

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

TWENTY-SECOND REPORT

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Idukki): I beg to present the Twenty-second Report of the Public Accounts Committee on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations of the Committee contained in their Hundred and Ninety-fifth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) relating to Rajdhani Express.

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF
SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

SECOND AND TWELFTH REPORTS

SHRI SURAJ BHAN (Ambala): I beg to present the following Reports (English and Hindi versions) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes:—

(1) Second Report regarding Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Fifty-first Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Home Affairs—Atrocities on Scheduled Castes in (i) village Maulana Budhuchak (District Patna); and (ii) village Amli Kaur (District Banda).

(2) Twelfth Report regarding Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Fifty-third Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare (Department of Education—Educational Facilities for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Union Territory of Delhi.

12.05 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): With your permission Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in

this House during the week commencing 12th December, 1977, will consist of:—

(1) Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.

(2) Consideration and passing of:

(a) The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 1977.

(b) The Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property (Amendment) Bill, 1977, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

(c) The Multi-State Cooperative Societies Bill, 1977.

(3) Further discussion on the motion regarding statement on two serious train accidents.

(4) Discussion on the Resolution regarding Report of the Railway Convention Committee.

(5) Consideration and passing of the Betwa River Board (Amendment) Bill, 1977, passed by Rajya Sabha.

2. It is also proposed to provide for:

(a) Discussion on promulgation of the Public Safety Ordinance by Jammu and Kashmir Government at 4.00 P.M. on Monday, the 12th December, 1977.

(b) Discussion on the problems of Sunderbans at 4.00 P.M. on Wednesday, the 14th December, 1977.

(c) Discussion on agreement with Bangla Desh on sharing of Ganga Waters at Farakka on Thursday, the 15th December, 1977.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): We will be completing four weeks out of six weeks of the current session this week-end. Only two weeks are left, in which there is also a holiday. So, we will have only nine working days left. I am very sorry to say two things in regard to Government business.

Firstly, in the previous session Government promised that a number of Bills would be introduced in this session, but they have not been introduced at all. For instance, the statement of the hon. Minister makes no mention whatsoever of some of the important legislations which we wanted to have, namely repeal of MISA, the Anti-Defection Bill and the Constitution (Amendment) Bill. I do not want the Government habit to continue, viz. of bringing important measures almost at the fag end of the session, leaving us no time to consider them, and then saying they have been introduced. You must give some notice as to when they are coming.

Secondly, Government have not given us any clue as to when this particular Bill about which I am more concerned at the moment, namely the Anti-Defection Bill, is coming. The Anti-Defection Bill went on being considered by the Select Committee for more than three years before and during the emergency, but nothing came out of it. Both the Congress and, I am sorry to say, even the Janata Party are taking advantage of the fact that there is no specific concrete legislation on the subject and they are thus allowing all kinds of people to enter the parties.

No less a man than the former Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri Chimanbhai Patel, who has been an arch defector and a notorious person for all winds of politiking has been admitted to the Janata Party. I do not know how and with what face the Janata Party friends have taken him into the party. I am ashamed of the fact that the Janata Party have admitted persons of Shri Chimanbhai Patel's notoriety who has been a symbol of corruption, instability, manoeuvring of all kinds. Therefore, my point is that this is happening because the Government is not bringing forward the Anti-Defection Bill. If they had brought forward this Bill, they would not have admitted

such an arch defector as Shri Chimanbhai Patel and other such people. I want the Janata Government to improve on the doings of the Congress Party.

Sir, my blood boils when I recall how in Gujarat more than 100 young men and women had died in 1974 during the Nav Nirman Movement. And only one person is responsible for that and that is Shri Chimanbhai Patel and his Ministry. I am shocked and amazed to find that this man has been inducted as a member of the Janata Party. The same Shri Chimanbhai Patel put up a candidate of the Congress Party in my Gandhinagar (Ahmedabad) constituency and he fought tooth and nail and spent lot of time and money in order to defeat me. Of course, he did not succeed. I succeeded and that is why I am here now. This has happened only 8 months back. And, yet, he is now in the Janata Party. So, I want the Government to bring the Anti-Defection Bill so that the Government do not take shelter to admit all kinds of people. Let it be a party of honest and ideal people. The Janata Party must remain true and good to its principles and ideals.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil): In this House, there had been a controversy that the previous Government had used Intelligence Bureau to shadow political leaders and the Ministers. It had been a shock to the country that the Intelligence Bureau had been used to shadow political leaders and Ministers. Everybody condemned that. Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu also raised this point in this House. But to our surprise, the present Government is also using the same practice and the present Ministers are being shadowed by the same Intelligence Bureau and the Police. This is a very serious matter. I have a suspicion that the Intelligence Bureau has been shadowing me and the Congress Party. I sent to you calling attention notice on this.

MR. SPEAKER: That is under consideration.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: My point is that we should have a discussion on the functioning of the IB and surveillance on the Ministers. Let us look at Haryana. They have put 200 people here. This kind of activity of the Intelligence Bureau of the Central Government and the Police of the State Government should be discussed in this House; I want this should be included in the agenda.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA (Cannanore): Last week, the hon. Home Minister made some very important points. While giving replies to certain questions. One such point was that the Punnappra Vayalar struggle in the former princely State of Travancore from which the hon. Minister also comes, would not form part of the freedom struggle. He also said that the Telengana Armed Insurgents against the former Nizam would also not form part of the freedom struggle. Yesterday, in reply to another question he said that the Moplah Rebellion that took place in Malabar would not form part of the freedom struggle. I think, this is a serious problem on which the Government took a politically discriminating and communal approach. I, therefore, propose that on all these issues there should be a discussion next week. We have sent notices for that. This agitates the minds of several thousands of patriots who laid their lives and lost everything in their fight for freedom. I think, it should form part of the discussion next week.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI (Anantnag): My submission is that the Minister of Works and Housing made a statement in Aligarh that he is going to bring forward in this session Aligarh University Amendment Bill. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether that Bill will be brought forward during this session or not. I would request

you to have at least 3 hours discussion on minority affairs. Important questions submitted to the Parliament asking for information about minority affairs have been rejected. So, it would really mean a discussion on minority affairs. I would request you to provide 3 hours for this.

12.11 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) CIRCULAR re: FORMATION OF A CODE OF ETHICS FOR HIGH COURT JUDGES

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begusarai): Under Rule 377, I rise to draw the attention of the House to a matter which has caused a great deal of public concern. The circular dated October 10, issued by the Chief Justice of India to the Chief Justices of all the High Courts regarding the formulation of a code of ethics for the High Court judges, has surprised and pained many who hold the independence and dignity of judiciary dear to their hearts.

The suggestion that High Court Judges need to be disciplined and brought under a code of conduct to be enforced by a Committee of Judges smacks of the thinking during the days of emergency when the so-called "Voluntary Code" was prescribed for every section of the community except, of course, for the powers that be. What these so-called 'voluntary codes' became or were actually intended to be, is well known.

The history of higher judiciary has been one of exemplary standards even in periods of great duress, and of a fierce, spirit of independence even in an atmosphere of around conformity.

The judiciary has been the bastion of liberty and the hope of the oppressed especially when the oppressor turned out to be the state itself. The