

11. The Railway Protection Force (Amendment) Bill, 1985

12. The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Bill, 1985.

12.15 hrs.

RESIGNATION BY MEMBER

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have to inform the House that I received a letter dated 8 November, 1985 from Shrimati Manorama Singh, an elected member from Banka constituency of Bihar, resigning her seat in Lok Sabha from 8 November, 1985. I have accepted her resignation with effect from the 8th November, 1985.

TIME LIMIT ON CALLING ATTENTION DISCUSSION

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members are aware that the question of restricting the time devoted to Calling Attention discussion has been engaging the attention of all of us. My distinguished predecessors and myself have repeatedly cautioned the members that the time spent on the item should not extend beyond half-an-hour to forty-five minutes. Though under the rules only clarificatory questions are permissible, but somehow it becomes a regular discussion.

The matter was considered by the Rules Committee at its sitting held on 23 August, 1985. The Committee has come to the conclusion that the time taken on Calling Attention should be restricted to about half-an-hour to forty-five minutes. After the Minister's statement, the five members whose names are listed on the item might ask clarificatory questions one after another and the Minister might reply to all the points raised by the Members at the end. The Committee also recommended that the initiator of the discussion

might be given about ten minutes and other members not more than five minutes each.

The recommendations of the Rules Committee have also been published in Bulletin Part II (para No. 710) on 14 November, 1985.

Kind cooperation of members is requested.

12.16 Hours.

[RESOLUTIONS RE :

- (i) SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA,
- (ii) DISARMAMENT,
- (iii) NATURAL CALAMITIES IN TAMIL NADU, AND
- (iv) NATURAL CALAMITIES IN COLUMBIA.

MR. SPEAKER : (1) "Recalling the Resolution Passed in the Lok Sabha and statements on August 19, 1985 and in the Rajya Sabha on August 20, 1985 regarding the situation in the South Africa and the valiant freedom fighter Benjamin Moloise,

Recalling also the repeated appeals by the international community including the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council, the Non-aligned Movement and Heads of State/Governments of Commonwealth countries for reprieve and clemency for Benjamin Moloise,

Having learnt with deep indignation and horror of the execution of Benjamin Moloise in arrogant defiance of international opinion.

The House unanimously resolves

- (1) To strongly condemn the killing of Benjamin Moloise which is a mockery of all norms of law and Justice,

[Mr. Speaker]

- 2) To condemn the other recent killings, arbitrary arrests and detention of members of mass organisations in South Africa struggling against apartheid,
 - (3) To demand that the South African authorities release without conditions Nelson Mandela and all other political prisoners and detainees,
 - (4) To continue to extend all possible support to the freedom struggle of the people of South Africa and to expound their cause in all international forums,
 - (5) To express its regret at the failure of the Security Council at its recent meeting to impose mandatory sanctions on South Africa under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations due to the negative votes of certain members,
 - (6) To call upon all Governments to impose effective and comprehensive sanctions against South Africa with a view to compelling it to dismantle the "apartheid" system and vacate its illegal occupation of Namibia."
- (ii) "On the eve of the meeting between the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union commencing in Geneva tomorrow, the House expresses its grave anxiety at the tension prevailing in the world today. It is deeply concerned about the renewed escalation of the arms race particularly the nuclear arms race. More than 50,000 nuclear warheads, capable of obliterating mankind from the face of the Earth several times over, abound in the stocks of the arsenals of nuclear weapon States. The development of the new defensive weapon systems is bound to lead to a further escalation of the nuclear arms race and

enhance the danger of the outbreak of a nuclear war. Global military expenditure, which has reached the staggering level of one trillion dollars and is set for a quantum jump if the new weapon systems in the early stages of development, and particularly for combating poverty, ignorance and disease in the developing world, and has emerged as a major factor responsible for the structural malfunctioning of the world economy.

The House, therefore, urges the leaders of the US and USSR to make every effort to reach an agreement on substantial reductions in the stockpiles of nuclear warheads. Pending such an agreement, they should declare an immediate moratorium on further testing and development of nuclear weapons. The House also calls upon them to reach an understanding which will prevent the extension of the arms race into Outer Space, which is the common heritage of mankind and should be preserved exclusively for peaceful purposes. The House finally strongly urges the nuclear weapon States to forswear the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons pending their final elimination. This would help reduce the level of anxiety in the world and would make nuclear arsenals redundant".

(iii) "The House expresses its deep sense of grief and sorrow at the enormous loss of human life and property on account of the cyclonic storm in Tamil Nadu. Our heart-felt condolences may be conveyed to the survivors of the tragedy in that State."

(iv) "This House wishes to convey its deepest sympathies with the people of Columbia who have been victims of the fury of nature".

I think the House agrees with me un-animously.

SHRI SUNIL DUTT (Bombay North

West) : I would like that the name of Sanjiv Kumar also be mentioned here.

MR. SPEAKER : Not like this. You come to me ; we will find out some other way.

12.21 hrs.

**CITIZENSHIP (AMENDMENT)
BILL***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHANAN) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Citizenship Act, 1955.

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Citizenship Act, 1955".

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : I oppose the introduction of this Bill on the ground that it violates Article 326 of the Constitution of India.

Apart from the merits of other clauses of this Bill, in clause 4 a citizen is being deprived of the right to vote. Person may be registered for citizenship and yet for ten years he will not be allowed to vote. The period of ten years starts from the date of detection that he is not a citizen. After that he applies for the citizenship. He is registered but for ten years he will not be entitled to vote.

What is the adult suffrage under Article 326 of the Constitution :

"The elections to the House of the People and to the Legislation Assembly of every State shall be on the basis of adult suffrage that is to say, every person who is a citizen of India and who is not less than

twenty-one years of age, on such date as by the appropriate Legislature and is not otherwise disqualified under this Constitution or any law made by the appropriate Legislature on the ground of non-residence, unsoundness of mind, crime or corrupt illegal practice. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER : Please be brief ; do not elaborate.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Why I am mentioning this is that what they are trying to do does not come under any of these. So, it violates the Constitution.

MR. SPEAKER : You can only point that out.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : This Bill is dichotomy between citizenship and right to vote which is not permissible under Article 326 of the Constitution.

This particular clause of the Bill will be struck out by the court as soon it is challenged.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Indrajit Gupta.

SARI AMAL DATTA : Why this lady was shouting ?

MR. SPEAKER : She is your compatriot.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Bsiraht) : Sir, it seems to me that you do not want us at this stage to enter into any arguments as to why we are opposing this Bill. How will the Minister then reply ?

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot elaborate, you can just point out in a concise form.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Several provisions of this Bill are full of legal and Constitutional contradictions and anomalies. I would request the hon. Minister to give careful thought to this because later on it may be challenged also in courts of law. The point is that this Bill which is coming now, is, of course,

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