

[Shri Morarji Desai]

cution is being made so that the tax evasion is at least minimised. I cannot say that it will go completely at any time from the life of the society; these things will not disappear completely. We have to reduce it to an irreducible minimum.

The wealth tax penalty is considered to be very high. But I had introduced some penalties last year, heavy penalties, for evasion, but, for late returns which is also a form of evasion to some extent, I had not said anything. This year, therefore, I have brought it in. Why should people give these returns late, I do not know. For marginal cases, therefore, I have provided and have said that the initial exemption should be deducted from the wealth so that it may not be on the whole wealth for which penalty will be charged. That is what I have declared this morning. Therefore, that concession has been made only because of that. But if people do not give the returns in time, why should they not pay penalties, heavy penalties? After all how are we going to stop all these things? We can stop them only by putting such penalties, which is not profitable for the persons concerned to evade taxes and not to pay taxes and if the penalty paid is Rs. 50,000 the man will not evade it. Otherwise he will evade it because he has to pay only Rs. 2,000. He will evade for 5 years and make up for that. Everybody is not caught everytime. Therefore I have got to make it known to them that once they were caught, they will lose everything. Therefore they will not do this. This is the conception on which this has been done. We go on revising our methods and they go on revising their methods. It has to be seen who succeeds. This is the way Government has got to work and this is what the Government is trying to do.

Thank you, Sir.

SHRI JAIPAL SINGH: I have to ask a question.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no time, the question is:

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1969-70, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thirty-fifth report

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAGHU RAMAIAH); I beg to present the Thirty-fifth report of the Business Advisory Committee.

18.58 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: TEMPORARY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EM- PLOYEES WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE STRIKE

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): In my statement made in the House on March 13, 1969, I had indicated that steps would be taken to ensure that the relaxations in regard to temporary employees are implemented fully and expeditiously so that the orders of termination would remain only in case in which there were stronger grounds for action. Doubts have been raised about the exact significance of 'stronger grounds, on the basis of which the order of termination of such employees could not be revoked. It has, therefore, become necessary to clarify that in regard to discharged temporary employees also, irrespective of whether their services terminated by giving a month's notice or forthwith by payment of pay and allowances in lieu of notice, the grounds on which the orders of termination may not be revoked would be the same as those indicated in my statement of March 13 in respect of employees under suspension. In other words except in those cases in which there is a complaint of violence, intimidation or active instigation, the discharged temporary employees would be permitted to rejoin duty after strict verification in each case in the light of these criteria. The employees so reinstated would continue to be liable to appropriate disciplinary action under the Service Rules where such action is justified on charges other than for only unauthorised absence from duty or where there is a conviction for an offence other than one under Section 4 of the Essential Services Main-

tenance Ordinance/Act, 1968, viz. far mere absence from duty.

It is hoped that the employees thus reinstated would justify by their responsible attitude and sense of discipline the consideration shown to them by the Government.

19 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): Mr Deputy Speaker.....

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I know you are very much interested. But if I allow you to put question, then half-an-hour debate cannot be taken up. I am sorry.

19.4 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

CONSTITUTION OF A FILM COUNCIL

SHRI N. K. SANGHI (Jodhpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the story of the film industry is a sad story. What is really surprising is that the Minister of Information and Broadcasting and the Government have been treating the film industry as an orphan child which is unwanted. This has been an unfortunate aspect in this country.

The question that I asked in the Parliament as to what is going to be the form of the Film Enquiry Committee has, as usual, been side-tracked. The only answer one gets is that a Film Council is being set up for ensuring healthy development of the film industry. The Minister has failed to give an answer as to what the function of this Council is going to be, what power it is likely to have and how this Film Council is going to tackle the basic problem facing the industry and how it is going to co-ordinate the various problems facing this industry.

I would like to draw your attention to the fact that it was the Patil Enquiry Committee in 1951 which gave this idea of the Film Council for the first time.

Thereafter it was shelved for 18 years. It never saw the light of the day. Then what happened? We had the film crisis last year during March-April of 1968. Cinemas were closed, studios were closed, and artists did not work. The whole film industry was paralysed and there was a grave crisis. Then the Minister was good enough to say that he was going to set up a Film Council for the improvement of this industry. Since then, another 12 months have passed till today. When we ask what the Film Council is going to do what its structure is going to be and how it is going to tackle the problems, there is no answer. I doubt whether the proposed Film Council is going to work for the betterment of the film industry.

We have to look into the last crisis in the film industry. There was big chaos. The industry was completely closed and there had been rising high costs and star costs and there was trouble because of the minimum guarantee of price asked for by the producers. All these led to the complete paralysis of the whole industry. Government never looked into this and never tried to improve the matter or solve the problem. The Government has known very well, the Finance Ministry has known very well and so also this Ministry has known very well that there is a racket of high star prices and some top ranking stars have raised their price from a couple of lakhs to as much as ten lakhs and most of this goes under the table which is really shameful for this country. It is only to improve these things that I thought possibly this Ministry would form a Film Council. But I am very much doubtful as to how the proposed council is going to help the industry and to look into the problems of the industry. We will have to examine what is the crux of the problem and the fundamental basis of the problem. Unfortunately, this Government has not given any importance to the film industry. Today what the film industry lacks is the financial backing. It is unfortunately not considered as an industry, but only as a medium of professional entertainers. Today there is no provision for the banking institutions to advance loans to the film industry. Naturally, all the film producers and the whole industry have to fall back on unorthodox methods of getting money and this has resulted in all the vagaries,