

Nehru Given Leave To Introduce Bill

CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT

NEW DELHI, December 16. THE Lok Sabha today gave leave to the Prime Minister, Mr. Nehru, to introduce the Constitution (Ninth Amendment) Bill by 160 votes to 46.

The Bill seeks to give effect to the transfer of certain territories to Pakistan in pursuance of the Nehru-Noon agreement.

A point of order raised by Prof. Hiren Mukerjee that the Bill was vitiated 'ab initio', because it did not comply with the requirements of Article 3 of the Constitution, was rejected by the Speaker, Mr. Ayyangar.

The objection raised by Mr. T. J. K. Kumar Chaudhuri (RSP—West Bengal) that the Bill was vague and, therefore, it should not be introduced was rejected by the House.

CONDITIONS FULFILLED

Mr. Nehru said that all the conditions laid down in Article 3 of the Constitution had been fulfilled. The objection raised by Mr. Mukerjee that the West Bengal Legislative Council had not expressed its views on the Bill was not valid. All that was required was that the State Legislature should be given an opportunity to consider the Bill. That opportunity had been given. The time given to the State Legislature to consider the Bill should expire before it was introduced in Parliament. That stipulation had also been complied with as the extended date for the West Bengal Legislature to consider the Bill was December 15.

About the objection raised by Mr. Mukerjee to the date—December 12—put in the objects and reasons of the Bill, Mr. Nehru said that he was prepared to correct it as December 16. Explaining why December 12 had been put, Mr. Nehru said that the Bill had to be printed so that it could be circulated to members in advance.

Rejecting Mr. Mukerjee's point of order, the Speaker said that the conditions laid down under Article 3 of the Constitution for the introduction of the Bill in Parliament had been complied with. The objection to the date was purely a technical one. Inasmuch as the Prime Minister had agreed to correct the date, he said, there was no point of order.

POINTS OF ORDER

Before the Prime Minister asked for leave to introduce the Bill, both Mr. Mukerjee and Mr. T. K. Chaudhuri wanted to raise points of order. The Deputy Speaker, Sardar Hukam Singh, who was in the chair, ruled that points of order could not be raised in a vacuum. After the Prime Minister had moved his motion asking for leave to introduce the Bill, the members might raise their points of order.

After the Prime Minister had asked for leave to introduce the Bill, Mr. Mukerjee raised a point of order. He contended that the Bill which the Prime Minister sought to introduce was vitiated under the terms of the Constitution on account of "certain defaults" which had taken place.

ARTICLE REFERRED TO

Mr. Mukerjee referred to Article 168 which defined a State Legislature (in certain States like West Bengal the legislature consists of two Houses) and said that as far as he knew the legislatures of Assam, the Punjab, and West Bengal had not expressed their views in regard to this Bill and he was astonished that on December 12 such a statement (that these legislatures have expressed their views) was made by the Prime Minister.

While he could not associate the Prime Minister with prevarication, his advisers seemed to be astonishing people. It had been reported in the press that the Chairman of the West Bengal Legislative Council told reporters that he thought that the resolution on the Acquired Territories Merger Bill had been placed before the House though it did not have an opportunity to express its opinion on it.

On December 12, Mr. Mukerjee added, the Chief Minister of West Bengal, Dr. B. C. Roy, was reported to have told the Legislative Assembly that he intended to bring the Bill before the Council on December 13. But in the statement of objects and reasons of the Bill dated December 12 it was stated that the legislatures of Assam, the Punjab and West Bengal had expressed their views. This was not true, he said.

MARKING SYSTEM OF VOTING Motion Withdrawn

NEW DELHI, December 16: The resolution sponsored by Mr. B. Mishra seeking the abandonment of the marking system of voting, proposed to be tried on a wide scale during the next general elections, was withdrawn in the Lok Sabha today after the Law Minister, Mr. A. K. Sen, had suggested to the House that the matter should be left to the Executive Council of Ministers.

Mr. K. K. Warrier (Communist) next moved his resolution proposing an increase in the rate of contribution under the Coal Mines Provident Fund Scheme from 6-1/4 per cent. to 8-1/2 per cent.

