

[Mr. Chairman]

Sinha, Shri Shraddhakar Supakar,
Shri Missula Suryanarayana-
murti, Shri Ramsingh Bhai
Verma, Shri Gulzarilal Nanda;
and

15 members from Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee;

that the Committee shall make a report to this House by the first day of the next Session;

that in other respects the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees will apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

that this House recommends to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee."

The motion was adopted.

15.41 hrs.

TRIPURA MUNICIPAL LAW
(REPEAL) BILL

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the repeal of the municipal law in force in the Union territory of Tripura be taken into consideration."

The Bill is a simple one. I should like to share with the House the background of this Bill in brief. As the House knows, the Tripura Municipal Act, 1349 T.E. (1939) under which the Agartala Municipal Committee has been constituted was enacted during the ex-Maharaja's regime. At the time the Tripura Municipal Act was enacted, Agartala, the chief town of the State (now Union Territory) was a small one. Since then there has been a great

change. The population has increased considerably, business has expanded and the town is fast developing. The Tripura Municipal Act which is now in force does not meet the requirements of a modern municipal town.

The powers of taxation under the Tripura Municipal Act are extremely limited and the method of valuation of holdings is defective. There is not even an adequate provision in the Act for levy of taxes for street lighting and for water-supply, etc. The Act also does not empower the Agartala Municipal Committee to exercise its functions like the removal of encroachments on Municipal land.

The Agartala Municipal Committee is not self-supporting. With its present income, the Municipal Committee cannot balance its budget and its condition may be said to be precarious from the financial point of view. The Municipal Committee receives subvention from the Central Government.

The inhabitants of the town have been agitating for a long time for the introduction of a more progressive municipal legislation, as the existing Municipal Act is insufficient and confusing in respect of election matters. All the Commissioners of Agartala Municipal Committee resigned *en bloc* a few years ago and since then the administration of the Committee was taken over by the Chief Commissioner, Tripura.

In view of the above circumstances, it is considered desirable to replace that Act by extending the Bengal Municipal Act, 1932 (Bengal Act XV of 1932), which is more exhaustive than the present Act.

Under Section 2 of the Union Territories (Laws) Act, 1950, an enactment in force in a State may be extended to the Union Territory by notification, but the corresponding law in force in the Union Territory cannot be so repealed. Hence the Bill which provides that on the day

on which the Bengal Municipal Act, 1932, is extended to Tripura, the Tripura State Municipal Act, 1349 T.E. shall stand repealed.

This is the brief background of the Bill. There is no controversy about it and I hope the House may be in a position to accept it without much discussion.

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the repeal of the municipal law in force in the Union territory of Tripura be taken into consideration."

I see no Member standing and wanting to speak. I shall put the question. The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the repeal of the municipal law in force in the Union territory of Tripura be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: We shall now take the Bill clause by clause. As there are no amendments, I shall put all the clauses together.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3, clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3, clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

Shri Karmarkar: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

Shri Karmarkar: I am grateful to the House.

15.46 hrs.

[SHRI MULCHAND DUBE in the Chair]

RELIGIOUS TRUSTS BILL

The Deputy Minister of Law (Shri Hajarnavis): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the better supervision and administration of certain religious trusts, be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of 45 members; 30 from this House"

I shall give the names later on

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): On a point of order. Is it the procedure that the names of the members of the Joint Committee which is going to be appointed can be given to the House later on?

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara): The motion cannot be complete without the names.

Mr. Chairman: They will be given in due course.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: What is the ruling?

Mr. Chairman: They will be coming in due course.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: The motion cannot be complete without the names.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Hissar): The motion is not complete unless the names are given. The names are to be read out.

Mr. Chairman: They will come in a short time, before he finishes.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: There cannot be any motion without the names.

Mr. Chairman: Before the speech ends, the names will be there.

Shri Hajarnavis: ". . . . and 15 members from Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee,