

वहाँ की बौद्ध लड़कियों से जबरन शादी करते हैं—यह एक मुख्य कारण है वहाँ के लोगों में असन्तोष फैलने का। उनकी एक मांग यह भी थी कि वहाँ का कैबिनेट बैंक का एक मंत्री होना चाहिए—इसका जवाब इन्होंने नहीं दिया।

श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल : मैंने उन सिफारिशों के बारे में बतलाया है, जिन्हें राज्य सरकार ने ख़जूर कर लिया है। लेकिन अभी बहुत सिफारिशें ऐसी हैं जो विचारधीन हैं। जहाँ तक कछवाय जी ने हिन्दू मुसलमान का सवाल उठाया है, यह बहुत गलत बात है, इस तरह से जैनरलाइजेशन नहीं करना चाहिये। उन्होंने कहा है कि इसी कारण भगड़े होते हैं—यह गलत बात है, एक दो जगह ऐसी बातें हुई होंगी, लेकिन आम तौर पर ऐसा कहना गलत है।

SHRI RANGA rose—

MR. SPEAKER: All the recommendations are under consideration. They have not been accepted so far except that one. That is a different matter.

SHRI RANGA : Would you accept the suggestion? Today or tomorrow you may ask the Minister to go over to you for ten minutes or so to explain what they are trying to do in regard to other recommendations.

MR. SPEAKER : For you and other members of the House, I have supported the idea of a small delegation. It is a far-off place and they will be very happy to see some places there. After all, they are not going to create trouble there. They will go there only to understand the problems. I have said that. I do not think that a Speaker can do anything better than that.

12.25 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER BENGAL FINANCE (SALES TAX) ACT IN UNION TERRITORY OF DELHI AND DELHI SALES TAX (EIGHTH AMENDMENT) RULES.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C.

SETHI) : I beg to re-lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications under sub-section (4) of section 26 of the Bengal Finance (Sales Tax) Act, 1941, as in force in the Union territory of Delhi :—

(1) Notification No. F. 4 (125)/68-Fin. (G) published in Delhi Gazette dated the 7th November, 1968 containing corrigendum to Notification No. F. 4 (125)/68-Fin. (Genl) dated the 27th September 1968. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2287/68]

(2) The Delhi Sales Tax (Eighth Amendment) Rules, 1968 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F. 4 (120)/86-Fin. (G) in Delhi Gazette dated the 15th November, 1968.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2588/68.]

PRODUCE CESS RULES PUBLISHED IN NOTIFICATION UNDER PRODUCE CESS ACT

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Produce Cess Rules, 1969, (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 888 in Gazette of India dated the 28th March, 1969, under section 22 of the Produce Cess Act, 1966. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-783/69.]

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

SIXTY-NINTH REPORT

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI (Bilhaar) : I beg to present the Sixty-ninth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on Appropriation Accounts (Defence Services),

[Shrimati Sushila Rohatgi]

1966-67 and Audit Report (Defence Services), 1968.

12.26 hrs.

DEMANDS* FOR GRANTS—Contd.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY—Contd.

MR. SPEAKER : Before we request the Minister to continue his reply, I want to say that four hours were allotted to this Ministry and we have already taken four and half hours. I think we will be finishing before lunch and between 14.00 hours and 19.00 hours we will discuss Education Ministry's Demands for which five hours have been allotted. After that, tomorrow we will be taking up the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for which three hours are allotted. Luckily we have three hours—half an hour before lunch and two and half hours after lunch and then at 16.30 hours we will be taking up Private Members' business. If you strictly confine yourselves to the subject, we can avoid cutting into the time of other Demands. It should be possible to finish before lunch this Demand and after lunch today we will take up Education Ministry's Demands and finish it and tomorrow within three hours we can finish the Demands of Information and Broadcasting Ministry. After that we can take up Private Members' business.

The hon. Minister may continue his speech.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Today the Business Advisory Committee is meeting. May I request you...

MR. SPEAKER : At that time you can request me.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : We should arrange our programme in such a way that guillotine should be limited to the minimum

number of Ministries. If necessary, we can sit on Saturdays.

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : Mr. Speaker, yesterday the House debated this Ministry's Grant and I was heartened by the fact that the hon. Members who participated in the debate brought to bear their great knowledge and perspicacity and constructive criticisms on the Ministry's activities. By and large, it is also heartening that there was a general satisfaction about the performance of this Ministry over the last year, and whatever criticism has come, has come in order to improve the working of the Ministry and we have received very valuable and constructive suggestions from hon. Members from all sides.

The level of the debate was high and the Members spoke with great knowledge and the discussion was pointed. Personally speaking, being newly in charge of the Ministry, I have greatly benefited by this because I will be able to attend to those things with great care and consideration. I was deeply touched by some of the references made by some hon. Members on all sides expressing confidence in me that I will be able to discharge my responsibility to their satisfaction. I can only say that I shall bear this in mind and I shall try to do my best during the period in which I hold charge of this Ministry.

Coming to the debate, as the House is aware, the year that has come to a close has seen an encouraging upsurge in exports. Upto the end of February 1969, total exports had reached the all time high of Rs. 1236.7 crores. If you take the annual rate, it is about Rs. 1350 crores as against Rs. 1199 crores in 1967-68. This would represent an increase of 12.5 per cent in exports over last year. At the same time, imports have also declined from Rs. 1761.5 crores in April-February, 1967-68 to Rs. 1651.9 crores in April-February 1968-69 or by Rs. 110 crores. The adverse balance of trade, as some hon. Members have mentioned, has, therefore, declined from Rs. 661.7 crores in the first 11 months of 1967-68 to Rs. 415.2 crores in the same period of the current year.

* Moved with the recommendation of the President.