The House then adjourned till Monday.—P.T.I.

Unsuccessful Bid By Mr. Gupta

ALLEGED BREACH OF PRIVILEGES

NEW DELHI, December 16: The Communist leader, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, unsuccessfully raised in the Rajya Sabha today what he termed a breach of privileges of the House in that the Constitution (Ninth Amendment) Bill and the Acquired Territories Merger Bill had not been circulated among the members of the House. Copies of the Bill, he said, had been circulated yesterday among the members of the Lok Sabha and had earlier been circulated among the members of the legislatures of Punjab, Assam and West Bengal.

The Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Mr. Satyanarain Sinha, however, pointed out that the Bill was scheduled to be introduced in the Lok Sabha only today and had been circulated yesterday afternoon in accordance with the rules. It would be circulated here today, he added.

"WRONG FACTS"

Earlier, Mr. Gupta contended that the Acquired Territories Merger Bill also contained wrong facts in that the statement of objects and reasons claimed that the opinion of the West Bengal Legislature had been obtained, whereas the Council had adjourned yesterday without expressing an opinion.

Flourishing the copy of the Bill he asked the Chairman, "should we go about begging for copies from the members of the other House?"

Dr. Radhakrishnan: Where did you get it?

Mr. Gupta: From a member of the other House.

Dr. Radhakrishnan: So you have already gone begging.—P.T.I.

General Insurance

NEW DELHI, December 16: A non-official resolution urging nationalisation of general insurance was rejected by the Lok Sabha today by a voice vote.

The resolution, moved by Mr. T. B. Vittal Rao (Communist), had been debated on a non-official day a fortnight ago.—P.T.I.

Practice Of Ayurveda

NADIAD, December 16: Pandit Shiv Sharma, chief guest at the fourth Shuddha Ayurveda Sammelan, here, today deplored the "tardy" manner in which some State Governments had behaved in the matter of the propagation of Ayurveda.

Even near-unanimous decisions regarding the practice of Ayurveda among vaidyas from different parts of the country, were not given effect to, he said.

Pandit Shiv Sharma paid tributes to Dr. Jyraj Mehta who, he said, acted with fairness towards the system in his official capacity.

REFINERY IN GUJARAT

Minister Assures Rajya Sabha

NEW DELHI, December 16: Mr. K. D. Malaviya, Minister for Oil, described as "unfair and unjustified" allegations made by two Opposition members in the Rajya Sabha today that the Government's oil exploration work in Gujarat was slow and that its policy in regard to setting up a refinery there was "equivocal".

Mr. Malaviya was speaking on a resolution moved categorically said that "there will be a refinery in Gujarat in the public sector with a capacity of one to two million tons. To this end preparations are already going on".

The House rejected by a voice vote the resolution, moved by Mr. Dahanu Patel (Swatantra-Gujarat) calling for a Parliamentary Committee to inquire into the working of oil exploration in Gujarat.

Turning down the demand for probe by a Parliamentary Committee, Mr. Malaviya said that a "propaganda" had been set afoot by "interested parties" that the Government was not looking after the interests of Gujarat. This was being done for "political purposes".

Mr. Malaviya reviewed the oil exploration work in Gujarat since the strike of oil in Lunj in September 1958 and said that in two years' time, "we have drilled about 15 to 16 wells and out of the total footage of drilling undertaken by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission, 70 per cent. is in Gujarat."—P.T.I.

SINDRI FACTORY Divergent Statements By Ministers

NEW DELHI, December 16: Divergent statements from the Treasury Bench led a Congress member to raise a point of order in the Lok Sabha today as to which of the statements was to be accepted by the House.

Replying to a question, Mr. Satish Chandra, Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry, said that the State-owned Sindri fertiliser factory was not making a profit at the present moment.

Later, his senior colleague, Mr. Manubhai Shah, told the House, in reply to another question, that Sindri had been making a profit and if the House wanted he would supply the cost of production.

