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Title: Introduction of the Railways (Second Amendment) Bill, 2008.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Railways Act, 1989.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Railways Act, 1989."

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Sir, I oppose the introduction because the law in question is beyond the legislative competence of this House.

You see this is for the enhancement of the Railway Tribunal Chairman and Members of the Tribunal. There are other tribunals in the country also and their position has not been changed. So, it is a discriminatory process. We cannot show any favouritism to any particular tribunal. There are many tribunals functioning under our Statute passed by this House. When that is the situation, it is not fair to have a discriminatory process or a discriminatory attitude towards a particular tribunal.

The Constitution is very particular. The law is equal to all. We cannot have a separate law for a separate set of people. That is why, it is discriminatory legislation and on that basis, it is not within the competence of this House to legislate on this piece of legislation. That is what I have to submit.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: I request Shri Radhakrishnan not to oppose this at this time because there will be time to have discussion on this and he will have sufficient time to discuss this. फिलहाल आप इसके.....(व्यवधान)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Sir, the Railways is following a discriminatory policy. Even at this current stage, there is a long

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standing demand for a particular Railway Zone in Kerala...(Interruptions)

श्री लालू प्रसाद : महोदय, पार्लियामेंट का अधिकार है, जो चर्चा में डिस्कस होगा, उसमें भाग लेंगे।(व्यवधान)

MD. SALIM (CALCUTTA – NORTH EAST): Sir, the hon. Member has raised a very pertinent question on the legislative competence of this House. He is taking a decision in a selective way. So, the hon. Minister has failed to satisfy and respond on this ground. The House should know what has compelled the hon. Minister to bring this...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I believe it is the duty of the Deputy Leader to explain that to him.

The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Railways Act, 1989."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : I introduce* the Bill.

* Introduced with the recommendation of the President.