

12.07 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

STATEMENTS SHOWING ACTION TAKEN BY
GOVERNMENT ON VARIOUS ASSURANCES
ETC.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to lay on the Table the following statements showing the action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during the various sessions of Second Lok Sabha:

(1) Supplementary Statement No. VI—Thirteenth Session, 1961. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 15].

(2) Supplementary Statement No. VII—Twelfth Session, 1960. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 16].

(3) Supplementary Statement No. XI—Eleventh Session, 1960. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 17].

(4) Supplementary Statement No. XVI—Tenth Session, 1960. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 18].

(5) Supplementary Statement No. XXIV—Seventh Session, 1959. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 19].

12.08 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House for the week commencing 4th September, 1961, will consist of—

(1) Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.

(2) Consideration and passing of—

The Sugarcane Cess (Validation) Bill, 1961,

The Delhi Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 1961,

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The Apprentices Bill, 1961,

The Deposit Insurance Corporation Bill, 1961.

(3) Further consideration and passing of the Maternity Benefit Bill, 1960, as reported by the Joint Committee

(4) Consideration and passing of—

The Foreign Awards (Recognition and Enforcement) Bill, 1961, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

The Indian Standards Institution (Certification Marks) Amendment Bill, 1961, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

The Assam Municipal (Manipur Amendment) Bill, 1961.

(5) Consideration of motions for modification of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960, given notice of by Shri Vidya Charan Shukla, on Wednesday, the 6th September, at 3 P.M.

(6) Discussion on the production and supply of coal in the country on a motion to be moved by Shri Ram Krishan Gupta and others, on Thursday, the 7th September, at 4 p.m.

Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi): May I know what has happened to the Banaras Hindu University (Amendment) Bill? It was introduced towards the beginning of this Session, and an assurance was given that the Bill would be passed in this Session.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: That Bill will be taken up in the next Session. The Aligarh Muslim University Bill is also being prepared, and we shall have both the Bills simultaneously.

Shrimati Bena Chakravartty (Basirhat): May I know what has happened to the very important discussion on Britain's entry into the European Com-

[Shrimati Renu Chakravartty]

mon Market, which was to have been included in next week's agenda?

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I had consultations with the Finance Minister with regard to this discussion. He said that he had already placed a detailed statement before this House and also the other House, and he is of the opinion that no useful purpose will be served at present by discussing it, because he has nothing more to add to what he has already said. In the other House also, hon. Members made the same demand, and I explained the position there also. I would again talk to the Finance Minister, but he is definitely of the opinion that during this Session, no useful purpose will be served by having the discussion, because he has nothing more to add to what he has already placed before the House.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: The point which this House wants to make is that there is perturbation felt in almost all sections of our country regarding the European Common Market. It is up to the Finance Minister to reply to all the points and to convey to the outside world, specially Great Britain and other countries of the Commonwealth, the feelings of this country on this matter. This has been debated in the Australian Parliament. Why is it that we cannot discuss it here?

Shri Raghunath Singh: In all Commonwealth Parliaments, this question was debated. It was debated in Canada, Australia—everywhere. So why should we not discuss the European Common Market here. It is the main question, burning question, at present in the international commercial world.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: The other House has also expressed this desire. Again I am going to contact the Finance Minister and will convey to him the desire of hon. Members.

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): So far as this

question is concerned, at present the matter is between the UK Government and the European Common Market. They will open negotiations sometime in October. We will be consulted at every stage. But just now we are out of court; we do not know what will be the level at which the negotiations will be held, what will be the outcome, what our point of view will be. We do not know anything. So at this stage, any discussion will not be fruitful or useful (*Interruptions*).

Shri Raghunath Singh: What are the views of the Government of India in this connection?

Mr. Speaker: There is a volume of opinion in favour of having a discussion here. The hon. Minister need not commit himself. He thinks that such a course will embarrass him. But he will have an opportunity of hearing various views so that when further negotiations are carried on, he could bear these views in mind, instead of bringing it before the House as a settled fact. I understand—subject to correction—that this matter was discussed even in the House of Commons.

Shri Raghunath Singh: Yes, in Canada and Australia also.

Mr. Speaker: They have considered how far it will affect their relations with other Commonwealth countries. From what I gather, all the Commonwealth countries have got some views on this matter. Why should we withhold a discussion on this matter? I shall allow a discussion on this matter next week. This may be intimated to the hon. Finance Minister. He may initiate the debate himself or, if he does not want to do so, I will ask some hon. Member to initiate the discussion.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): There is a Motion.

Mr. Speaker: By whom?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I think by Shri Naushir Bharucha.

Shri B. Das Gupta (Purulia): There is another important matter which should be discussed.

