

12.55 hrs.

**APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO
 JOINT COMMITTEE ON COMPAN-
 IES (AMENDMENT) BILL**

Shri A. C. Guha (Barasat): I beg to move:

"That Sardar Hukam Singh be appointed to the Joint Committee on the Companies (Amendment) Bill, 1959, in the vacancy caused by his resignation from the Joint Committee on the 5th September, 1959."

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That Sardar Hukam Singh be appointed to the Joint Committee on the Companies (Amendment) Bill, 1959, in the vacancy caused by his resignation from the Joint Committee on the 5th September, 1959."

Shri Bimal Ghose (Barrackpore): Why this resignation and re-appointment?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Deputy-Speaker went to Australia. I requested him to come. At that time, he did not want to hamper the proceedings of the Committee. He wanted to let it go on. He was also the Chairman. So, he felt that he should allow an opportunity to some other Member to come in and carry on the proceedings.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Ferozabad): But where is the necessity of coming to this House for that purpose? You are empowered to do it.

Mr. Speaker: No. If any Member is appointed by this House to serve on a Joint Committee and if he resigns, it is for this House to appoint either himself or any other person in his place.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): After Sardar Hukam Singh resigned, Shri

Guha was appointed in his place. Will Shri Guha continue now?

Shri A. C. Guha: I shall resign and automatically the Deputy-Speaker will be the Chairman of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker: The vacancy caused by the resignation of the Deputy Speaker has not yet been filled up. Hon. Members may appoint either the Deputy-Speaker or somebody else. They can bring in an alternative motion.

Some Hon. Members: No, no.

Mr. Speaker: He resigned as a member and along with that, the Chairmanship also disappeared.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): If he becomes a Member of the Committee, then automatically he becomes the Chairman.

Mr. Speaker: Let him not super-sede; Shri Guha may resign to avoid any inconvenience. Of course, I am not prepared to give any ruling on that matter now.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The Committee is going to submit its report.

Mr. Speaker: How long will it take for the Committee to complete its work? How far have they proceeded?

Shri A. C. Guha: It would not be possible for the Committee to finish its work during this inter-session period, because the Committee has decided to meet only on the 25th and I am told the next budget session will start on the 8th February. So, there might be five or six sittings only. We have finished about 50 non-controversial clauses, out of the total of 200 clauses and some schedules. So, a major portion of the work still remains. We could not carry on the work because Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri was sick and Shri Kanungo had to leave for Japan. So, the Committee had to adjourn after four sittings only.

Mr. Speaker: We have not had any more light than what we started with. Let them take their own time. I would like to make it clear that it was not for the purpose of reappointing the Deputy-Speaker that the proceedings of the Committee were adjourned. The proceedings had to be adjourned on account of the illness of the hon. Commerce and Industry Minister; the other junior Minister also was not able to come. I do not want the impression to be created that the Deputy-Speaker or any of us is anxious to be reappointed to the Committee. Otherwise it might appear that whenever he wants, he can resign and whenever he wants to come back, he can come back.

The question is:

"That Sardar Hukam Singh be appointed to the Joint Committee on the Companies (Amendment) Bill, 1959 in the vacancy caused by his resignation from the Joint Committee on the 5th September, 1959."

The motion was adopted.

13 hrs.

MOTION RE: FOOD SITUATION

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri S. K. Patil on the 16th December, 1959, namely:

"That the food situation in the country be taken into consideration."

and also further consideration of the substitute motions moved by Shri Surendra Mahanty, Shri Purushottamdas R. Patel, Shri Surendranath Dwivedy and other members. The time allotted was six hours and the time taken is 1 hour 31 minutes. The balance is 4½ hours. Now it is

1 o'clock. It will go up to 5.30. Very well. We will sit till 5.30 and dispose of this matter.

I may also remind the House that the other day when sugarcane and sugar prices were sought to be discussed on the Excise Duty Bill, in order to avoid that discussion on the Excise duty Bill I said that they may carry on the discussion in the food debate. Later on, I found there was time and, therefore, I allowed a special motion to be moved regarding sugarcane and sugar. Therefore, so far as this matter is concerned, the subject of sugar or sugarcane need not be brought in. They may proceed with the discussion on food.

Shri Mahanty (Dhenkanal): On a point of order.

Shri Naldurgkar (Osmanabad): I request that I may be permitted to move my substitute motion Nos. 12, 13 and 15.

Mr. Speaker: Why did he not move them on that day? It is not usual to permit the moving of substitute motions during the discussion, because once the discussion has started, it is both on the original motion as well as on the substitute motions. So, if any substitute motions are now allowed to be moved, those hon. Members who have already spoken will not have an opportunity to speak.

Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi): We want to move our amendments. They may be taken as moved.

Mr. Speaker: No. There is no difference between one or the other. Hon. Members will bear in mind that once a motion is moved, the substitute motions are also moved along with it and both are before the House for discussion. If after the original motion is moved and some discussion has taken place we allow some more substitute motions to be moved, we would be denying an opportunity to the hon. Members who have already spoken, though they may like to speak on them and support them or