

[Shri T. T. Krishnamachari]

employees drawing a basic pay not exceeding Rs. 250 per month is called for, and recommend that such an increase should be granted. They have also recommended that the increase should take effect from 1st July, 1957.

Government accept the recommendations of the Commission.

#### CONVICTION OF A MEMBER

**Mr. Speaker:** I have to inform the House that I have received the following wireless message dated the 15th December, 1957, from the District Magistrate, Kanpur:

"Shri Jagdish Awasthi, Member, Lok Sabha, who was arrested on the 21st September, 1956, under section 188 IPC for contravening the order under section 144 Cr. P.C. promulgated by the City Magistrate of Kanpur in connection with the agitation on the publication of the book Religious Leaders has been convicted by Judicial Magistrate, Kanpur, under section 188 IPC and sentenced to pay a fine of rupees hundred or in default one month's rigorous imprisonment. He has been granted three weeks' time to pay the fine."

**Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad):** May I submit one thing? Under rule 229,

"...the committing judge, magistrate or executive authority, as the case may be, shall immediately intimate such fact to the Speaker...."

That is, the magistrate should inform you immediately after the conviction is made. He was convicted on 14th of this month, but we have received this news only today.

**Mr. Speaker:** The message was sent on the 15th. It was received yesterday.

**Shri Jagdish Awasthi (Bilhour):** I am in the House today. How is it that the wireless message has come only today? It is very strange.

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** May I draw your attention to this? The rule says that the magistrate shall intimate immediately after conviction is made....

**Mr. Speaker:** There is nothing in this. The conviction was made on 14th. He sent the message on the 15th. It was received on the 16th, and I have read it out here on the 17th.

#### PREVENTION OF DISQUALIFICATION (AMENDMENT) BILL

**The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen):** I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Prevention of Disqualification Act, 1953, be taken into consideration".

The House will recall that when the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Bill was introduced, the Business Advisory Committee unanimously recommended that the Bill should be referred to a Joint Select Committee. It was then understood that since the Act of 1954 was going to expire on the 31st December, 1957, it would be better to introduce a Bill extending the life of that Act, pending our deliberations on the new Bill.

Yesterday, the House agreed to reference of the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Bill, 1957, to a Joint Select Committee. We have now introduced this Bill to extend the life of Act of 1954 upto 31st December, 1958. So it is really for the purpose of allowing a full discussion on the Bill which we had introduced earlier and which has now been referred to a Joint Committee, that we have agreed to bring forward this Bill so that many of our Members may not suffer from disqualification, unless the life of the parent Act is extended.

I hope the House will accept this motion.

Mr. Speaker: I shall put the motion for consideration to vote.

The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Prevention of Disqualification Act, 1953, be taken into consideration".

*The motion was adopted.*

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clauses 1, 2, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 1, 2, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

Shri A. K. Sen: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed".

Mr. Speaker: I shall now put this to vote.

The question is:

"That the Bill be passed".

*The motion was adopted.*

#### MOTION RE: INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the present international situation and the policy of the Government of India in relation thereto be taken into consideration".

Normally, on such occasions, this House is interested in the problems which directly affect India, problems of our neighbour countries, of our neighbouring areas such as Pakistan, Goa and, to some extent, Ceylon, as well as other problems. No doubt, we are interested in those problems. But if you will permit me, I shall not refer to them much or at all at this stage. If necessity arises, I shall say a few words about them in the course of my reply, that is, if hon. Members opposite draw my attention to any particular aspect of them which needs reply.

In opening this debate on international affairs, I have both an advantage and a disadvantage. The advantage is that I believe that in so far as the Government of India's foreign policy is concerned, there is such a very wide measure of agreement all over the country and in this House that, to some extent, it becomes for me a question of shadow boxing—so far as our country and this House is concerned. Because the Members not only on my side of the House but those on the other side have been good enough, in spite of occasional criticism, in spite of laying some emphasis on some matter which, according to them, deserves greater emphasis than has been given. But, by and large, they have accepted and approved all the broad policies that we pursue in the international sphere. Indeed, so far as our Government is concerned and so far as I am concerned, I have become more and more convinced of the rightness of that broad international policy after all the experience of the last few years.

I would like to refer briefly to one or two matters which are not in the context of this major international policy but which deserve attention and which of course cause much concern. One is in regard to the situation in Indonesia. The House knows our views about this controversy that has gone on now for many years in regard to West Irian. We have held that both on larger consideration and even, I would say, in regard to the interpretation of the agreements arrived at between the parties, West Irian should become part of Indonesia.

We have also held in regard to that, as in regard to other matters wherever they occur, that it is always better, it is always desirable, to settle these matters peacefully by negotiation, even though that might take some considerable time. Therefore, we viewed with concern these recent developments there which followed—I should like the House to remember—