Upon this, Mr. Ramanathan Chettiar (Cong.) raising a point of order, asked the chair as to which of the statements was to be taken as correct by the House.

Mr. Satish Chandra replied that whole confusion had arisen out of the current year's and previous year's accounts of the factory. The previous year's statement had already been laid on the table of the House. "So far as the current year is concerned," he said, "there are difficulties and Sindri is not making the profit it used to make." Accounts would come in due course.—P.T.I.

Tariff Bill Passed

NEW DELHI, December 16: The Lok Sabha today passed the Indian Tariff (Amendment) Bill relating to continuance or discontinuance of protection to certain industries on the advice of the Tariff Commission.

Among the major industries which will continue to receive protection under the amending Bill are cotton textile machinery, ball bearings, bicycle and piston assembly.—P.T.I.

Lok Sabha Questions:

NEW DELHI, December 16: The Lok Sabha today passed the Indian Tariff (Amendment) Bill relating to continuance or discontinuance of protection to certain industries on the advice of the Tariff Commission.

Among the major industries which will continue to receive protection under the amending Bill are cotton textile machinery, ball bearings, bicycle and piston assembly.—P.T.I.

Drought Affects Export Of Traditional Items

NEW DELHI, December 16. MR. Satish Chandra, Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry, said in the Lok Sabha today that the value of India's exports this year was expected to be "as good as last year's".

That, he said, was the position in spite of the fact that the export of the traditional items like tea, jute, cotton goods and oilseeds had been affected because of the drought conditions.

As regards tea, the target of export this year was 480 million pounds, but it was not likely to be achieved. He expected a shortfall of 48 million pounds in tea exports because of the drought conditions in some of tea-growing areas.

Mr. Satish Chandra, who was replying to Mr. P. C. Borooah, however, indicated that the value of tea exports this year would not be proportionately affected because tea prices were better this year than last year.

Mr. Satish Chandra told Mr. Indirji Gupta that efforts were being made constantly to find new markets for the export of jute and jute goods. Some new markets had been established in Africa.

House-building Advance: Central Government employees may get house-building advance up to Rs. 4,800 in arrears under the house-building advance calculated on the basis of 24 months' pay is less than that sum.

A decision to this effect on the basis of the recommendation of the second Pay Commission, has been taken, Mr. A. K. Chandra, Deputy Minister for Works, Housing and Supply, told Mr. Tangamani.

The advance would be paid provided the entire amount plus the interest thereon could be recovered partly by convenient monthly instalments from the salary of a Central Government employee and partly from any gratuity that might be admissible to him.

U. N. Map of Kashmir: No reply had yet been received from the United Nations Secretariat regarding the wrong delineation of Kashmir's position on the U.N. map. Mr. Sadath Ali Khan, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for External Affairs, told Mr. Ram Krishan Gupta.

He said that a further self-contained letter, inviting the Secretary-General's attention to earlier communications addressed to him on this subject and asking him for the rectification of specific maps and publications was sent to him on August 26, 1960. A reply was still awaited.

Indian Nationals In Goa: The Prime Minister, Mr. Nehru, in a written reply to Mr. Padam Dev said that 3,100 Indian nationals were "reported to be living" at present in Goa. He said that since the closure of the Indian Consulate in Goa in 1954, no accurate statistics were available.

He said that on an average 200 Indians, Goans and others crossed the India-Goa border every day. Statistics about Indians who had left Goa for India were not being maintained separately.

Alleged Smuggling Into China: Mr. Nehru denied that automobile parts were being smuggled into China through India.

The Prime Minister, who was answering questions, said that these things normally could go only through Nathula Pass and it was "incredible" that hundreds of automobile parts

No Previous Indication Of Nepal Happenings

SET-BACK TO DEMOCRATIC EXPERIMENT, FEELS NEHRU

NEW DELHI, December 16. MR. Nehru told the Lok Sabha today that while the Government of India did not have any previous indication of the latest events in Nepal, they did have "repeated intimation from some months past" that the King of Nepal was dissatisfied with the things there, and was contemplating some action.

