

[Shri K. K. Basu]

States. So, the old 1944 Act will apply to them. What is the special reason for having this amending Bill?

Mr. Speaker: There are still a few Part B States, I think.

Shri K. K. Basu: No. Only Jammu and Kashmir has been left out. Jammu and Kashmir has not passed this resolution. All the others, like Travancore-Cochin and Saurashtra and so on, will cease to exist after 1st November.

Shri M. C. Shah: We had thought about this Bill even before the States Reorganisation Bill was passed. Yet, because it would take time, we thought we might have this passed. There is nothing wrong in this, because we are only seeking to delete the words 'Part B States' and insert the words 'the Government.' I do not think there is any difficulty about this matter. If I might read out the different clauses, it will unnecessarily take the time of the House.

Mr. Speaker: I must put the motion and have it passed first.

The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Public Debt Act, 1944, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 1 to 15, the Enacting Formula, the Preamble and the Title were added to the Bill.

Shri M. C. Shah: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed".

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed".

The motion was adopted.

INDIAN POST OFFICE (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Post Office Act, 1898, be taken into consideration."

As hon. Members might be aware, section 7 of the Indian Post Office Act provides the Central Government powers to prescribe rates by notification in the official gazette for postage and other sums to be charged in respect of postal articles sent by inland post. It has been provided also that such rates shall not exceed the rates set forth for the various classes of postal articles in the First Schedule. With the passage of the Indian Coinage (Amendment) Act, 1955, these rates which have been given in the First Schedule will stand automatically converted in terms of decimal coinage; and these will come into effect on 1st April 1957. This was notified by Notification No. SRO. 1119 dated 11th May, 1956.

The result of the change, as is well known, is that 16 annas or 64 pice or 192 pies will be equal to 100 naye paise. Equivalents of the present postal rates are not possible in some cases, in round figures. For example, the equivalents in the case of postage dated 11th May, 1956.

Existing rate	In terms of Naya Paise
3 Pies	1.5625
6 Pies	3.125
6 Pies	4.6875
1 anna	6.25
2 anna	12.50

Naturally, therefore, we have got to do something about postage stamps

well in time, so that, when the change comes, we may have postage stamps according to the decimal coinage in circulation, or to be introduced for circulation on the appointed day.

According to section 14 (2) of the Indian Coinage Act, as amended by the Indian Coinage (Amendment) Act 1955, fractions of more than 0·5 naya paisa can be rounded off to the next higher naya paisa, and fractions up to 0·5 naya paisa can be ignored. But the rounding off is permissible only at the time of tender of the existing coins at one transaction. So, we may not be able to take advantage of it in the case of postage stamps. This rounding off is also not possible in the case of rates expressed in rules, notifications or enactments; including the Indian Post Office Act.

Therefore, a new tariff has been proposed in the Bill which I have moved for consideration. Keeping in view the principle that there should be an approximate equivalence between the proposed rates in terms of the

naya paisa and the existing rates, in fixing round figures for the postage rates, it has become necessary to increase or lower the existing rates.

As will be seen, the provisions of the present Bill can be split into three parts. Firstly, there have been certain increases. Secondly, there have been certain reductions in the postage rates; and thirdly, there have been certain exact equivalents. The changes are only of a very slight degree, if I may say so. The new rates, in terms of decimal coinage have exceeded, in certain cases, the rates prescribed in the First Schedule, and, therefore, a legislation of the kind that has been introduced has become necessary.

I may just refer in passing to the postage rates which have been proposed to be increased, so that a clear idea of the increase may be obtained. The increases in the postage rates are as follows:

	Per cent increase	Increase in terms of	
		Naya Paisa	Pies
Letters not exceeding one tola	4	0·5	1 (Approximately)
Single post-card	6·6	0·3125	½ "
Reply post-card	6·6	0·625	1·2 "
Registered newspapers (single copy) up to 10 tolas	28	0·4375	1 "
Registered newspaper packets (for every five tolas in excess of 10 tolas)	28	0·4375	1 "

Apart from this, there is the question of stationery. So far as the Schedule in the Act is concerned, it gives rates only for the post-cards, but it does not indicate separately the rates for inland letter-cards or registered envelopes. But, consequent on the adoption of the decimal coinage, there will have to be undertaken some sort of modification or adjustment in the rates for these items too. These

increases will be as follows:

	Per cent Increase	Increase in terms of naya paisa and pies
Inland letter-cards	6·6	0·625 naya pies (1·2 pies approximately)
Registered envelope*	1·5	1·125 naya paisa (2 pies approximately)

(*The increase is due to the fact that the basic postage rate

[Shri Raj Bahadur]
has been increased by 0.5 naya
paisa, and the stationery charges
by 0.625 naya paisa)

I shall indicate how the new coinage
system will affect the postal rates and
reduce them.

