

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Tuesday, 31st March, 1953.

The House met at Two of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

2-50 P.M.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

AGREEMENTS IN RESPECT OF THE PROPRIETARY RIGHTS OVER ATOMIC MINERALS

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the Agreements entered into between the President of India and the Rajpramukhs of Part B States (except Jammu and Kashmir) relating to the proprietary rights of the State over atomic minerals. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 25.]

ESTATE DUTY BILL

PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the levy and collection of an estate duty.

HYDERABAD COINAGE AND PAPER CURRENCY (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) BILL—*contd.*

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now take up further consideration of the motion:

"That the Bill to extend the period during which Hyderabad

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coins and notes of the denominational value of one rupee may continue to be legal tender, to repeal the Hyderabad Paper Currency Act No. II of 1327F and to make certain other incidental provisions, as passed by the Council of States, be taken into consideration."

I have to observe that normally when time is fixed or particular dates are allotted for Budget discussion this period is not interrupted by any other work. I was obliged to put down this work here on the ground that this has to receive the assent of the President today. It is unfortunate that yesterday evening Government did not take care to keep the proper quorum here. Otherwise I would have got on with this work.

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): As I said yesterday, I am grateful to the hon. Members of the House for welcoming this measure. In the course of the debate certain suggestions were made by some hon. Members. The most important of them was that ample facilities should be given for conversion and exchange of Hali Sicca to Indian currency. I may inform the House that we had already made ample arrangements for these exchange facilities on a very big scale. We had authorised the Government of Hyderabad to spend up to one lakh of rupees in publicity and were prepared to give as much facility as possible. We were in correspondence with the Hyderabad State Government on that point also. But then representations came that if these one rupee and smaller coins were not to be treated as legal tender for an extended period there might be some difficulty in the rural areas, that there might be exploitation of the poor by certain unscrupulous elements. Certain Members of Parliament waited in deputation on the Finance Minister and the Government of the Hyderabad State also made representations. On a review of the whole position the Government of