

the responsibility of the Administrator.

The important point is the participation of the people's representatives in the administration of the transferred subjects and departments. The point to consider is if there could be a set-up which would be responsible to the Territorial Council and also do executive work. This may be done by setting up an executive committee in each territory with the Chairman of the Territorial Council at the head to discharge the executive functions of the Territorial Councils; but this is a point that will have to be examined more carefully.

As I have already stated, with the repeal of the old article 240 of the Constitution, which empowered Parliament to create legislatures in Part C States, it is not possible to establish in the Union territories legislatures with legislative powers which vested in the legislatures of the old Part C States. We might, however, examine whether the Territorial Council could in a formal way advise the Government of India on subjects and matters pertaining to legislation in the State field.

All these matters raise a number of issues, legal, financial, administrative and others and before we come to a final conclusion, it would be advisable to give the whole matter full thought and expert consideration. For this reason, Government consider it necessary to appoint an official Committee with the Law Minister as Chairman to examine all the issues which might arise in this connection and submit their report to Government soon.

Government are anxious that the new changes should be effected at the earliest so that the newly elected representatives after the General Elections get the fullest opportunity to take on their added responsibilities and work out the new scheme.

I hope that these proposals will be accepted in the best spirit. What is important is not name and form, but

the substance. What Government have proposed will give power and authority as also active participation in the running of a wide field of administration and development, subject only to the superintendence and control of the President. I would appeal to the people and the leaders of the Union Territories to lend their full co-operation in the steps indicated above.

Shri Dasaratha Deb (Tripura): Sir, the demand of our people is that the existing Chief Commissioner's regime should be replaced by a responsible form of government, that is, by a full-fledged legislative assembly. Some such type of administration should be established. That was the assurance given earlier by the hon. Home Minister himself as also by the hon. Prime Minister. I want to know the reason why Government has now retreated from its earlier statement. I may also tell the House that our people will not be satisfied by simply transferring power to the Territorial Council.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am not going to allow it. **Shri Jaganatha Rao.**

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Ferozabad): Sir, could I seek a clarification? The hon. Home Minister has said that the Government is going to appoint a committee. Who are the other members of that committee?

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow any discussion on the statement (Interruption). **Shri Jaganatha Rao.**

RELIGIOUS TRUSTS BILL

REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE

Shri Jaganatha Rao (Koraput): Sir, I beg to move that the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill to provide for the better supervision and administration of certain religious trusts, be further extended upto the 31st March, 1962.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): Sir, before you put the motion to vote, may I make a submission? Is it not a fact that the Report of the Joint Committee will have to be presented to the House when the House is in session? If so, will it not be proper if it is indicated that the time may be extended till the last day of the next session? I say this because there is a likelihood that the next session before Parliament is dissolved may not last till the 31st March, 1962. That is the doubt I had.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): Then the Bill will die its natural death.

Mr. Speaker: All that the hon. Member says is that, if it is intended to present the Report at all, we may not sit till the 31st March, 1962 and, therefore, we may amend the motion to say 'till the last day of the next session'. I leave it to him.

Shri Jaganatha Rao: The Joint Committee felt that it should proceed with the Bill only after the submission of the report of the C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar Committee. We have not yet got the report. If, in the meanwhile, the report is received, the Joint Committee will certainly dispose of the matter and we will place the Report of the Committee on the Table of the House even before 31st March. I am only taking the later date.

Mr. Speaker: In either case, there is no chance.

The question is:

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill to provide for the better supervision and administration of certain religious trusts, be further extended upto the 31st March, 1962."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up the next item. The hon. Prime Minister.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Ferozabad): Sir, before you proceed with that, could I just ask this? Who are the other members of the Committee which the hon. Home Minister has announced to appoint for examining whether any other subjects could be transferred to the Territorial Councils? There is much dissatisfaction in the Union territories people.

Mr. Speaker: He can ascertain that from him. Hon. Ministers are not far away from us.

12.24 hrs.

MOTION RE: INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we had recently been discussing in this House a very important aspect of our foreign policy and foreign commitments. Today I beg to move:

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

I shall endeavour, briefly I hope, to deal with some other matters, some of the aspects of the international situation and our policy in regard to it.

Since I spoke in this House on foreign affairs a number of developments have taken place. I attended the Belgrade Conference. Later I paid a brief visit to Moscow and met the leaders of the Soviet Union Government there. Recently I have been to the United States and met the President of the United States and had talks with him. Later I went to Mexico. The Prime Minister of Japan visited India and we had helpful talks with him. Only today the President of the Republic of Argentina left Delhi after a brief stay here.