

MR. DEPUTY-SEPAKER : The question is :

"That Clauses 2 to 7 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, 2 to 7 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P.C. SETHI : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

16.44 hrs

CHANDIGARH DISTURBED AREAS BILL

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I shall now put the amendment moved by Shri Ramavtar Shastri to the vote of the House. The question is :

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 1st March 1984." (1)

Amendment No. 1 was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to make better provision for the suppression of disorder and for the restoration and maintenance of public order in disturbed areas in Chandigarh, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We shall now take up clause by clause consideration. The question is :

"That Clauses 2 to 7 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 7 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P.C. SETHI : Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

16.45 hrs

ARMED FORCES (PUNJAB AND CHANDIGARH) SPECIAL POWERS BILL

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The next is Armed Forces (Punjab and Chandigarh) Special Powers Bill. I shall now put the Amendment moved by Shri Ramavtar Shastri to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 1st March, 1984, (1)

Amendment No. 1 was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to enable certain special Powers to be conferred upon members of the armed forces in the disturbed areas in the State of Punjab and the Union Territory

of Chandigarh, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clauses 2 to 8 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 8 were added to the Bill

MR. DUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P.C. SETHI: Sir, I beg to move :
"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

16.47 hrs

DISCUSSION ON THE NEED FOR
ELECTORAL REFORMS WITH
SPECIAL REFERENCE TO
DEFLECTIONS

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now the House will take up the discussion under rule 193, Shri B.V. Dssai to raise a discussion on the need for electoral reforms with special reference to defections.

SHRI B.V. DESAI : (Raichur) : Mr. Deputy-speaker, Sir...

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY (Calcutta South) : Since the Hon. Member is involved, can he take part in the discussion ? Because the charges are against him. I want your ruling, Sir.

AN HON. MEMBER : He is Mr. B.V. Desai and not Mr. Moily.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS, SPORTS AND
WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BUTA
SINGH) : The Hon Member has been so fair and frank that he himself brings up the matter before the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Desai, you read out the subject.

SHRI B.V. DESAI : It is

"...to raise a discussion on the need for electoral reforms with special reference to defections."

This subject which is being discussed under rule 193 is very important from the point of view of success of democracy in our country. In India, after we attained independence in 1947, we based our elections on adult franchise and till today the same system has been going on. Actually for the success of democracy, electoral reforms do take place in any country which adopts democracy. I think, during the last 35 years several improvements in the electoral system have been adopted by India, and it is running fairly well.

Nonetheless, some of the reforms which are imperative are discussed very often by different Committees and as and when they are passed on some of them get enacted and changes are made.

In this connection I would like to refer to the electoral system here, to some of the basic tenets. In fact, for a democracy, three things are essential. One is a sovereign legislature, that is, Parliament, which is to be elected by adult franchise. The second is an independent judiciary which is very much existent in India. The third, which is the most important, is the Election Commission,