

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA

Friday, the 9th September 1949

The Constituent Assembly of India met in the Constitution Hall, New Delhi, at Nine of the Clock, Mr. President (The Honourable Dr. Rajendra Prasad) in the Chair.

DRAFT CONSTITUTION—(Contd.)

Shri Yudhisthir Misra (Orissa States): Before we begin today's proceedings, may I draw your attention, Sir, to a pamphlet which has been issued yesterday about international numerals and which was circulated from the Office of the Constituent Assembly. The pamphlet has been issued by the Hindi Sahitya Sammelan and contains certain offensive paragraphs, and for your information I will read one or two sentences from it. First may I know, Sir, whether this pamphlet can be issued from the office of the Constituent Assembly, as it contains certain offensive remarks against the Prime Minister and also against some other Members ?

Mr. President : It is not issued by the Office of the Constituent Assembly.

Shri Yudhisthir Misra : It was in the dak which was circulated from the office to the Members.

Mr. President : It should not have been done by the office. I was not aware of it. I received a complaint about the distribution of another pamphlet by another Member, but that was not to the Members of the House, but it was in the Press Gallery. As it was in the Press Gallery, I did not take any notice of it, but this has been distributed from the officer. I am really sorry; it should not have been done.

We shall begin with article 264 now. Amendment No. 270.

Article 264

The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar (Bombay: General): Sir, I move:

"That for article 264, the following article be substituted :—

Exemption of property of the
Union from State Taxation.

"264. (1) The property of the Union shall be exempt from all taxes imposed
by a State or by any authority within a State.

- (2) Nothing in clause (1) of this article shall, until Parliament by law otherwise provides, prevent any local authority within a State from imposing any tax on any property of the Union to which such property was immediately before the commencement of this Constitution liable or treated as liable so long as that tax continues to be levied in that State."

I will speak after the amendments have been moved, if there is any debate.

Mr. President : Amendment No. 303 of which notice has been given by Mr. Brajeshwar Prasad, but that relates to the original article. Do you wish to move it ?

Shri R. K. Sidhwa (C.P. & Berar: General): There are amendments Nos. 208 and 209 on page 28 of the printed list standing in my name. I had given notice of these amendments long ago in conformity with the rules of procedure. There is also another amendment, No. 435 in List IX Seventh Week to that effect standing in my name.

Mr. President : We will come to that.