

15.41 hrs.

**SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT (AM-
ENDMENT) BILL***

(Amendment of sections 3, 6, etc.)

श्री पा० ला० ब्राह्मण (गंगानगर) : श्रीमान्, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि संसद् सदस्यों के वेतन तथा भत्ते अधिनियम, 1954 में आगे संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक को पेश करने की अनुमति दी जाये।

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Sir, I want to oppose this. I take objection to this Bill.

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपको ख्याल होगा इस सदन में . . . (व्यवधान) . . .

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has a right to do it. He has written to me.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I have taken his permission. इससे पहले आपको ख्याल होगा इस सदन में जब नान-आफिशियल बिल आया था और जिसकी वजह से 400 रु० से बढ़ा कर 500 रु० तनख्वाह कर दी गई थी और 21 रु० से बढ़ा कर 31 रु० भत्ता कर दिया गया था, जब वक्त मेरे ख्याल में सारे देश की जनता ने जिसका नेतृत्व हम लोग करते हैं और नेतृत्व करने का दावा करते हैं, उन्होंने इसके बारे में काफी चर्चा की थी और अखबारों के एडिटोरियल में भी काफी निकला था। ऐसे वक्त में जब कि हिन्दुस्तान के—डा० साहब के कहने के मुताबिक—27 करोड़ आदमी सिर्फ साढ़े तीन आने रोज़ पाते हैं . . .

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया (कन्नौज) :
30 करोड़ आदमी।

श्री स० मो० बनर्जी : 30 करोड़ आदमी—तो आप समझ सकते हैं कि ऐसे

मौके पर ऐसा बिल लाना कहां नतक मासिब है। . . . (व्यवधान) . . .

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Otherwise, I will say that it should be circulated.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let him give his arguments. Why should there be so much of interruptions.

श्री शिव नारायण (बस्ती) : यहां बैठ कर हम को उपदेश देते हैं, बैसे कहते हैं कि दूनी तनख्वाह कर दो। चीप-पौपलैस्टी गेन करना चाहते हैं।

श्री स० मो० बनर्जी : इनको कह कह कर मिर पर चढ़ा लिया है।

Shri Sheo Narain: This is cheap popularity. Otherwise, is it the way to oppose or take objection?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, may I tell you sincerely that I thought insanity was a disqualification for being a member of this House. But I may be permitted to say that even an insane person can become a member of this House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is not fair.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): Sir, I object to it.

It should be expunged.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is not fair to refer to another hon. Member like that. I would ask him to withdraw it.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I will withdraw the word 'insanity'. उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इससे पहले भी एक बिल इसी सदन में आ चुका है जो कि श्री कृष्ण देव त्रिपाठी ने दिया था। मैं उस समय यहां नहीं था और दूसरे लोग भी नहीं होंगे,

[श्री स० मो० बनर्जी]

बिसय उन्हीने कहा था कि 10 हजार रुपये का फर्नीचर मकान में होना चाहिये, एक स्टेनोग्राफर मिलना चाहिये, दो टाइप-राइटर की मिलने चाहियें, एक इन्टेलिजेंट मिलना चाहिये, टेलीफोन की मिलना चाहिये, यहाँ तक कि दू० दू० यू० में भी फ्री जाना चाहते हैं।

श्री रणधीर सिंह (रोहतक) : स्टयस के मुलाबिक सब कुछ मिलना चाहिये।

श्री स० मो० बनर्जी : पता नहीं बाबूपाल जी ने अपने बिल में क्या कहा है। वह चाहते हैं कि 31 रु० से बढ़ा कर 50 रु० कर दिया जायें और इन्होंने श्राग कहा है कि—

