

SOME HON. MEMBERS: The Prime Minister has voted against!

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): It was by mistake. It may please be corrected as 'for'.

MR. SPEAKER: By mistake she has pressed the wrong button. Now she wants it to be corrected.

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : बोर्ड पर जो इंडिकेशन है उस में करेक्शन कैसे हो सकता है ? हां, अगर प्रधान मंत्री कह रही हैं कि वह हिन्दी के खिलाफ हैं, तो ठीक है ।

MR. SPEAKER: We have permitted that in the past.

श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी : मैं हिन्दी के खिलाफ नहीं हूँ ।

MR. SPEAKER: The result of the Division is: Ayes—181; Noes—25.

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

13.17 HRS.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.*

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after lunch at seven minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair.]

RE : QUORUM IN THE HOUSE

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): I have a submission to make. You know that it took about ten minutes to have quorum in this House just now. We decided in the Whips' Conference that it is the primary responsibility of the ruling party to have quorum in the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Could he not communicate with the concerned Minister?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: It applies to you. My party people came here at 2 P.M. We are not going to get more than Rs. 31 for this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is not fair. The House adjourned a bit late. They wanted time for lunch. That must be taken into consideration.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: You should have fixed 2.20 then. I could not have a grub.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA (Delhi Sadar): You could fix it even at 4.20. 14.09 Hrs.

COURT FEES (DELHI AMENDMENT) BILL

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Court-fees Act, 1870, as in force in the Union Territory of Delhi, be taken into consideration".

This is a short Bill which seeks to amend the Court-fees Act of 1870. The House will remember that a few months back we enacted a legislation to provide for a High Court for the Union Territory of Delhi. When this High Court for the Delhi Union Territory was constituted, we transferred the ordinary original civil jurisdiction for civil suits of the value exceeding Rs. 25,000 to it. Before this provision was made, suits of this amount were presented in the District Court and regular court fee was charged.

Section 4 of the Court Fee Act contains a provision for charging fees in matters coming up before the High Court, but after some time a question was raised whether that court fee could be levied under that section in suits which are filed in the High Court in view of ordinary original civil jurisdiction. After the point was examined, it was found that no court fees could be levied by the High Court under that section.

As would be apparent, it was not the intention of the Government that no court fee should be charged on suits of the value exceeding Rs. 25,000, but this came about because of the lacuna in the Delhi High Court Act which was passed by this hon. House. A draft Bill to correct this lacuna was taken up. It was sent to the Metropolitan Council and it processed the Bill, and when it came to us it was a little late and we could not put it up before Parliament because of very heavy backlog of legislative business that was pending here, and we had to issue an ordinance to see