

[Mr. Chairman]

I hope you will realise my difficulties and excuse my absence from the session."

Is it the pleasure of the House that permission be granted to Shri Sushil Kumar Pateria for remaining absent from all meetings of the House during the present session?

Hon. Members: Yes.

Leave was granted.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION

Mr. Chairman: I have to inform the House that up to the time fixed for receiving nominations for the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, two nominations were received. Subsequently one Member withdrew his candidature. As the number of the remaining candidate was thus equal to the number of vacancy in the Corporation. I declare the following Member to be duly elected:

Shri Khandubhai Kasanji Desai.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER CENTRAL EXCISES AND SALT ACT

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following Notifications in accordance with Section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944:

(i) Central Excises Notification No. 15, dated the 9th June, 1953.

(ii) Central Excises Notification No. 17, dated the 29th July 1953;

(iii) Central Excises Notification No. 18, dated the 29th July 1953; and

(iv) Central Excises Notification

No. 19, dated the 8th August, 1953.

[Placed in Library. See No. S—104]

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas): I beg to move:

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950, and the Representation of the People Act, 1951, and to make certain consequential amendments in the Government of Part C States Act, 1951, be extended up to the last day of the first week of the next session."

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy (Mysore): May we know the reason?

Shri Biswas: The reason is this. The Select Committee has already held several meetings. The provisions of the amending Bill are being subjected to a very minute analysis and scrutiny. That has taken time, and we have not yet been able to reach even the seventh or eighth clause. It is not anticipated that the examination of the entire Bill will be over in the next few days, and so there will be hardly any chance of bringing this Bill before the two Houses, this session. That is why the Select Committee suggested that the presentation of its Report might be deferred till the end of the first week of the next session.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: The hon. Minister stated, while he made his speech moving the Bill, that this Bill should be passed in this session, and that there should not be any delay or postponement of this Bill. May I know why the hon. Minister has gone back on his statement?

Shri Biswas: That was and is still the intention of the Government, but the Bill is now in the hands of the Select Committee, and the Minister cannot have his own way against the wishes of the Select Committee.