedule of programme is for the enforcement of this Act and what the publicity and the educative arrangements are for the benefit of the people, especially in the rural areas, in regard to this rather difficult matter.

I shall cite a practical instance as to what might happen. How much will the post office charge for a one-anna stamp, when the new coins come into circulation? I got a little confused at the time when Shri U. M. Trivedi made the point. Will they charge for a one-anna stamp 6½ *naye paise*? Or, will it be seven *naye paise*? The Government have set a very fine example of rounding off fractions of a coin to the nearest integer or the whole number, particularly

on the railways and also in regard to some other departments perhaps. So, here, this difficulty may arise. Perhaps they might issue new stamps. I want to know whether a one-anna stamp will be charged in the future at $6\frac{1}{2}$ *naye paise* or seven *naye paise*. Suppose I want to buy a cigarette packet. I do not smoke, but suppose I want to buy it for my friends. It costs 10 annas or 12 annas, say. Suppose I possess one 8-anna piece and the rest in *naye paise*. . . .

Mr. Speaker : All this is not germane to the question now before us. These are all inconveniences which must have been contemplated and for which remedies must have been provided, when we change over from the old denominations to the new denominations. We are now only concerned with the form of the coins and the symbols that ought to appear on the one side or the other.

Shri Kamath : I would request the Minister to remove the inconveniences and difficulties as far as possible. I would request him to tell the House how the Government will see to it that the poor ignorant villager is not mulcted of his hard-earned money by scheming people around, both in the villages and towns; how he will deal with the merchants; how he will be taught to handle the *naye paise* and *purane paise*; whether a fraction of a *naya paisa* will be rounded off to the next higher integer or the next lower. I feel that in the interests of the people it should be rounded off to the next lower figure.

Mr. Speaker : Today *naye paise* are also being circulated; the old coins also are there. For a two-anna stamp, $12\frac{1}{2}$ *naye paise* will have to be paid; but there is no half *naya paisa* here.

Shri A. C. Guha : There are 2 *naye paise* and 5 *naye paise* coins.

Mr. Speaker : The equivalent of one anna is $6\frac{1}{2}$ *naye paise*; but we do not have a quarter of a *naya paisa*. When the changeover takes place, one would elbow out the other and the old coins will be gradually withdrawn. Today unless the old stamps are also withdrawn and new stamps with their value in *naye paise* are issued, how can we equate the two? So, unless a quarter *naya paisa* is also issued, there will be difficulty.

Shri Asoka Mehta : It spoils the whole spirit of the decimal system.

Mr. Speaker : Under the Indian Coinage Act, the Government have the right

to withdraw the coins. But, until such time we adjust ourselves to the new coinage, during what we call the transitional period, I believe a coin of another denomination, namely $6\frac{1}{2}$ *naye paise*, will have to be used.

I hope Mr. Kamath has finished.

Shri Kamath : I shall take only one more minute. During the debate in the House, not only myself alone, but my hon. colleagues on this side as well as on the other side, Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava and others, referred to the enormous difficulties and confusion that may be created in the country-side, in the rural areas. Therefore, the very valuable suggestions that you have made just now, I think, should make the Government ponder about the steps to be taken in that direction and they should not be in haste, which may lead to waste.

Mr. Speaker : My suggestion is, just as we have got now $\frac{1}{2}$ of a *naya paisa* may be printed and that may be tagged on to 6 *naye paise*, so that $6\frac{1}{2}$ *naye paise* may be equal to one anna. Therefore, if another coin whose denomination is $\frac{1}{2}$ *naya paisa* is also there, it can go along with the other coins.

Shri Kamath : If we have $\frac{1}{2}$ *naya paisa* will it not adversely affect the spirit of the decimal system?

Mr. Speaker : It will be there only tentatively during the transitional period.

Dr. Jaisoorya : I would like to have one information from Mr. Kamath. He has asked the Government to remove the "Ears of Corn" and substitute the "tiger". I only want to know whether he wants the facsimile of a Bengal tiger or a Siberian tiger to be put there.

An Hon. Member : What about Malabar tiger?

Shri Kamath : I have not seen the Siberian tiger. If the hon. Member will give me a picture of the Siberian tiger, I will consider it.

