

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: With your permission, Sir, may I inform this House that Government business for the week commencing Monday, the 26th August will consist of the following legislative items:—

1. The Finance Bill.
2. The Wealth-Tax Bill, as reported by the Select Committee.
3. The Railway Passenger Fares Bill.
4. The Foreign Exchange Regulation (Amendment) Bill.
5. The Insurance (Amendment) Bill.
6. The Inter-State Corporations Bill.
7. The Dhoties (Additional Excise Duty) Amendment Bill.
8. The Cotton Fabrics (Additional Excise Duty) Bill.
9. The Expenditure-tax Bill.

I would also like to announce at this stage that a debate on foreign affairs will be held in this House on 2nd September on a motion to be moved by the Prime Minister.

*DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—contd.

MINISTRY OF FINANCE—contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion of the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Finance. Out of 6 hours allotted for the Demands of this Ministry, 1 hour and 45 minutes have already been availed of and 4 hours and 15 minutes now remain. Now it is 12.15. So, it comes to 4.30.

The list of cut motions moved on the 23rd August relating to the Demands of this Ministry has already been circulated to hon. Members.

When shall I call the Minister to reply and how much time does he want?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): It depends very largely on what points hon. Members put forward. I may require round about an hour. It may be the cut short if hon. Members do not say much, requiring a detailed reply.

Mr. Speaker: At 5 o'clock all the other Demands that remain will have to be disposed of. Between 4.30 and 5, we have half an hour. I will call upon the hon. Minister to reply at 4 o'clock. He can go on till 5. The discussion by Members will go on till 4. We will extend it by half an hour.

Shri Shankaraiya, who was on his legs, may continue.

Shri Shankaraiya (Mysore): Yesterday, I was pointing out how these tax evaders have imbibed a spirit of confidence and are bent upon evading the taxes that have been imposed by this House. I have brought to the notice of the House instances of income-tax evasion and also of sales-tax. Similar is the case with regard to the customs duty.

There has been a good deal of evasion and a good deal of smuggling and several times, the matters have been discussed on the floor of the House. So also with regard to the excise duties. If I may be permitted to say so, evasion has been more rampant in the payment of excise duty than in any other case. They have been very successful from the very beginning and they have been doing it I can give instances more and more, but it would be only taking the time of the House, because it is within the knowledge of the House as to what are the taxes in respect of which evasions are taking place on a large scale. My submission is that the Government should take severe steps to see that this evasion mentality is put down, that the money due to the Government is realised and that amount is utilised for development purposes.

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.