

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the levy and collection of an additional duty of excise on cloth for raising funds for the purpose of developing khadi and other handloom industries and for promoting the sale of khadi and other handloom cloth."

The motion was adopted.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I introduce the Bill.

VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF SALARIES (EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION) AMENDMENT BILL

The Minister of Revenue and Expenditure (Shri Tyagi): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill* to amend the Voluntary Surrender of Salaries (Exemption from Taxation) Act, 1950.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Voluntary Surrender of Salaries (Exemption from Taxation) Act, 1950."

The motion was adopted.

Shri Tyagi: I introduce the Bill.

FOOD ADULTERATION BILL

PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): I beg to present the report of the Select Committee on the Bill to make provision for the prevention of adulteration of food.

TEA BILL

PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the control by the Union of the tea industry, and for that purpose to establish a Tea Board and levy a customs duty on tea exported from India.

ESTATE DUTY BILL

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE.

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. Deshmukh): I beg to move that the

*Introduced with the previous recommendation of the President.

time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the levy and collection of an estate duty, be extended up to the 31st March, 1953.

We find that we have under-estimated the complexity and intricacy of this measure, and we have not made as much progress as we had hoped to do. And I would like to mention here that although we are asking the permission of the House to extend the time-limit to such a distant date as the 31st March, 1953, that is only as a measure of caution. Government are very anxious to have the consideration of the Bill completed during the current session of Parliament. The Select Committee meets as frequently as possible subject to the other equally important pre-occupations of the Members either with budget work or other Parliamentary work, and we hope that we should be able to present the report by a date earlier than the 31st March, 1953. I find it difficult, however, to indicate exactly by which earlier date the report will actually be ready, and that is why I am requesting the House to give us a somewhat longer time, with a view to avoiding the necessity of approaching the House again.

Shri R. K. Chaudhury (Gauhati): On a point of information, may I have this assurance from the hon. Minister that the delay in the past was not due to any preoccupation of the hon. Minister himself?

The Minister of Revenue and Expenditure (Shri Tyagi): I was free all through.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the levy and collection of an estate duty, be extended upto the 31st March, 1953."

The motion was adopted.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani (New Delhi): I want to draw your attention to the fact that we have received this bulletin indicating the legislative business for the session. It shows that there are 24 Bills already introduced and 42 more new Bills are to be introduced during the session. From the programme given we see, we will hardly have 20 days for legislative business. Therefore, it is necessary for us to know which are the Bills

which will be taken up first. It will facilitate us if we know every week in advance which Bills we are going to take up. I do not know whether the Business Advisory Committee is functioning or if it exists. If it does, I would suggest that in consultation with the Opposition the programme of the legislative business may be drawn up

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I would very much desire that the ancient practice may be followed, that on every Saturday or the last day of a particular week, the work for the next week is read out to the House by the Leader of the House so that hon. Members may come ready; and even the order should not be changed except in exceptional circumstances. The Business Advisory Committee is certainly there, and I will call a meeting as often as necessary now that the session has started. During the interval, I could not call a meeting, and it is unnecessary. As soon as the programme is chalked out, we will work out as to how long we will take on each Bill.

I would also like to follow the practice adopted in the House of Commons, as far as is possible, that the items put down on the order paper should be finished within the time allotted for them, so that the House may know exactly when the next item would come up. We can sit in the Advisory Committee, and if a Bill requires two days or three days, we can sit together and find out in consultation with all representatives of the Opposition, the Leader of the House and his representatives, whether we can fix up any particular time for finishing any particular work, but once the item is put down on the order paper, it must be finished within that time. We shall try to follow that practice as far as possible, and try to get through as much work as is possible, during the current session. I hope this would be communicated to the hon. Leader of the House, and he will try to make a statement, so as to enable me also to call for a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy (Mysore): On a point of information, Sir. The Post Office which is attached to the Parliament Secretariat, is now closing at 5 P.M., and this has caused us great inconvenience. I would request that you may kindly instruct the proper authorities concerned, to see that the post office functions up to 7 P.M.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All difficulties regarding any amenities or con-

veniences for hon. Members may first be brought to the notice of the Secretary, and if my intervention is necessary, I will certainly do so later.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee (Calcutta South-East): You may request Government also to consider the desirability of having a list of priorities, in respect of the 64 Bills, which are supposed to come during the session.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is what I also thought. The hon. Member evidently wants, in addition to the programme of work that has to be set out for the coming week, a list of priorities, so that some important Bills may be thought of in advance, and particular hon. Members may read in time. If a list of priorities regarding the Bills for the whole session can be made out, as far as is possible, of course, the hon. Leader of the House and all the sections of the House will consider and submit the list.

MOTION ON ADDRESS BY THE
PRESIDENT (contd.)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, I shall take up those other amendments which I did not place before the House yesterday, for want of time, as they had not been received earlier. Those amendments which I have admitted, I shall now call upon the various hon. Members to move one after the other.

Shri Gidwani (Thana): I beg to move:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that the Address has ignored the refugee problem, which is one of the major problems that has yet to be solved satisfactorily."

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): I beg to move:

(i) That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that the Address does not mention a word about the serious situation created by retrenchment in industries like textiles, jute, tea, plantations, tanneries, shipping, mines etc., and in Government undertakings like ordnance Depots, Military Engineering Services, Central Public Works Department, and in Railways and the growing unemployment resulted thereon, and that it has also failed to mention the ever increasing deterioration of the living condition of the working class and the middle class employees