

13 07 hrs.

PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHURY) I beg to move

‘That the Bill to amend the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952, be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of 45 members, 30 from this House namely

Shri P Gangadeb, Shri P K Ghosh, Sardar Mohinder Singh Gill, Shri S B Giri, Shri H R Gokhale, Shri Jagannathrao Joshi, Shri J G Kadam, Shri S A Kader, Shri Robin Kakoti, Shri A Kevichusa, Shri Piloo Mody, Shri Samar Mukherjee, Shri Pratap Singh Negi, Shri Tarkeshwar Pandey, Shri Rasiklal Parikh, Shri Jharkhande Rai, Shri Rajdeo Singh, Shri J Rameshwar Rao, Shri M S Sanjeevi Rao, Shri S C Samanta, Shri C K Jaffer Sharief, Shri Digvijaya Narain Singh, Shri Nawal Kishore Sinha, Shri Sunder Lal, Shri Sidameshwar Swamy, Shri M G Ukey, Shri K P Unnikrishnan, Shri Virbhadra Singh, Shri G Viswanathan, Shri Niti Raj Singh Chaudhury, and 15 members from Sabha,

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee

that the Committee shall make a report to this House by the last day of the first week of the next session,

that in other respects the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Speakers may make, and

that this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of 15 members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee.

It is proposed to refer this Bill to a Joint Committee. I would not like to take the time of the House.

MR SPEAKER It was decided to adopt this motion without discussion. The question is —

‘That the Bill to amend the Presidential and Vice Presidential Elections Act, 1952 be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of 45 members 30 from this House namely Shri P Gangadeb, Shri P K Ghosh, Sardar Mohinder Singh Gill, Shri S B Giri, Shri H R Gokhale, Shri Jagannathrao Joshi, Shri J G Kadam, Shri S A Kader, Shri Robin Kakoti, Shri A Kevichusa, Shri Piloo Mody, Shri Samar Mukherjee, Shri Pratap Singh Negi, Shri Tarkeshwar Pandey, Shri Rasiklal Parikh, Shri Jharkhande Rai, Shri Rajdeo Singh, Shri J Rameshwar Rao, Shri M S Sanjeevi Rao, Shri S C Samanta, Shri C K Jaffer Sharief, Shri Digvijaya Narain Singh, Shri Nawal Kishore Sinha, Shri Sunder Lal, Shri Sidameshwar Swamy, Shri M G Ukey, Shri K P Unnikrishnan, Shri Virbhadra Singh, Shri G Viswanathan, Shri Niti Raj Singh Chaudhury, and 15 members from Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee, the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee;

that the Committee shall make a report to this House by the last day of the first week of the next session;

that in other respects the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

that this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and Communicate to this House the names of 15 members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee

The motion was adopted.

13.10 hrs.

INDIAN COPPER CORPORATION (ACQUISITION OF UNDERTAKING) BILL

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : Mr. Speaker, I beg to move* :

"That the Bill to provide for the acquisition of the undertaking of the Indian Copper Corporation Limited, for the purpose of enabling the Central Government, to conserve and exploit, in a scientific and rational manner, to the maximum advantage of the nation, the copper deposits in the Singhbhum belt in the State of Bihar, to utilise the copper deposits in such manner as to subserve

the common good, in the context of the requirements of copper in the country, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration".

The House will remember that on 4 April 1972, a Bill for the taking over of the management of the Indian Copper Corporation following an Ordinance that was promulgated in March 1972 was passed by this House and later in the Rajya Sabha, and then it became law. At that time, we had an elaborate discussion in this House on the position so far as copper production is concerned and I put before the House the various considerations which justified the take-over of the Indian Copper Corporation. I do not think it is necessary for me to repeat all the matters that were put before the House at that time. If there are any matters which hon. members wish me to clarify, I shall certainly be happy to do so when I reply to the discussion. What I propose to do while moving this motion is to cover points really new.

The Bill, hon. members will appreciate, really provides for the take-over not merely of the management but of the ownership. Since March 1972, the management of the Indian Copper Corporation has been in the hands of Hindustan Copper acting as the custodian on behalf of the Government of India, that is since the 10th March, 1972. All the various provisions of the Act which provided for the takeover of the management really covered questions so far as the conduct of the working of the Corporation is concerned. Here what we are more concerned with is the takeover of the ownership and a decision regarding what will be done to achieve that takeover.

Even on the last occasion when the matter came up for discussion, hon. members asked why it was that we were not going in for straight acquisition. I explained the reason

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.