Now, I come to the reductions, and

The reductions will be as follows:

	Per cent decrease	Decrease in terms of Naya Paisa	Decrease in terms of Pies
Letters weighing more than 1 tola for every one tola	4	0.25	$\frac{1}{2}$ (approx- imately)
Book, pattern and sample packets :—			
(i) First 5 tolas	4	0.25	$\frac{1}{2}$ "
(ii) for every additional 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ tolas	4	0.125	$\frac{1}{4}$ "

As regards registered newspapers,
posted singly, exceeding ten tolas but
not exceeding 20 tolas: 4 per cent de-
crease, equal to .125 naye paise or the
quarter of a pie; then exceeding 20
tolas, for every 20 tolas, 4 per cent
decrease, equal to .125 naye paise or
quarter pie.

In regard to registered newspapers
packets, for the first ten tolas 4 per
cent decrease equal to .125 naye paise
or quarter pie.

For some period, as is well known,
both types of coins will be in circula-
tion; so also the postage stamps. The
period may be about three years in the
case of coins but about three
months in the case of postage stamps.
As I submitted earlier, we have got to
provide for the change in good time so
that the printing of postage stamps
and stationery could be undertaken.
It is with that purpose in view that
this Bill is being submitted to the
House and I commend it to the House
for acceptance.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend
the Indian Post Office Act, 1898, be
taken into consideration."

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam):
The Minister has taken the opportu-
nity of increasing the postage rates
while fixing the same consequent
upon the introduction of the decimal
system. Of course, he may say that
the increase is very insignificant. For

instance, there has been only a 4 per
cent increase for 2-anna letters. I do
not know why he has chosen to make
it 13 new pies. It actually comes to
12 $\frac{1}{2}$ new pies according to the conver-
sion. He could have made it 12. Simi-
larly, in the case of postcard, while
the price today is only 1/21st of the
present rupee, it is going to be 1/20th
of the naya rupee. So this is a little
more than what usually obtains. It is
not the equivalent but a little more
than the equivalent.

Of course, the Minister will argue
that already the handling charges on
postcards and letters are more than
what actually are charged. However,
the fact remains that there has been
some increase. I was not able to catch
the Minister properly when he men-
tioned about inland letters. Neither
in the principal Act nor in the amend-
ing Bill is there any reference to in-
land letters. He may please clarify
this point.

There was a Committee appointed
to go into the question of fixation of
postal rates for book packets and book
registrations. We expected that their
report would be out. I believe the re-
port has since been submitted. The
Committee was appointed a year ago.
During the general discussion on the
General Budget, the Finance Minister
assured us that a Committee was go-
ing into these matters. When several
Members objected to the increase in
the registration fee and urged that at
least book packets, which are meant

for studies and other things, should not have their registration charges increased, he assured us that the Ministry of Communications had appointed a Committee and when their report was submitted the whole question could be reviewed. The decisions on the report could have been examined and incorporated in this very Bill itself.

These are a few observations I wish to make on this Bill.

Pandit S. C. Mishra (Monghyr North-East): As my hon. friend has just now observed, we could not clearly understand what the hon. Minister meant when he gave some of the equivalents of the postages. But as we can see from the report, he proposes to convert the postcard into 5 naye paise card. Proportionately the inland envelope will go up to 10 naye paise.

An Hon. Member: More than that.

Pandit S. C. Mishra: This is what he proposes. The next thing that comes into our daily use is the envelope.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the Government and the hon. Minister take advantage of the ratio difference in two cases, I think it would have been quite well of them if they had given up something in the third instance so that the users and the country in general would not have been adversely affected. Of course if at each point Government think of always mopping up something from the pockets of the users, then that is another matter. But if that be not the intention, it would have been much better if the rate of the envelope had been put at 12 pies instead of 13 new pies.

