

SHRI P. K. DEO : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was in last November that the Swatantra Party passed a Resolution in the General Council meeting viewing with concern how the institution of Governors is being used to topple down constitutionally and legally formed Governments and to instal the minority Ministries and it is, consistent with that thinking that this Bill has been drafted.

The Swatantra Party is a democratic party and we hold different views. We have given freedom to all our Members to speak out openly as they feel as in the case of language, in the case of prohibition. So, we are not regimented in a way as you think and try to block the new thinking. That is why I give my thanks to my hon. friend, Shri Tapuriah, to have spoken out what he felt on the subject and, at the same time, I thank all those hon. Members of the House who have spoken on the Bill.

18 HRS.

Sir, the purpose was to highlight the importance of the institution of Governors. Uptill now, nobody bothered about it till after the General Elections in 1967 when there was a completely different political picture in this country. The various Ministries came, the small parties took up the responsibility of the Government and the Congress Party exercised power without responsibility and in this way there was a mockery of democracy in this country. There has been this thinking in certain quarters that the whole thing has to be reviewed. As we all know, it is not very easy to get this Bill passed by this House because two-third majority is required to pass a Constitution (Amendment) Bill. My Bill may not be as lucky as the motion on the Lok Pal Bill which was passed by this House. Anyway, I thank all those who participated in this debate and at the same time I would request Mr. Tapuriah to take the people of his constituency into his confidence and try to spread a more popular base and try to find out how the people in his area think of this institution of Governors. (Interruptions) I think, this debate has been useful and it has served the purpose. So, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Bill.

The Bill was by leave of the House, withdrawn.

18.02 HRS.

INDIAN PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of sections 292, 293, etc.)

SHRI D. C. SHARMA (Gurdaspur): I beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code and to provide for matters incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER : He may continue on the next occasion.

18.02½ HRS.

DISCUSSION ON STATEMENT OF HOME MINISTER RE : CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS IN PUNJAB

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Madhu Limaye Not here.

Mr. Surendranath Dwivedy Not here.

Mr. Venkatasubbaiah.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH rose—

MR. SPEAKER : Before he starts, I want to say this. This is a one-hour debate. A large number of members from Punjab, from Haryana and so on want to speak. So, the one-hour debate should not become a three-hour debate. I am going to restrict the time. The opener will take ten minutes and then a few members will have five minutes each. They may, therefore, express their views very briefly keeping in mind the fact that this is a one-hour debate. We cannot have more than one hour. I know, the hon. Member has prepared for himself a long speech. But he should be brief.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH (Nandyal) : I must thank you first of all for having taken the initiative and admitted for discussion this motion on the happenings in Punjab when the Speaker adjourned the Assembly. When this matter was brought in the House