

[Shri B. R. Bhagat]

The Central Sales Tax Act, 1956, provides for the levy, collection and distribution of tax on the sale of goods in the case of inter-State trade or commerce. The Sixth amendment to the Constitution which empowered the Central Government to legislate in regard to taxes on the sale or purchase of goods other than newspapers where such sale or purchase takes place in the course of inter-State trade or commerce, had not been applied to the State of Jammu and Kashmir when the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956, was enacted. This has since been done by the Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Amendment Order, 1958. It is now proposed to extend the Act to Jammu and Kashmir State. With these words, I move.

Mr. Speaker: Are there any amendments?

Shri B. B. Bhagat: There are no amendments.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Central Sales Act, 1956, be taken into consideration"

The motion was adopted

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): No Member from Kashmir is present

Mr. Speaker: There are no amendments to the clauses.

The question is:

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

The motion was adopted.

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

Shri B. B. Bhagat: I beg to move:
"That the Bill be passed".

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members wanted an hour in the Business Advisory Committee. No hon. Member evidently....

Shri Thakur Das Malhotra (Jammu and Kashmir) rose—

An Hon. Member: He could not catch your eye.

Shri Thakur Das Malhotra: I stood up.

Mr. Speaker: When?

Shri Thakur Das Malhotra: At the third reading.

Mr. Speaker: I have finished it off. I looked round immediately after I put the motion to the House. I would have certainly called the hon. Member. I am so sorry.

MOTION REGARDING SUSPENSION OF FIRST PROVISO TO RULE 74

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): I beg to move:

"That the first proviso to Rule 74 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the motion for reference of the Merchant Shipping Bill, 1958, to a Joint Committee of the Houses be suspended."

Mr. Speaker: What is the need for this?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: As it is a financial Bill, and we propose to appoint a Joint Committee, the suspension of the rule is necessary. Hence this motion.

Shri Mohiuddin (Secunderabad): What is the justification for appointing a Joint Committee? Can it not be dealt with by a Select Committee of this House?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Am I to answer that?

Mr. Speaker: It is not in every case that there ought to be a joint committee of both the Houses.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Not in every case. This is a very big measure, a comprehensive and long one, and this Bill has to be discussed in the other House also. If Members of both the Houses are on the Joint Committee, and the Members of the other House have also gone through the Bill clause by clause in the Joint Committee, it would facilitate discussion there also.

Mr. Speaker: The Financial Memorandum has been given. It is a very big Bill. If it is referred to a Select Committee once again there, it will take a lot of time. Both of them may sit together, and after all, the same Ministers have to sit.

The question is:

"That the first proviso to Rule 74 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the motion for reference of the Merchant Shipping Bill, 1958, to a Joint Committee of the Houses be suspended."

The motion was adopted.

MERCHANT SHIPPING BILL

MOTION TO REFER TO JOINT COMMITTEE

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to merchant shipping, be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of 45 members; 30 from this House, namely, Shri Upendranath Barman, Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri, Shri Liladhar Koteki, Shri S. Omani Ali Khan, Shri Harish Chandra Mathur, Shri Anirudha Sinha, Shri Ram Dhani Das, Shri Ghanshyamlal Oza, Shri Raghunath Singh, Shri Nardeo

Snatak, Shri Tekur Subrahman-yam, Shri K. P. Kuttikrishnan Nair, Shri K. Periaswami Gounder, Shri Dinesh Pratap Singh, Shri Mool Chand Jain, Dr. Y. S. Parmar, Shri N. M. Wadiwa, Shri Radha Raman, Bakshi Abdul Rashid, Shri Shivram Rango Rane, Shri Raj Bahadur, Shri Hirendra Nath Mukerjee, Shri K.T.K. Tangamani, Shri Rajendra Singh, Shri Nath Pai, Shri Ram Sewak Yadav, Shri S. A. Matin, Shri Aurobindo Ghosal, Shri Badakumar Pratap Ganga Deb Bamra and the Mover, 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."

Hon. Members would have already seen the provisions of the Bill and the annexed memoranda and also the Statement of Objects and Reasons.

"The revision of the Merchant Shipping law in India has had a long history, but I shall not go into that. It would, however, be interesting to know that we are still being governed by the British Act, and our ships registered under the same law. It was obvious that with the advent of Independence we should have taken up the revision of the Merchant Shipping laws at the earliest. It was inconsistent with the new position of India as a Republic to allow her ships to be