

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Why are they not available?

Mr. Speaker: What is the difficulty? We are now in December. Eight months are over.

Shri Humayun Kabir: Reports come to us from the Auditor General. At that stage we lay it on the Table of the House. If questions are put, I shall answer why there is delay.

Mr. Speaker: I will ask the Office to write to the Auditor-General and find out why there is delay.

AMENDMENTS TO REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS RULES, 1960.

The Deputy Minister of Law (Shri Hajarnavis): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. S.O. 2791 dated the 24th November, 1961 making certain amendments to the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960, under sub-section (3) of section 28 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950. [Placed in Library See No. LT-3397/61].

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Ferozabad): Mr. Speaker, these rules were published on 24-11-61. At the fag end of the session, we find that they are being placed on the Table of the House. If we want to look into the rules or move any amendments, we have no opportunity. This is something important concerning the next general election. Why were they not placed earlier in the Table of the House so that we could have an opportunity to move any amendments if we so wished?

Mr. Speaker: Twenty-fourth of November: even then, would there be time?

Shri Hajarnavis: I do not think there has been such a delay.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: We do not have an opportunity to move any amendments.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: They should have been placed on the 24th of November.

Mr. Speaker: Particularly in view of the coming election, there being no opportunity to discuss these rules, I think, on the 24th itself it should have been placed on the Table of the House. We will have 6 plus 14 days, which is the time allowed under the rules. Even now, I have no objection. Hon. Members may look into it.

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): These rules were framed in consultation with all the parties, after several consultations with representatives of the different parties.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: What of that?

Shri A. K. Sen: The reason why I mention this is because of the fact that at that time, if any suggestion had been made by the different parties, the Chief Election Commissioner would have certainly paid attention to them. I mention this fact in order to show that there was more or less no controversy over these rules.

Mr. Speaker: Are not these rules placed on the Table of the House under an obligation imposed by the Act?

Shri A. K. Sen: Of course. I am not saying that they are not to be placed or that amendments are not to be moved. I am not saying that at all. But since the point was raised that they would not have enough time to move amendments...

Mr. Speaker: Their point is that they would not have the opportunity of tabling amendments now.

Shri A. K. Sen: Of course, they have.

Mr. Speaker: They would not have fourteen days' time for the purpose.

Shri Prabhat Kar (Hooghly): We are adjourning on the 8th December, 1961.

Mr. Speaker: Under the rules, hon. Members are entitled to have fourteen days' time, and within that

period, they can study the rules and table amendments.

Shri A. K. Sen: What I am saying is that Parliament is rising only on the 8th instant, and hon. Members have still time to table amendments.

Mr. Speaker: But they would not have fourteen days.

Shri A. K. Sen: These rules were published long ago. No doubt, they are being placed on the Table of the House only now.

Mr. Speaker: They must be placed on the Table of the House immediately so that hon. Members may have fourteen days to look into the matter and then table amendments.

Shri A. K. Sen: They can table amendments even now. That is what I am saying.

Mr. Speaker: But they do not have fourteen days.

Shri A. K. Sen: We shall waive all notice.

Shri Ranga (Tenali): The hon. Minister may waive. But should we also not agree?

Mr. Speaker: Anyhow, hon. Members can make the best out of the situation. They may table amendments, and if necessary, we shall have some time to discuss them.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I was one of those who represented my party at the meeting convened by the Chief Election Commissioner. The suggestions which we had made there were not acceptable to the Chief Election Commissioner, but we may move amendments here and get them accepted by the House. To say that we had not suggested amendments there is not quite true.

Shri A. K. Sen: That is what I am saying. Hon. Members know what the point is, and they can move amendments even now. Fourteen days are

not necessary to study the rules, when hon. Members know what the point is, and, therefore, there are capable of moving amendments even now.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: What was the difficulty in placing these rules before the House earlier?

Mr. Speaker: Whatever be the period for which the rules laid on the Table must be before the House, hon. Members have still got time; let them table amendments. Let us see; if they are of a serious nature, and the hon. Minister does not accept them, then they may certainly be discussed.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khadesh): Why should we be hustled?

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Otherwise, will the rules remain as they are?

Mr. Speaker: What is the other way then? Either hon. Members may keep quiet, or the only other course is to table amendments today. Either they should table amendments or they should allow the rules to become operative.

ANNUAL REPORT OF FILM FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED AND REVIEW BY GOVERNMENT OF WORKING THEREOF

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers:—

- (i) Annual Report of the Film Finance Corporation Limited, Bombay, for the period from the 25th March, 1960 to 31st March, 1961, along with the Audit Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor-General thereon, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956.
- (ii) Review by the Government of the working of the above Corporation.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3398/01].