

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 2 was added to the Bill.*

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

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

17. 54 hrs.

ANTI-APARTHEID (UNITED  
NATIONS CONVENTION)  
BILL—Contd.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL  
AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA  
RAO): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to give effect to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, be taken into consideration."

Sir, the purpose of this Bill is to give effect to the provisions of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid of 1973, to which India acceded with effect from 22nd October, 1977, in particular to Articles II and III thereof as set out in the Schedule to the Bill, which respectively define the crime of Apartheid and apply international criminal responsibility, irrespective of the motives involved, to individuals, members of organisations, institutions, etc. who commit

the said crime. The Bill also seeks to make the commission of the said crime punishable with death or imprisonment and fine.

The Hon'ble Members may recall that the Convention and the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid was approved by the United Nations General Assembly on 30th November, 1973 by 91 votes in favour, 4 against with 26 abstentions. India voted in favour of its adoption. The Convention has entered into force on 18th July, 1976.

As a corollary to this, we had to pass a legislation in this country adopting the Convention.

A Bill known as Anti-Apartheid (United Nations Convention) Bill 1978 was earlier introduced in the Lok Sabha on 23rd November, 1978 which was then admitted for consideration and passing by the Lok Sabha. However, the Lok Sabha could not proceed with that Bill during its sessions in 1978 and 1979 due to its heavy schedule. The Bill lapsed as a result of dissolution of the Sixth Lok Sabha in 1979. Hence the Bill was introduced again in Lok Sabha on November 27, 1980 and needs to be considered by Parliament during the present session.

In fact, even in the last session we tried our best to get it accommodated, but, again, because of the heavy schedule, we could not do so. I am glad that now we are able to accommodate this Bill during this session. This is an entirely non-controversial Bill and also something which is totally in line with the policy of the Government; not only the policy, but whatever we have been doing in pursuance of this policy in international for a is in line with this Bill. I would therefore, like the House to consider this Bill and pass it unanimously. There seem to be no amendments also except the consequential amendments to be moved by me in order to change '1980' to '1981' and 'thirty first' to 'thirty second.'