As we can see, these days when we send a rupee to the post office, we always get 2 full envelopes, 4 inland envelopes and 8 postcards. When we send a rupee, we say that we do not want any change; so we get 2 full envelopes, 4 half envelopes and 8 postcards. Now, according to this ratio, that will go to 106 naya paise. That means, he is surcharging one anna for every rupee.

I think the postal department could have made a gesture to the poor people by leaving out something in one of these three classes. He has said that there is a decrease in the rate in certain cases. The reductions are there perhaps in certain cases, in the next fractions of a tola, not in the first case. There is no reduction of postage rates or anything like that in the first case. Only when there is an additional weight, he has shown that there will be some reduction.

In this way, he has not been quite fair to the public at large. I will once more request him to see if he cannot make at least a gesture in the case of any of these three things: either the postcard or the inland envelope or the full envelope, the three things that are most in use. I think the postal revenue on account of these three things must be very great. If this was done it would have been commensurate with the additions made in other cases. Of course, the postage rates would have to be adjusted to the new coins; there is no doubt about it. But I think the postal department would not have lost anything if it had given a little reduction in one of these three classes.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I think the objections that have been raised in respect of this Bill may be summarised as follows. Firstly, objection arises out of some sort of a vague suspicion that we have perhaps taken this opportunity to increase the rates of postage and minimise our losses on certain postal articles. I may at once say that that was not the object in view. The only object that we had in view was to find out suitable and convenient equivalents in terms of the decimal coinage to the rates that obtain at present according to the present coinage system. We have, of course, tried to strike a balance so that our losses do not increase. As I have said, while in certain cases—I need not repeat the figures once again—there have been certain increases, in others there have been decreases. Therefore, the two, broadly speaking,

[Shri Raj Bahadur]

may offset each other. At any rate, it can not be said that there has been any attempt to increase the rates of postage on various articles to minimise the loss. Take, for example, the postcards. The rate on the single postcard will, perhaps, yield an additional revenue of about Rs. 20 lakhs. But, on the local postcard there might be a decrease of about Rs. 1 lakh in the revenue. Our total losses on post-card traffic, as I have repeated many times on the floor of this House, exceed Rs. 1 crore—I think about Rs. 1.15 lakhs. The slight increase now in the price of the postcard will not make up the deficit or loss that we are already sustaining in the case of the postcard traffic.

An Hon. Member: It will be reduced.

Shri Raj Bahadur: The reduction is incidental of the change and because of the fractions involved in the change. We cannot translate the value of the existing coins exactly in terms of round figures in new coinage. But we have not gone deliberately, out of our way to increase the postage to cut down the losses on certain articles like the postcard. The same thing can be said of letters also.

About the Committee on book-post, I have said on another occasion that the Committee has recently furnished its report to Government after two extensions of two months each. The report is under examination and, I think, we would not have been fair in taking this particular opportunity to change the rates this way or that, because, in this Bill, we have only come to the House for giving us the necessary powers for the introduction of the decimal postage rates to enable us to print the new postage stamps in terms of the new coinage in time. That is the objective. The report of the committee would be considered duly in its own time and whatever be the result, it would be submitted to the House, if so required.

With these words, I can assure my friends opposite that the only effort

on our part has been to adjust the postage rates according to the new system of coinage and I think they will support the Bill.

Shri B. S. Murthy (Eluru): In view of the fact that the hon. Minister has been pleased to state that the overall gain is nothing, may I know why exactly 9 pies could not be fixed for postcards and also the similar rate for the inland envelopes.

Shri Raj Bahadur: As I have said, we have tried to bring them into round figures. When doing so we have taken great care to see that we do not add to our already existing losses. Nor will it be fair to the people that we should impose additional taxation on them by this bill. It is not any part of our intention to tax the people by any indirect method.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Post Office Act, 1898, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2.—(Substitution of a new schedule etc.)