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved :

"That this House resolves that the following amendments be made to the notifications of the Ministry of Finance regarding the nomenclature and denominations of the decimal coins proposed to be issued under sections 6 and 14 (1) of the Indian Coinage Act, 1906, which

[Mr. Speaker]

were laid on the Table on the 30th November, 1955 :

(1) Page 2, Part II (b), in column 2—

(i) *against* 'Rupee or 100 Naya Paisa' for 'Nickel' substitute 'Stainless steel'; and

(ii) *against* '½ Rupee or 50 Naya Paisa' for 'Do' substitute 'Nickel'.

(2) Page 2, Part II, *Designs*—

against 'Obverse', after 'thereon' add: 'together with words "सत्यमेव जयते"' at the foot of the Lion Capital.

(3) Page 2, Part II, *Designs*, against 'Reverse',—

(i) for भाग wherever it occurs, substitute अंश; and

(ii) for 'the Ears of Corn' substitute 'the Tiger'."

Shri Sadhan Gupta (Calcutta—South-East): I shall briefly deal with the two principal points proposed by Mr. Kamath. Now that you have ruled out the question of stainless steel, we are not concerned with the metal. We are only concerned with the designs.

Regarding Mr. Kamath's first proposal that the words "सत्यमेव जयते" should be incorporated in the design, I will strongly oppose it. The reason is this. After all, we are making coins which will be current for all kinds of purposes. I think there will be general agreement that truth does not prevail in our society on every occasion. I think it is also agreed that the greatest danger comes from the circulation of coins and if we use the words "सत्यमेव जयते" it might destroy our confidence in that slogan. I will give a few examples. Suppose a cheat comes in, makes a representation and satisfies you that he deserves some money. He may be a very rich fellow, but he may succeed in appealing to your notions of charity and set away with a few coins with the inscription "सत्यमेव जयते". Take another instance. Someone picks your pocket and knocks away a few coins with the inscription "सत्यमेव जयते"; he equates his art with truth. Under these circumstances, I think it is absolutely undesirable that these words should be incorporated.

Regarding the ears of corn, I think it has been there and it may remain there. We do not expect any election successes from the designs and in any event the proposal of Mr. Kamath is no cure, because the tiger he proposes may not be an election symbol of any party; but, it is the symbol on the flag of a party which is recognised in a few States at a State level, namely, the Forward Bloc. That is also not a way out. On this ground, I oppose the suggestion of Mr. Kamath.

Regarding the question whether the word should be भाग or अंश I have no strong views. That word should be used which is most familiar to the common people; therefore, those who are in the know of the Hindi language should decide on that matter.

Shri A. C. Guha: I do not know what is really the purpose of my hon. colleague Shri Kamath in initiating this debate. As you have rightly pointed out, the composition, size and shape of the coins are within the administrative authority of the Government. For the present we are not changing the metals we have been using so long. There is hardly any point for debate in that matter. Nor is there anything for me to reply in this matter.

He suggested that the ears of corn (leaf) may be replaced by a tiger. He has said that ears of corn (leaf) design is something like an election symbol of the Communist Party. I think the ears of corn design already exists in some of the coins current now. I do not think that the Communist Party would require any such support from the symbols of coins to put their case before the electorate. If I took Shri Kamath's point of view, I think, in his estimate, the Communist Party must be a very weak and feeble party dependent on such extraneous matters for success with the electorate.

Shri Kamath: What is your view of the Party?

Shri A. C. Guha: I have not joined that party. You can guess my view of the party.

Shri Kamath: Nor have I joined that party just like you.

Shri A. C. Guha: Then, Shri Kamath has quoted certain remarks of the Prime

sorry that he has taken the passage out of its context and has tried to give a wrong meaning to the words of the Prime Minister. I think the hon. Member himself pleaded during the debate on the Bill that this thing may be referred to the opinion of the people. The Prime Minister said :

"As I said, this is not a new thing, but I must confess that in a matter of this kind, rather scientific, technical kind, one does not normally consult the country. One does not consult the country let us say about mathematical formulae or about the theory or relativity.

In this context he said :

"It is not fair to go about. We must take the responsibility for it. If we think it is right, then it is right."

Here, by "We" I am sure the Prime Minister did not mean simply himself or the party he represents. He must have referred to Parliament. If Parliament decides that a certain thing is right on some scientific matter, then it should not be referred to the people for the authenticity of the theory. It should be taken for granted that it is right for the people.

