

**MESSAGES FROM RAJYA  
SABHA**

**Secretary:** Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 6th December, 1960, agreed without any amendment to the Bilashpur Commercial Corporation (Repeal) Bill, 1960, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 14th November, 1960."
- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 6th December, 1960, agreed without any amendment to the Mahendra Partab Singh Estates (Repeal) Bill, 1960, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 21st November, 1960."

12.04 hrs.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER  
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**SOUTH AFRICA'S DECISION TO BECOME A  
REPUBLIC IN THE COMMONWEALTH**

**Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi):** Sir, Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Prime Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"India's disapproval of recognising the decision of South Africa

to become a Republic in the Commonwealth on the basis of a split white minority vote."

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** The Government of India have been and are strongly opposed to apartheid and the racial policy of the South African Union Government. One of the recognised principles of the Commonwealth is racial equality. It is obvious that a policy of racial discrimination or apartheid is contrary to this basic policy of the Commonwealth.

2. Although a vote has been taken in South Africa in regard to a Republic, no other formal steps have been taken. Nor, so far as the Government of India are aware, has any request come from the South African Government for the consideration of the members of the Commonwealth. It is only when such a request comes that the Government of India will be able to consider it in the context of the request and the then existing circumstances.

**Shri Raghunath Singh rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** Next item.

**Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad):**

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**Shri Raghunath Singh:** I was not allowed to ask a question, even though I had called the Prime Minister's attention. How is it, Sir, that my hon. friend has been permitted to speak now?

**Mr. Speaker:** I did not allow him. After such statements, no questions are usually permitted. I did not allow even the hon. Member who tabled the calling attention notice (Shri Raghunath Singh) to put questions, but this hon. Member got up on his own and went on speaking. He did not even care to catch my eye. I therefore order that all he has stated will be expunged from the record. He ought not to have spoken without being called by me. Only yesterday, I had said that such a practice was not right. There is no other course open except

\*\*Expunged, as ordered by the Chair.

[Mr. Speaker]

to expunge such remarks, if an hon. Member gets up and goes on making a speech before I allow him to do so.

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** May I make a submission?

**Mr. Speaker:** Even the original submission was wrong; further submissions will be "wronger" still!

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** There is nothing unparliamentary or undignified in what I said.

**Mr. Speaker:** But he spoke without being called by the Chair. If that is allowed, how are we to carry on the proceedings? There is one rule (Rule 389) at the end of the Rules of Procedure empowering the Chair to regulate the proceedings of the House. How can anyone occupying the Chair regulate the proceedings if hon. Members speak without permission? If the hon. Member gets sufficiently strong in his party, may be one day he may occupy the Chair. Whoever may occupy the Chair, unless the Chair calls on an hon. Member, no hon. Member ought to speak. If one hon. Member goes on speaking, a number of other hon. Members will also go on speaking, and the Chair will have no control over the proceedings. The Chair cannot see whether what is spoken is relevant or irrelevant if all the 500 hon. Members can speak at a time. I think the hon. Member should consider calmly and coolly whether he would advise anybody, including a member of his own Group, to do like this.

We shall now go on to the next item.—**Shri Morarji Desai.**

12.09 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (No. 5) BILL\*

**The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai):** Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1960-61.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1960-61."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Shri Morarji Desai:** I introduce the Bill.

RE: INDIAN POST OFFICE  
(AMENDMENT) BILL

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan):** Sir, I want to make one request that item No. 4 on the Order Paper may be taken up before item No. 3 on the Order Paper. My hon. friend has consented to it and if the House would agree, it can be taken up now....

**Mr. Speaker:** I think the other Bill is not a part-heard Bill. Both these are small Bills. The hon. Minister may move his Bill first.

**Dr. P. Subbarayan:** Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Post Office Act, 1898, be taken into consideration."

Sir, this is a short Bill to introduce the metric system... (Interruptions.)

**Shri Tangamani (Madurai):** Sir, we are not prepared for that Bill because it was expected that the Bill in item No. 3 will go for the rest of the day. Originally it was to be referred to the Select Committee and the time given was 3 hours. If it is not to be referred to the Select Committee, the time may be extended. There was no possibility of item No. 4 being reached today itself. Therefore, Sir, it will not be fair if you allow that item to be taken up now.

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†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.