मुल्ला प्रभुल्लाभाई (चांदा) : मैं ने यह दो प्रमॉन्डमेंट्स दिये हैं :

I beg to move:

(i) Page 1, line 13—

for "13 naye paise" substitute "12 naye paise"

(ii) Page 1, line 18—

for "10 naye paise" substitute "9 naye paise"

हमारे मंत्री महोदय ने बतलाया है कि जो नये सिक्के सरकार चलाने वाली है उन के अनुसार भी पोस्टल आर्टिकल्स (डाक की वस्तुओं) के दाम लगभग उतने ही रखे गये हैं जितने कि आज हैं। मैं इस चीज को मानता हूँ कि जिस चीज की कीमत साढ़े बारह पाई होती है वह साढ़े बारह पाई नहीं रखी जा सकती, लेकिन उस को तेरह पाई कर देने से

धाम जनता का कितना नुकसान हो जाता है जब कि सरकार को बहुत ज्यादा कुछ हाथ नहीं लगता। खुसूसन रिप्लाय पेज (जवाबी) पोस्टकार्ड की बात को लिया जाय, मालूम होता है कि जहां गवर्नमेंट को कुल ६ पाई का नुकसान होता है, वहां पर जनता को ५० पाई का नुकसान होता है।

मैं एक बात और अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ। डेसिमल क्वायनेज (दशमलव टंकन) जो निकाला गया है, उस के लिये भी उन्होंने बताया कि नये और पुराने सिक्कों का हिसाब क्या होगा। उस में उन्होंने पुराने दो आने की कीमत १२ नये पैसे रखी है। पहले किसी चीज की कीमत अगर १ आ० ११ पाई थी तो उस के लिये उन्होंने १२ नये पैसे रखे और जो पुरानी चीज ६ पैसे कीमत की है, उस के लिये उन्होंने ६ पैसे रखे। उस के बाद हिसाब कर के उन्होंने बताया, पेज ३० पढ़ें, कि अगर कोई आदमी एक पेंसिल खरीदना चाहे जिस की कीमत ६ पैसे है, तो १२ पेंसिल खरीदने पर उस को १६० २ आ० देना पड़ेगा। इस तरह से उसे १६० तो पूरा देना पड़ेगा और २ आ० की जगह पर १२ नये पैसे देने पड़ेंगे। इसी तरह से अगर कोई ६ पैसे के लिफाफे खरीदना चाहता है तो १२ लिफाफे खरीदने पर उस को तकरीबन ८ नये पैसे ज्यादा देने पड़ेंगे। ऐसी हालत में पब्लिक के पास से बहुत ज्यादा पैसा चला जाता है। इस लिये मैं समझता हूँ कि जहां पर १३ नये पैसे हैं वहां पर १२ नये पैसे और जहां पर १० नये पैसे हैं वहां पर ९ नये पैसे रखे जायें तो ज्यादा वाजिब होगा।

मंत्री महोदय ने यह भी फरमाया कि हम नये पोस्टेज रेट्स (टिकटों की दरें) इस्यू (जारी) करेंगे। अगर वह उन को १३ पैसे और १० पैसे के हिसाब से इस्यू करेंगे तो उस से कोई खास फर्क पड़ने वाला नहीं है। मैं मानता हूँ कि डबल (जवाबी) पोस्टकार्ड की कीमत अगर ६ नये पैसे रखे जाते हैं तो सिंगल पोस्ट कार्ड की कीमत ५ नये पैसे ही रखना होगा क्योंकि ६ पैसे के साढ़े चार पैसे तो किये नहीं जा सकते। माननीय मंत्री जी ने यह भी

बतलाया कि सिंगल पोस्ट कार्ड से सरकार को फायदा होता है और डबल से नुकसान। लेकिन मैं इस को मानने के लिये तैयार नहीं हूँ। जब सिंगल पोस्ट कार्ड से थोड़ा फायदा सरकार को होता है तो डबल से नुकसान क्यों होना चाहिये, डबल से तो और ज्यादा फायदा होना चाहिये।

बहरहाल जैसा मैंने बताया कि जहां पर गवर्नमेंट को ६ पैसे का नुकसान होता है कम रेट रखने से वहां ज्यादा रेट रखने से जनता को ५० पैसे का नुकसान होता है, इस लिये गवर्नमेंट को इस और ध्यान देना चाहिये।