Shri Kamath mentioned something about postage stamps and railway fares. During the debate on the Bill these matters were discussed and as we have rightly pointed out when we passed this Bill, we passed this Bill with this consciousness that there would be some difficulty in the interim period. We have been working with the Posts and Telegraphs department or the Communications Ministry as also the Railway Ministry on a sort of a conversion table. In certain stamps, the equivalent price in new coins may be a bit lower than the actual mathematical calculation and in certain cases it may be a bit higher. You, Sir, have suggested that a one-fourth *paisa* may be minted for the time being. Apart from the point that this would not conform to the decimal system, I think . . .

Mr. Speaker : After making that suggestion, I find that in the Act, provision is made for such a contingency. The Act says :

". in respect of any such single coin or number of such

coins, tendered at one transaction, to the nearest new coin or where the new coin above and the new coin below are equally near, to the new coin below."

In this case, if six new coins are given instead of 6½ that would be equivalent to one anna. In some cases it may be less. Not only here. In all rules, enactments, or in any contract, etc., the same thing applies.

Shri Kamath : Or 12½ may be 13.

Shri A. C. Guha : Neither of these two departments has suggested any such thing. As I have said, in certain cases, the price as may be fixed under the new coin may be a bit higher than the mathematical calculation would indicate and in certain cases it will be a little lower. These difficulties well occur in the case of revenue stamps also and this covers a wide range. Apart from the Central Government, there are over 200 varieties of revenue stamps in the different States.

Then, Shri Kamath asked how long this interim period would continue. I think during the debate on the Bill, I mentioned that in our estimate it may be about four years. After that period, the old coins will be withdrawn and this word 'naya' will be dropped. The new lowest unit will be called simply *paisa*. For the time being we have decided not to introduce an anna coin. That is because we are trying to avoid confusion as far as possible. If we introduce the anna now, we will have the old anna and the new anna or *naya anna* or something like that. For the time being, we are not introducing any anna. It may be that when the old coins are withdrawn, Government may introduce an anna. That is a decision to be taken. That is just a possibility that after the old coins are withdrawn, we may issue an anna coin.

Something has been said about publicity. On that also, I think I have mentioned in the discussion on the Bill that we shall take every step to publicise this so that the people may know that there has been a change-over from old coin to the new coin. A conversion table will also be circulated, printed in the different languages of India as also in English, widely so that the people will know what may be the equivalent price in the new coin.

Shri Kamath : Also make the people literate by that time.

Shri A. C. Guha : I think literacy has been progressing. During the next Plan, it will progress further and by that time, it may be expected that the literacy will be near about 30 per cent or even more. A similar experience was there though on a smaller scale in Hyderabad when the old Osmani coins were withdrawn and new Indian coins were introduced. Our experience then was that the ordinary village people were clever enough to avoid being mulcted by scheming people. But, I cannot give any guarantee that there would not be any case of villagers being cheated in some cases.

I think I have covered all the points.

Shri Kamath : You have forgotten सत्यमेव जयते।

Shri Velayudhan (Quilon-cum-Mavelikkara—Reserved—Sch. Castes): That is very important.

Shri A. C. Guha : If you say : put सत्यमेव जयते। some people may sayput some other thing.

Shri Kamath : No, no. This is your own.

Shri A. C. Guha : What is the particular point? I cannot understand any particular point in putting this thing on our coin. Rather, I would suggest that such a highly spiritual maxim may not be mixed up with money and mundane affairs. That should be kept apart and above these mundane and money matters.

Shri Kamath : Why have it in administration, elections and all that?

Shri A. C. Guha : I think Shri Trivedi was very much doubtful about this decimal system. When the Bill was introduced, he practically opposed it, and now he took the opportunity to say that when a man of Shri Kamath's calibre, an I.C.S. Officer, could also make such mistakes, what about the poor villager.

Shri Kamath : Not an I.C.S. officer.

Shri A. C. Guha : He mentioned I.C.S.

Shri Kamath : Not I. C. S. He said wrongly.

Shri A. C. Guha : He meant an ex-I.C.S.-man all right. I know Shri Kamath is not an ordinary man. He is an uncommon man. It is quite natural for him to make uncommon mistakes, and so he has initiated this debate on which, as I have stated, I do not find he has many points to press.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Gurgaon): May I put one question? What will be the transitional period? When will you withdraw the old coins and call the new coins *paise* ?

