

[Shri A. P. Jain]

have got the latest report. He was examined yesterday at 4-15 P.M. by Dr. Varma, and Col. K. Rai has given his medical report on the facts ascertained by examination. The report is: "From the abovementioned medical examination report, it is quite clear that so far there are no signs of dehydration, nor any signs of ascetosis; nor are there any marked signs of weakness at present."

I want to make it clear that neither the future of the Technical Institute nor the settlement of any labour dispute can be decided by hunger strike. If these things are to be decided by hunger strikes, there will be no orderly society. The hunger strike is entirely his business. It is for him to give up the hunger strike. We cannot do anything under the threat of hunger strike.

Shri V. P. Nayar (Chirayinkil): May I say something? The hon. Minister's statement does not contain all the facts about the case, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All that I am concerned with at this stage is whether consent ought to be given or not. I have brought this up before the House inasmuch as a number of workers are involved and a serious situation is supposed to have arisen. I wanted to know all the facts as far as Government are concerned. The facts have been placed before the House, in so far as they have come to the knowledge of Government.

It has been repeatedly held on the floor of the House that hunger strike is not one of the constitutional methods which should be adopted for the purpose of getting redress of any grievance. I wanted to have some facts elucidated. I would advise that he should terminate his fast as early as possible and desist from it hereafter.

I am sorry I am unable to give my consent to this adjournment motion.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I point out that it is not the hunger strike which is the subject matter, but the serious situation consequent on the hunger strike.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Here only three hundred workers are involved. The Short notice question which we now disposed of concerned about 15,000 workers.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to inform hon. Members that I have received the following letter from Shri B. Shiva Rao:

"I was hoping that I would be well enough to return to India by the end of August and attend the current session of the House of the People for the last two or three weeks in September. Unfortunately, my recovery is slower than I had expected and under medical advice I am compelled to stay away for the whole of the session. I would be grateful if you will kindly obtain for me the permission of the House to be absent for the entire period."

Is it the pleasure of the House that permission be granted to Shri B. Shiva Rao for remaining absent from all meetings of the House till the end of the present session?

Hon. Members: Yes.

Leave was granted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have received another letter, from Shrimati B. Khongmen which says:

"I have been ill for the last two months. I am afraid I shall not be able to attend the Parliament session. May I request you to be so kind as to grant me leave of absence for the whole of this session?"

Is it the pleasure of the House that permission be granted to Shrimati B. Khongmen for remaining absent from all meetings of the House till the end of the present session?

Hon. Members: Yes.

Leave was granted.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to inform the House that the Business Advisory Committee met on the 1st September 1953 to consider the question of allocation of time to the various items of Government business which are to be concluded before the current session terminates.

The Committee were informed that Government considered that the Estate Duty Bill and the Estate Duty Rates Bill should be passed during the current session. The House had also to find time for the Supplementary Demands for Grants and the Resolution on P.E.P.S.U.

The Committee agreed to the following time-table for the various items of Business:—

1. Nine days with effect from the 2nd September 1953 (i.e. today) might be allotted for the consideration of clauses and schedule and the passage of the Estate Duty Bill and the Estate Duty Rates Bill.
2. The total time available for consideration of the clauses of the Bills should be apportioned between the various groups of clauses according to their importance and the discussion on the particular group of clauses terminated on the due date.
3. In case it is found that the discussion on the group of clauses was not concluded within the specified days, the House might sit in the afternoons on those particular days for completion of the discussion on specified clauses.

4. One and a half days might be allotted for the Supplementary Demands for Grants and the Resolution on P.E.P.S.U.

The Committee also appointed a Sub-Committee to prepare a detailed time-table for the consideration of the clauses of the Estate Duty Bill in such a way that adequate time was made available for the discussion of important clauses and the total time of nine days apportioned between the various groups of clauses and the third reading of the Bill. The Sub-Committee met at 4-30 P.M. on the 1st September and have made the following recommendations:—

- (i) Clauses 2 to 29.—Three days plus two afternoon sittings (afternoon sitting on the second day being compulsory and on the third day if necessary).
- (ii) Clauses 30 to 34 and the schedule.—Three days plus two afternoon sittings (afternoon sitting on the second day being compulsory and on the third day if necessary).
- (iii) Clauses 35 to 81 and the schedule, Clause 1, enacting formula etc.—Two days plus one afternoon sitting if necessary.
- (iv) Third Reading.—One day plus one afternoon sitting if necessary.

The Sub-Committee also considered that whenever an afternoon sitting was found necessary, it might commence at 4-00 P.M. and conclude at 7-30 P.M., if the business is not otherwise terminated earlier.

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): At the time of the passing of the Preventive Detention Act Government gave an undertaking that within one year the House will be given an opportunity for a discussion. But in the list of business that you have just now announced it does not find a place. I do not know—but the Home Minister then said that within a year there will be a report and a discussion on it.