"What the action would be or when it would be taken we did not know," he said.

Speaking on two adjournment motions brought up by Opposition members, Mr. Nehru said while it was not for him to criticise the action taken by the King of Nepal, "obviously, it is a matter of regret for all of us that the democratic experiment or practice going on there has suffered a set-back".

Mr. Nehru said that the Indian Army Chief of Staff, General Thimaya, who was in Kathmandu yesterday "had no intimation either that these things were going to happen".

The adjournment motions which were tabled by Mr. Indirji Gupta (Communist) and Mr. Braj Raj Singh (Socialist) referred to the dismissal of the Koirala Ministry by the King of Nepal and called for a statement from the Government on the repercussions of the developments on India.

SPEAKER'S VIEW

The Speaker said normally he would not have brought the motion before the House, but for the fact that Nepal was a neighbouring country and the developments there might have their own repercussions on India, particularly because it was on the northern border and because of the trouble India was having with China.

However the Speaker said he had not given consent to the motions.

Mr. Nehru at the outset objected to the matter being brought up through an adjournment motion. "If members were anxious to elicit any information, they had only to give a day's notice and he would too willingly furnish all that he possessed. The procedure for this was through short-note or other questions."

Coming to the contents of the motions, Mr. Nehru said it was not for him to criticise the actions that had been taken in Nepal. "But obviously it is a matter of regret for all of us that the democratic experiment or practice that was going on there should have suffered a set-back. That is all I can say about it," he said.

As regards the question about previous intimation, Mr. Nehru said the Government had no previous intimation about all that had happened yesterday. The very fact that some member had mentioned about the Indian Ambassador not being present in the Nepal capital at that time showed that the Government had no such intimation.

"While this is true, Mr. Nehru said, "it is also true that for some months past we had repeated intimation that the King of Nepal was dissatisfied with the things as they were there and that he might take some action."

"What kind of action or when it would be taken, we did not know. But we had certainly been feeling for some months past that something

INDIAN ENVOY TO NEPAL

When Mr. Braj Raj Singh suggested that the General should decline the honour in view of the King's action ending the democratic experiment in Nepal, Mr. Nehru remarked that the honour had already been conferred on him three days ago.

Mr. Joachim Alva (Cong.) said while he did not want to blame the Prime Minister or the Indian diplomat abroad for events in foreign countries, he could not help feeling that there was a "striking similarity" between the absence of the Indian Ambassador from Kathmandu and the absence of the Indian diplomat from Ankara during the coup d'etat in Turkey.

Mr. Nehru said the member was referring to incidents which had no relation to facts. The Indian Ambassador to Turkey was actually with him (Mr. Nehru) in Constantinople at that time. He had not gone away.

"It was a continuing process there (in Ankara)."

As regards Nepal, the Indian Ambassador had not gone far away from the capital. "It only shows (that the Indian Ambassador) did not know just as any of the (Nepali) Ministers concerned did not know," Mr. Nehru stated.

PRINCE OF BHAJANG

Earlier, at question time, Mr. Hem Barua (PSP) asked the Prime Minister whether the recent "pocket revolt" in the State of Bhajang in Western Nepal was part of the present coup through which "the kingship is trying to rehabilitate itself."

If that was so, he wanted to know whether the Government of India, by allowing the Prince Omjung of Bhajang to come to India, was not supporting reactionary forces.

Mr. Nehru said, "the hon'ble member in the course of one long sentence has made a number of insinuations about our Government and possibly about some others in Nepal. We have nothing to do with these matters except that the Prince came to India. He does not know how we did not issue any orders to stop him. He has gone to Bangalore. We do not know who sent him here, how he came and for what purpose."—P.T.I.

CALL TO PUBLIC TO CONTRIBUTE

Edwina Memorial Fund

By A Staff Reporter

The Governor of Maharashtra, Mr. Sri Prakash, appealed to the people on Friday to generously contribute to the Edwina Mountbatten Memorial Fund which would be utilised for social welfare work.