Shri A. C. Guha : That, I have already stated, will take near about four years' time. The old coins will be withdrawn and the new coins are to be introduced from 1st April, 1957.

Mr. Speaker : I shall put the motion of Shri Kamath to the vote of the House.

Shri Kamath : Can you not put separately the part relating to भाग and क्रश?

Mr. Speaker : Shall I put 'the Ears of Corn' also together with it?

Shri Kamath : No, Sir.

Mr. Speaker : The question is :

Page 2, part II, *Designs*, against 'Reverse',

(i) for भाग wherever it occurs substitute क्रश

The motion was negatived.

Shri Kamath : I would like you also to put सत्यमेव जयते separately.

Mr. Speaker : The question is :

Page 2, part II, *Designs*—against 'Obverse', after 'thereon' add:

'together with words " सत्यमेव जयते at the foot of the Lion Capital.'

Those in favour will say "Aye".

Some Hon. Members : Aye.

Mr. Speaker : Those against will say "No".

Some Hon. Members : No.

Mr. Speaker : The Noes have it.

Shri Kamath : The Ayes have it.

Mr. Speaker : Hon. Members in favour will kindly rise. Let me see.

Shri Kamath : When a challenge is made at this stage, the new rule 385 passed by the Rules Committee and approved by this House makes it obligatory for you to ring the bell. Sub-rule (3) of the rule has been deleted by your own Rules Committee.

Mr. Speaker : After ringing the bell...

Shri Kamath : You can ask us to stand in our seats.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member wants other Members also should come in.

Shri Kamath : They should know what is happening in the House. सत्यमेव जयते !

Shri Velayudhan : Let people know सत्यमेव जयते is treated like this. Many people do not know.

Mr. Speaker : The division bell is being rung.

Order, order. Hon. Members will kindly resume their seats. I will put the amendment to the vote of the House.

The question is :

Page 2, part II, *Designs*—
against 'Obverse', after 'thereon'

'together with words "सत्यमेव जयते"' at the foot of the Lion Capital.'

Those in favour will say "Aye".

Some Hon. Members : Aye.

Mr. Speaker : Those against will say "No".

Some Hon. Members : No.

Mr. Speaker : The Noes have it.

Shri Kamath : The Ayes have it.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Members in favour will kindly rise in their seats.

Shri Punnoose (Allepey) : What is the significance? They do not want *satya*.

Mr. Speaker : Those who are in favour are 10. Those against will rise in their seats. By an overwhelming majority the amendment is negatived.

The motion was negatived.

Shri Kamath : सत्यमेव जयते !

Mr. Speaker : I will now put the other parts of the motion of Shri Kamath :

The question is :

Page 2, Part II (b), in column 2—

(i) against 'Rupee or 100 Naya Paisa' for 'Nickel' substitute 'Stainless steel'; and

(ii) against '½ Rupee or 50 Naya Paisa' for 'Do' substitute 'Nickel'.

Page 2, Part II, *Designs*, against 'Reverse',

for 'the Ears of Corn' substitute 'the Tiger'.

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Speaker : So, the whole motion of Shri Kamath is negatived.

CONSTITUTION (TENTH AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Shri M. C. Shah) : I beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of 45 Members; 30 from this House, namely, Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava, Shri Fulsinhji B. Dabhi, Shrimati Jayashri Raiji, Mulla Abdullahai Mulla Taherali, Shri H. G. Vaishnav, Shri Radhelal Vyas, Shri S. C. Samanta, Shri Bheekha Bhai, Shri Lakshman Singh Charak, Shri M. K. Shivananjappa, Shri K. T. Achuthan, Shri P. T. Thanu Pillai, Shri B. P. Jhunjunwala, Shri B. R. Bhagat, Shri C. D. Pande, Shri Sinhasan Singh, Shri Debendra Nath Sarmah, Shri Niranjan Jena, Shri Rayasam Seshagiri Rao, Shri N. Ramaseshaiah, Shri S. R. Rane, Shri K. S. Raghavachari, Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy, Shri Sivamurthi Swami, Shri Sadhan Chandra Gupta, Dr. Ch. V. Rama Rao, Shri U. M. Trivedi, Shri N. C. Chatterjee, Shri Bhawani Singh, and Shri C. D. Dehmukh, and 15 Members from Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of Members of the Joint Committee ;