

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

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LOK SABHA

Monday, 21st May, 1956.

The Lok Sabha met at Half Past Ten of the Clock.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

11-31 A.M.

MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT

STRIKE OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES IN CENTRAL RAILWAY

Mr. Speaker : I have received notice under rule 216 from Shri M. L. Agarwal relating to the firemen's strike at Kazi-pet Junction. I admitted it on the 18th and I fixed the date, that is, 23rd May, in consultation with the hon. Minister of Railways and he will make a statement on that day about the matter.

Today I have received a notice of adjournment from Sarvashri A. K. Gopalan and Ananda Nambiar, practically relating to the same business :

"The serious situation arising out of the callous indifference shown by the Ministry of Railways in rejecting the reasonable grievances of the Loco-firemen and other sections of railwaymen whose legitimate claims of promotion have been overlooked by direct recruitment, as expressed in the present strike of railway employees in the ex-Nizam State Railway region of the Central Railway a strike which is fast threatening to spread all over Indian railways and as a result of which movement of goods, particularly coal, has been dislocated, passenger traffic is badly affected, and additional fares are being extracted."

1—133 L. S.

In view of the fact that I have already admitted the previous notice for a statement by the hon. Minister, given so early as the 18th May, and I have fixed the date for that statement to be made, that is, on the 23rd May—the hon. Minister has also agreed to it—I am not prepared to give my consent to this adjournment motion. After the statement is made on that date, short notice and other questions may be put later on in the proper manner to elicit further information, if necessary.

STRIKE IN KHARAGPUR RAILWAY WORKSHOP

Mr. Speaker : I have received another notice of adjournment motion from Sarvashri A. K. Gopalan and Ananda Nambiar relating to the following :

"The serious situation that has developed as a result of the strike of 10,000 workers of Khargpur Workshop of the South Eastern Railway which has spread to the Electrical and Stores Sections, threatening to further spread to the open lines, due to the illegal extraction of work from 112 painters of the Wagon Section and consequent illegal lock-out declared."

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha) : The Government is collecting information with regard to this also, and as you have fixed the 23rd May for the other adjournment motion, I would request you to take this up on the same day.

Mr. Speaker : Rule 216 notice and this adjournment motion will stand over till that day, the 23rd May, for a statement by the hon. Minister of Railways.

Shri Sadhan Gupta (Calcutta—South-East) : I wish to submit this in respect of the adjournment motion. You will appreciate that under rule 216, the Minister only can make a statement and we have no right to put questions. The object of the adjournment motion obviously is to raise a discussion on the matter, and the matter is sufficiently important to be thrashed out because railway services have been dislocated. The