Presiding over a meeting of prominent citizens organised by the Regional Committee of the Edwina Mountbatten Memorial Fund Committee in Bombay, the Governor paid glowing tribute to Lady Mountbatten. He said that the fund would be utilised for welfare work which was so dear to her and her memory would be "cherished by future generations."

The names of some office-bearers of the Executive Committee with the Governor as patron, Lady Jashodji Duggan as Chairman, Mrs. Queenie H. C. Captain and Mr. E. Parker (Vice-Chairmen), Mrs. Bekkevold (as representative of the British Women's Association), Mr. Pratapsingh Mathuradas (Honorary Treasurer), Mrs. M. J. B. Manekji (Honorary Secretary) and Commandant-General M. J. B. Manekji were announced at the meeting.

Lady Duggan and Mr. Parker explained the purpose of starting the fund. It was explained that a central committee had been formed in London for Commonwealth countries. In India the Edwina Mountbatten Memorial Fund Committee had been formed under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister, Mr. Nehru.

The funds raised in India would be utilised in the country itself. It would promote welfare work for women and children and help the nursing profession.

MOUNTAINEERING INSTITUTE

Passing-out Parade

DARJEELING, December 16: The passing-out parade of the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute was held here yesterday. Lieut-Gen. Sir Harold Williams, Director of the Central Building Research Institute in Roorkee, presented awards to the successful candidates.

Twenty-four students were presented the silver badge emblem of the Institute, indicating that they had successfully accomplished the basic initiation up to 20,000 feet. Among the recipients were a doctor, a pilot, Army, Navy and Air Force officers and sherpas. They were drawn from all over the country. Four students were presented the Institute Badge on their graduation for advanced mountaineering technique, leadership and organisational abilities.

Two women were initiated into the basic course, a niece of Tensing Norgay, Doma, and Miss Aditi Pant, daughter of the Political Officer of Sikkim. Miss Pant climbed the Prey Peak at the first attempt—the second occasion when the peak has been climbed.

The final count of votes in the U.S. Presidential election, completed on Friday, gave the President-elect, Sen.-elect, 34,221,355 votes with 34,109,398 votes for Vice-President Nixon. Other candidates received 502,501 votes in all including 116,249 for Democratic Senator, Mr. Harry F. Bird, of Georgia.

Govt. Servants & Political Parties

COUNCIL REJECTS PRIVATE MOVE

"The Times of India" News Service

NAGPUR, December 16: The Maharashtra Legislative Council today rejected by a voice vote a non-official resolution, urging the removal of the restrictions on the employees of Government and semi-Government bodies, debarring them from becoming members of political parties.

The State Chief Minister, Mr. Y. B. Chavan, described the resolution as "unworthy of consideration" as the mover himself, Mr. V. G. Phatak (Samiti), had demonstrated lack of faith in the existence of more than one political party in an ideal State of his conception.

Mr. Phatak urged the removal of restrictions on civil liberties in view of the "rapidly-expanding public sector in the country which tended to prevent more persons from becoming members of political parties."

CONDITIONS NOT RIFE

Opposing the resolution in a forthright speech, Mr. Chavan said that while he would concede, in principle, the right for a large number of people associating themselves with the rapidly-expanding socio-economic activities in the public sector, he would submit that conditions in India were not yet ripe to permit the employees of Government and semi-Government bodies to enjoy this right.

In a democratic setup Mr. Chavan said, it was the responsibility of the administration to create confidence in the people that those running the administrative machinery were impartial and above party considerations. It was not enough to provide a just administration.

WILLING ACCEPTANCE

Mr. Chavan said that democracy presupposed the willing acceptance by the people of the need for give-and-take. Thus, in a democracy, none could aspire to be a Minister and a Government servant simultaneously. One position had to be sacrificed for the other. If this were not so, things would come to a sorry pass with High Court Judges seeking election to legislatures and Government officers endeavouring to participate in political activities.

Mr. Chavan added that the Government servant's right to vote was, by no means, insignificant, as the right to rule stemmed from the right to vote.

A Communist motion, urging the circulation of the Bill, amending the controversial sections of the Kerala Education Act, for eliciting public opinion, was rejected by 63 votes to 23 by the Kerala Assembly on Friday.

