

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I know my limitation. Unlike others, I am fully aware of my limitations. I want to point out to the hon. Member that even under the existing financial relations, considerable transfers of resources have taken place from the Centre to the States.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: It is marginal.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I can give you the figure. If you will consider those as marginal, I leave it to the public to consider then.

Later in the day, I am coming forward with a Bill which transfers all the collections in respect of electricity duty to the States. That was recommended by the 7th Finance Commission and the amount will be about Rs. 1,140 crores in the next five years. The 7th Finance Commission has made recommendations, the sum total of which will be a transfer of Rs. 20000 crores from the Centre to the States during the course of the next five years. If you still think it is marginal, I leave it to people with some judgement to decide.

The next point which was raised was about the Bihar situation. I am really unable to say anything about the Bihar situation. All that I can say is that I will transmit it to the appropriate authorities in Bihar and see that they take the appropriate action necessary in this behalf. I have noticed that there have been very sad incidents..

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: What about establishing Central Universities and converting Patna University into a Central University? It is within your competence.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Unfortunately, the Members think that the Minister is like God who can go on giving boons. We have to go into the whole financial relations; financial implications have to be worked out and then come to some conclusions. It is

God Almighty who can give boons and not Ministers. As I said, we will communicate it to the Bihar Government. We are equally interested as the hon. Member is in the maintenance of law and order and in the maintenance of peace.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of a part of the financial year 1980-81, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

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

"That Clauses 2 to 4 and the Schedule stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 4 and the Schedule were added to the Bill. Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

13.35 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (No. 2) BILL*, 1980

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1979-80.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1979-80."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, I introduce† the Bill.

Sir, I beg to move‡:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1979-80, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1979-80, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

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

"That Clauses 2 and 3 and the Schedule stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

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

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

1328 hrs.

FINANCE BILL, 1980

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to continue for the financial year 1980-81 the existing rates of income-tax with certain modifications, to provide for certain exemptions from income-tax and to provide for the continuance of the provisions relating to auxiliary duties of customs and special duties of excise for the said year, be taken into consideration."

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Jaipur): I want to have one clarification. The hon. Finance Minister in his speech on page 8, paragraph 36, has stated, "I propose to introduce today a Financial Bill which seeks to continue the existing rates of income-tax for the financial year 1980-81. However, I have also three proposals of a non-controversial nature for the amendment of the Income-tax Act. I shall now briefly explain these proposals." Then in paragraph 37, he says, "some State Governments have set up statutory corporations for the promotion of socio-economic interests of member of the scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. I propose to exempt from income-tax the—now you are proposing to exempt—income of all statutory corporations or bodies, associations or institutions wholly financed by the Central or a State Government, established for promoting the interests of the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes." After going through the statement in paragraph 36 or 37, one has got the impression that you are going to exempt hereafter all such corporations from the levy of income-tax and continue other proposals. New look to the statement of Objects and Reasons at the end of the Finance Bill. This is paragraph no. 6.

†Introduced and moved with the recommendation of the President.

‡Mover with the recommendation of the President.