साथ ही साथ मुझे एक बात यह पेश करनी है कि फर्ज कीजिये आप ने यह प्रपोजेन (अनुपात) रक्खा तो इस से पब्लिक में गलतफहमी फैल सकती है कि नये क्वायनेज निकाल कर सरकार हम से ज्यादा पैसा लेना चाहती है क्योंकि हर एक आदमी यह मिसाल पेश करेगा कि सरकार को जितना हम से लेना चाहिये उस से ज्यादा ले रही है, कोई यह तो देखेगा नहीं कि यहां की कार्रवाही में क्या है और सरकार ऐसा क्यों कर रही है, वह तो यही समझेगा कि जिस लिफाफे की कीमत दो आने है उस के उस से १३ पैसे लिये जा रहे हैं। इसी तरह से बाजार की हर चीज के दाम रखे जायेंगे और जनता को नुकसान होगा। इस लिये मैं अर्ज करूंगा कि आप इस बारे में सोचें और जो मुनासिब कार्रवाई हो वह की जाय ताकि न गवर्नमेंट को नुकसान हो और न जनता के पास से ज्यादा पैसा जाय।

Mr. Speaker: Amendments moved:

(i) Page 1, line 13—

for "13 naye paise" substitute "12 naye paise".

(ii) Page 1, line 18—

for "10 naye paise" substitute "9 naye paise".

श्री राज बहादुर : माननीय सदस्य ने जो दो सुझाव भ्रमी दिये हैं, मैं उन के बारे में कुछ निवेदन करना चाहूंगा। वह कहते हैं कि भले ही एक पोस्ट कार्ड की कीमत ५ नये पैसे रखी जाय, लेकिन रिप्लाय पेंड पोस्ट कार्ड की कीमत ६ नये पैसे कर दिये जायें। इस में इस बात का काफी अन्देशा है, और यह अक्सर होगा, कि जहाँ आम तौर से एक पोस्ट कार्ड ५ पैसे का होगा वहाँ कोई भी श्रादमी जा कर जवाबी पोस्ट कार्ड खरीद लेगा और दोनों पोस्ट कार्डों के लिये दस नये पैसे देने की बजाय वह ६ पैसे ही देगा और अलग अलग साढ़े चार पैसे के हिसाब से ही इस्तेमाल करेगा। साथ ही साथ यह भी हो सकता है अगर कोई श्रादमी डाकखाने में पोस्ट कार्ड खरीदने आता है, तो वेन्डर उस को ६ पैसे वाले डबल पोस्ट कार्ड में से एक पोस्ट कार्ड फाड़ कर दे देगा और उस से पांच पैसे ले कर हर पोस्ट कार्ड पर आधा पैसा अपनी जेब में डाल लेगा। लिहाजा यह बिल्कुल साफ हो जाता है कि जब एक पोस्ट कार्ड की कीमत पांच पैसा है तो डबल की दस पैसे ही होनी चाहिये, नहीं तो दोनों तरफ से नुकसान होने की सम्भावना है।

जहाँ तक letter [पत्र] के बारे में इस सुझाव का सम्बन्ध है कि १३ की जगह पर १२ नये पैसे रखे जायें, मैं ने निवेदन किया कि हमारी श्रादमी पहले ही पोस्टल आर्टिकल्स (डाक की वस्तुओं) के ऊपर काफी कम होती है, अगर उस से और कम हो जाय तो कैसे काम चल सकता है। जहाँ आप एक और यह देखते हैं कि इस इजाफे से हम कुछ लाख रुपये कमा लेते हैं मैं तफसील भी दे दूँ, २० लाख रुपया के करीब होता है, वहाँ आप यह भी सोचें कि हम पोस्ट कार्ड्स के ऊपर १ करोड़ ५८ लाख ८० खो रहे हैं। पोस्ट कार्ड पर घाटे का सही आंकड़ा १ करोड़ ५८ लाख है, १ करोड़ १५ लाख नहीं जैसा कि मैं भूल से पहले कह गया। पोस्ट कार्ड का

ट्रैफिक दिन रूना और रात चौगुना बढ़ रहा है। जो हमारे किसान भाई और मजदूर भाई देहात में रहते हैं या मिलों में काम करते हैं, वहीं नहीं बल्कि नये जमाने में जो हमारे बड़े बड़े बिजनेसमैन हैं वह भी पोस्ट कार्ड की ही शरण लेने लगे हैं। इस तरह से जितना ही पोस्ट कार्ड्स का ट्रैफिक बढ़ता है, उतना ही हम को ज्यादा नुकसान होता है। हम तो यह चाहते हैं कि जो पोस्ट कार्ड्स का ट्रैफिक है, वह दूसरी ओर letters (पत्रों) और letter cards (पत्र कार्डों) में जाय, ताकि इस महकमे की जो तरक्की हम चाहते हैं वह हो सके।

पंडित ठाकुर दास भागव (गुडगांव) : ज्यादा पोस्ट कार्ड्स बिकने से जो नुकसान है वह कम नहीं हो जायेगा ?