School Grants Code To Be Revised

APPOINTMENT OF REVIEW BODY PROPOSED

"The Times of India" News Service

NAGPUR, December 16. A COMMITTEE to review and revise the grants-in-aid code rules relating to secondary schools in Maharashtra will be appointed soon.

The Education Minister, Mr. D. S. Desai, made the announcement in the State Legislative Council today.

He said that the committee would study the provisions of the code with a view to removing the defects, if any, and recommend any changes and/or additions it might consider necessary.

Mr. Desai was speaking on a non-official resolution by Mr. D. V. Deshpande (Samiti), who wanted the Government to bring forward suitable legislation in order to give statutory status to the provisions of the code.

Mr. Deshpande withdrew his resolution in the light of the Minister's assurance.

BIDI WORKERS' WAGES

Mr. P. S. Dhok (Samiti) also withdrew his resolution, asking the Government to devise a suitable machinery to ensure the regular payment of wages for bidi workers in Vidarbha after the State Labour Minister, Mr. Shantilal Shah, had pointed out that all possible remedies, both civil and criminal, were provided in the law.

Mr. Shah said that, while the Government sympathised with the plight of the workers, it found itself in a quandary as it was unable to take any further steps for reasons beyond its control.

He explained that a case was pending before the Supreme Court regarding the Government notification, fixing minimum wages for bidi workers. The lower courts were not prepared to proceed with the workers' cases before the Supreme Court decision was available.

He appealed to the mover of the resolution and his supporters to await the Supreme Court's judgment, in the light of which the Government could review its notification.

The third non-official resolution, withdrawn today, was moved by Mr. H. B. Bhide (Samiti), who wanted to set up a committee for preparing a single law to govern the three Municipal Corporations in the State—Bombay, Poona and Nagpur.

The Urban Development Minister, Mr. D. Z. Palasagar, pointed out that the Government had appointed a committee to consider this question and it had recommended against a unified law for the administration of these three cities.

The Council unanimously adopted a resolution, moved by Mr. G. N. Koli (PSP), which recommended immediate measures, including an amendment of the existing laws, if necessary, to prevent a recurrence of explosions like the one in Bazar Gate Street in Bombay on November 18.

Mr. M. Harris (PSP), who supported the resolution, said that the time had come to control the storage of explosive material in a different way than the present one. In no case should anyone be allowed in future to store such material in a residential locality.

While he complimented the Bombay Police Commissioner for calling on the people to give information about the storage of such material, Mr. Harris felt that the Government should ask the people to declare the stocks of such materials. He suggested that the municipal authorities, the Port Trust and the Government should get together to review the existing safeguards in the light of the tragic loss of lives in explosions.

He also pointed out that the Municipal Corporation of Bombay had passed a similar resolution unanimously.

The Council adopted the resolution after Mr. Palasagar had associated himself with the sentiments expressed in it.

Session Prorogued

NAGPUR, December 16: The winter session of both Houses of the Maharashtra Legislature was prorogued today. The session began on November 10.

U. S. Gold Stocks Fall

WASHINGTON, December 16: The Treasury has announced here that U.S. Gold stocks dropped a further 204 million dollars in the week ended Wednesday to 17,973 million dollars (about £6,000 million sterling).

A Bill to provide for the control of production, supply and distribution of certain articles in public interest has been published in a Gazette Extraordinary of the Kerala Government issued on Friday.

STOP COUGHING!

take
MANNERS COUGH SYRUP
for FASTER relief

8 ACTIVE INGREDIENTS TO
BREAK STUBBORN COUGHS

GEORGE MANNERS & CO. PRIVATE LTD.




FREE

An attractive calendar of 1961
on the purchase of 1 bottle of
CAMEL De luxe Ink

— a New Ink of very
outstanding quality for
your precious fountains.

This Free Scheme is valid only for the City
of Bombay and is open only as long as
stocks last.



Red & White

QUALITY
CIGARETTES
By MARCOVITCH

