

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA

STEERING COMMITTEE

Record of proceedings of the meeting of Steering Committee held on 10th November, 1948, in room No.28, Council House, New Delhi.

....

Present:-

- 1) The Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel... in the Chair.
- 2) Shri Jagat Narain Lal.
- 3) Shrimati G.Durgabai.
- 4) Shri M.Ananthasayanam Ayyangar.
- 5) Shri R.M.Nalavade.
- 6) Shri Suresh Chandra Majumdar.
- 7) Shri Surendra Mohan Ghose.

In attendance:-

- 1) Sir B.N.Rau..... Constitutional Adviser.
- 2) Shri H.V.R.Iengar.... Secretary.
- 3) Shri S.N.Mukerjee.... Joint Secretary.
- 4) Shri K.V.Padmanabhan.... Under Secretary.

1. Motion proposed by Shri B.Das regarding the membership of the Constituent Assembly of India.

The Committee found the motion rather difficult to follow. So far as they could understand it they were doubtful whether it would be in order, as members who had resigned from the Constituent Assembly would have no right to take part in its proceedings. Further, there was a definite procedure laid down in the rules regarding the authentication of the Draft Constitution when passed by the Constituent Assembly. Shri B.Das was to be informed of these objections, and, if possible, persuaded to withdraw the proposed motion.

2. Motion proposed by Professor Shibban Lal Saksona and Shri M.Satyanarayana relating to the language question.

In accordance with their earlier decision on similar motions by Shri G.S.Gupta, the Committee decided that the motions now before them should also be taken up only after the Assembly had decided upon what should be the official language to be used in the Indian Parliament. The consideration of these motions was, therefore, postponed.

3. Motions proposed by Shri B.Das and Dr.H.C.Mookerjee regarding the representation of West Bengal in the Constituent Assembly of India.

The Committee was informed that notice of a similar motion had been received from Shri Lakshmi Kanta Maitra also. Shri Ananthasayanam Ayyangar proposed to discuss the subject-matter of these motions with the members concerned and persuade them to withdraw them and accordingly the Committee postponed the consideration of these motions to a later date.

4. The Chairman informed the Committee that the Government of India proposed to introduce shortly in the Constituent Assembly a Bill to amend the Government of India Act, 1935, in certain respects. A brief note regarding the proposed amendments was circulated to the members of the Committee. The Committee agreed to go into the matter as soon as the Government was in a position to give notice of the introduction of the Bill through a member and copies are circulated to the members of the Committee.

P.T.O.

5. A letter from Shri Nagappa proposing the adoption of "Jana Gana Mana" as the National Song of India was also placed before the Committee. The Committee was of the view that this subject should be taken up only after the main work of the Assembly on the Draft Constitution has been completed. The consideration of this proposal was, therefore, postponed.

H.V.R. Iengar
Secretary.

New Delhi,
10th November, 1948.

To
All members of the Steering Committee.

KR.
11/11.