श्री राज बहादुर : जी नहीं, वह और भी बढ़ेगा क्योंकि हर पोस्ट कार्ड पर हमारा १३.१ पाई का खर्च पड़ता है जबकि हम उस के ऊपर कुल ६ पाई लेते हैं।

Sardar Hukam Singh (Kapurthala-Bhatinda) : It is not a question of mass production; but mass distribution has to take place.

श्री राज बहादुर : इस तरह से हर पोस्ट कार्ड के ऊपर हम चार पाई से कुछ ज्यादा का नुकसान उठाते हैं। इस लिये मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जो इजाफा हम इस में कर रहे हैं, वह केवल उस फ्रैन्शन या मिन्न की वजह से है जो कि पोस्टकार्ड के केस में आती है। अब आप यह खयाल करें कि हम दूसरी मर्दों पर काफी खो भी रहे हैं, जिन की तफसील मैं दे चुका हूँ।

मैं नवायनेज सिस्टम म परिवर्तन से जो नुकसान डाक की दरों में होगा वह मैं बता चुका हूँ। दोबारा इस के बारे में भी कुछ कहना चाहना था, लेकिन वैसे ही मैं ने बहुत समय

ले लिया है, और उसे बतलाने में और समय लग जायेगा इस लिये मैं उस को छोड़ता हूँ।

इस प्रकार अगर हमारी सारी कमी को मिला कर देखा जाय तो यह वृद्धि ज्यादा नहीं है साथ ही हमारे बर्कस की यूनियन की तरफ से कहा जा रहा है कि हमारे पोस्टेज का टैरिफ (प्रशुल्क) वास्तविकता के आधार पर नहीं है और वह बर्कस (कर्मचारियों) की कास्ट (हानि) पर पब्लिक को फायदा पहुंचाता है। उन की भावना यह है कि और मुल्कों में पोस्टेज रेट्स कहीं ज्यादा हैं। लेकिन इस मोके पर, जैसा मैं ने पहले कहा, हमारा यह इरादा नहीं कि हम कोई इन्फ्लैटरी (अप्रत्यक्ष) टैक्सेशन (कराधान) लगा दें। इरादा यह है कि जो तब्दीली हम करने जा रहे हैं उस के लिये वक्त पर इन्तजाम कर सकें, और वक्त पर सम्पूर्ण देश में उस को छाप कर लागू कर सकें।

मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि इस बात को ध्यान में रखते हुए माननीय सदस्य अपने अमेंडमेंट्स को वापस ले लेंगे।

मुल्ला अब्दुल्लाभाई : मैं यह कहना चाहता था कि अगर हम पोस्ट कार्ड और लिफाफों की कीमत कम रखेंगे तो वह और ज्यादा बिकेंगे।

श्री राज बहादुर : मैं ने कहा कि हर पोस्ट कार्ड पर १३ पाई से ऊपर खर्च पड़ता है, और अगर हम letter की कीमत साढ़े बारह नये पैसे की जगह पर १२ नये पैसे कर देंगे तो हमें और ज्यादा नुकसान होगा। हम करीब ३०-४० लाख रुपये और खोयेंगे। इस लिये इस चीज की मानना हमारे लिये सम्भव नहीं होगा।

Mr. Speaker: Need I put the amendments to vote?

Mulla Abdullahai: I may be allowed to withdraw my amendments.

The amendments were, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed".

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

ALL INDIA KHADI AND VILLAGE
INDUSTRIES COMMISSION
BILL

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of a Commission for the development of khadi and village Industries and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

I need not take much time of the House to explain the justification for introducing this Bill at the present state. The importance of Khadi and Village Industries in our national economy has been well recognised by all those who have given thought to this problem. It was Mahatma Gandhi, since 1921 or even from an earlier period, who focussed the attention of the nation on the vital importance of Khadi and Village Industries, and ever since that time, during all these three decades and more we have been trying to galvanize this sector of activity in our development programmes. It was more or less non-official effort before we secured Independence in 1947. Several non-official organisations, mainly brought into being by Mahatma Gandhi's efforts, were engaged in this field, and they