Mr. Speaker: The House may discuss it for two or three hours. The hon. Minister need not commit himself. He may take the views of the Members into account and then carry on negotiations.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: What about the reply?

Mr. Speaker: He need not reply. Who ever forces him to say anything?

Shri B. Das Gupta: I am referring to a discussion on the Report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities. Since last session, Government has brought a Motion on it.

Mr. Speaker: We have already got two Motions. He must know the temper of the House. Are we prepared to sit almost every day till 6 or 7 P.M.? There are two Motions now—one relating to the modification of the Mineral Rules and the other relating to the ECM. Let us see if the Motion regarding the Report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities can be brought up next time.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: We should see if we cannot squeeze in this discussion regarding the Report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities also, because the Home Minister and the Prime Minister have also suggested that this matter should be discussed on the basis of linguistic minorities. I think it is a very important question and if at all it is possible for the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to arrange some time for it, it should be done.

Mr. Speaker: The Modification of the Mineral Rules is part of the official business. I have said that I will allow two discussions every week. If it is possible, I will urge upon the hon. Home Minister to agree to have a discussion on the Report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities also.

There is no meaning in putting it off till eternity.

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Laj Bahadur Shastri): I have no objection to a discussion.

Mr. Speaker: I will fix it up.

The two Motions for next week will be one relating to the E.C.M. and the other relating to linguistic minorities.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta (Mahendragarh): What about my Motion about supply of coal?

Mr. Speaker: It was announced just now. It will come. We will have three.

The House must be prepared to sit late. What happens is that I alone remain and there is want of quorum.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I have already provided for two no-day-yet-named Motions next week. If, as you have suggested, we should have a discussion on the European Common Market and the Report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities, that means that those Motions will be substituted by these two. We cannot have four, unless the House is prepared to sit till 8 P.M. every day. (*Interruptions*). Either you have the two I have promised or have the other two Motions you have agreed to in place of those Motions.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): Which are the two?

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: The two I have promised are the Motion about Mineral Concession Rules and that regarding coal. These may be substituted by the other two. I have no objection.

Mr. Speaker: That is why I asked the hon. Minister if the Motion to modify the Mineral Concession Rules is not part of official work. It is the statutory privilege of any Member to seek to modify these rules. If the

[Mr. Speaker]

modifications are accepted, the rules stand amended accordingly. Therefore, I do not treat it as a discussion apart from official work. Therefore, the discussion on coal alone remains. Because we are concluding the Session on the 8th and all these things are important, we should discuss them before we disperse.

This morning I was saying that I would constitute a Committee of Parliament to investigate this and make suggestions to the hon. Minister from time to time. The discussion regarding coal is very important and if that discussion takes place, the matter will be more or less settled. Therefore, let us stretch a point. Instead of two discussions, let us have three next week. There will be no harm done. I shall try to dispose of all the official business. I will give preference to that and then in addition, we shall have the other discussions. But hon. Members must be prepared to sit late, even till 8 p.m. if necessary (Interruptions). All these three Motions will be taken up next week.

Dr. M. S. Aney (Nagpur): Are we sitting everyday till 8 P.M. next week?

Mr. Speaker: Why only upto 8 P.M.? Upto 12 O'clock also, if necessary.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: As I have said, I have no objection to a discussion being held on the Report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities. But if you like, and the House so likes, it will be better to have it in the November Session because before that we are going to have a National Convention also. We have recently had the Chief Ministers' Conference and we are going to discuss this in the National Convention in which the different parties will be represented. It would be better for the House to discuss it after we have discussed it in the National Convention, but, as I said, I am willing to have it discussed even now, if you so like.

Mr. Speaker: It is all right.

Shri B. Das Gupta: It will be better to discuss it here before the National Convention, because it will help the discussion at the National Convention.

Mr. Speaker: There is much force in what the hon. Home Minister has said. In all our discussions, the rules provide only a couple of hours or at the most half an hour more. Hon. Members have not been satisfied with this allocation of time. They have not been satisfied with regard to the time allotted for discussion of the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and backward classes. These are the other minorities and I believe hon. Members would like to have at least five hours to discuss that Report.

Some Hon. Members: Yes, yes.

Mr. Speaker: There are various minorities, linguistic, racial and others. We shall devote a full day for it after the Minister has considered this matter.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: I think hon. Members will not lose anything by that.

Shri B. Das Gupta rose—

Mr. Speaker: I shall bear this in mind and call the hon. Member first next Session when it is discussed.

12.19 hrs.

SUGARCANE CESS (VALIDATION) BILL*

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. K. Bhagat): On behalf of Shri Morarji Desai, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to validate the imposition and collection of cesses on sugarcane under certain State Acts and to amend the U.P. Sugarcane Cess (Validation) Act, 1961.

*Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II—Section 2, dated. 1-9-1961.