"The present salary and daily allowance of the Members of Parliament are not enough to meet their daily requirements in view of the high prices". 22 लाख सरकारी कर्मचारियों का महगाई भत्ता मन्त्र गृहकार कमीशन का रिपोर्ट खाने के बाद भी सरकारी देन का पैसा नहीं है, जिसमें कि सिर्फ 6 रु० बढ़ाना है, लेकिन यहाँ पर 31 रु० से 50 रु० कराना चाहते हैं और कहते हैं कि सिर्फ 5 लाख रुपये का खर्च बढ़ेगा। उभाव्यक्त महादय, मैं इसका धोर विरोध करता हूँ और मैं यह समझता हूँ कि जो सरकार अपने कर्मचारियों को 1 रु० या 8 रु० महगाई भत्ता न दे सके, जिसका वजह से सारे देश में हाहाकार मचा हुआ है, वहाँ सदस्यों का भत्ता बढ़ाया जाय, यह मनासिब बात नहीं है। बत्ताब से पहले हमें क्या मिलता था, इस पर भी ध्यान देना चाहिये। मैं तो 250 रु० क्षमकाह का एक क्लर्क था, बड़ा श्रावणी नहीं था। (अवसान)

श्री स० मो० बाबूपाल : मजदूरी से चन्दा मिलता है।

श्री स० श्री० बनर्जी : मैं इस बिल का धोर विरोध करता हूँ। जब कि देश

में गरीबी और मुजबरी का धोर चल रहा है, एम० पाठ अपने एलाउन्समें बढ़वाना चाहते हैं—मैं इसका धोर विरोध करता हूँ।

I want that there should be voting on this.

Shri Ranga (Srikakulam): I do not want to take much time of the House. But I will say that this is not the right time when any such Bill should be introduced in this House. It is quite true that legislators in other countries enjoy many more privileges, facilities and opportunities. But then ordinary people also are much richer in other countries and less unfortunate and more fortunate.

We are going through an industrial recession in our country. The Finance Minister is faced with a grave financial crisis, a crisis that is now afflicting the country as a whole. This is the time when we should be thinking in terms of economising on every aspect of our public life and also private life. The Finance Minister also laid stress on the need for austerly.

Is this the time when we should allow a Bill like this to be introduced in this House? I could have understood it if 10 or 15 years ago, when we were so very liberal with hundreds of crores of rupees which we were able to raise through taxation and loans, loans outside as well as through gifts, we had thought about it. That time is gone. This is a wrong time. Therefore I do not want it to be placed on the Table of the House lest we should be misunderstood all over the country. Even as it is, quite a number of newspapers have written editorials about the various perquisites, privileges and other facilities that we, Members of Parliament, and MLAs in the States are enjoying and I feel that many a time their criticism was very much justified under the present circumstances. Therefore I do hope that my hon. friends would also join hands

with us in persuading the hon. Member not to press about his proposal to introduce it but to withdraw it in an honourable manner.

Some hon. Members rose—

Shri Shri Chand Goel (Chandigarh): Please permit us to give our view. Every party has its own point of view.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are rules. If there is a question of competence, there is a general discussion on that issue, but this is not a discussion about the competence of the House. He has objected to the very principle of the Bill. I have permitted a senior Member from this side though it was not permissible under the rules. What I would suggest is that when it comes before the House we will consider it.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: No Sir

Shri Shri Chand Goel: We have very strong sentimental objection.
(Interruption)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: For your benefit I will read out the relevant rule. It reads

"If a motion for leave to introduce a Bill is opposed, the Speaker, after permitting, if he thinks fit, a brief explanatory statement from the member who moves and from the member who opposes the motion, may, without further debate, put the question"

It says without further debate. Then it goes on to say that where the competence is concerned we can have a debate. Now there is no question of a debate. He can make a brief reply.

श्री ए० ए० बाबूपाल : मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि 1954 में जब यह बिल लाया था, उस वक्त इन आदर्शवादी बताये जाने वाले लोगों ने उमका विरोध नहीं किया था

श्री ए० ए० बाबूपाल : 1954 में मैं यहाँ नहीं था।

श्री ए० ए० बाबूपाल फिर मैं यह कहता हूँ कि आप इतने आदर्शवादी हैं तो ज्यादा मत लो। जो बिल हमने पहले पास किया था, उसके मुताबिक मत लो, उस पैके को छोड़ दो। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस विधेयक को प्रस्तुत करता हूँ। . .
(अवधान)

The Minister of Law (Shri Govinda Menon): May I say one word?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I will request Dr Ram Subhag Singh

Shri S. Kandappan: (Mettur) It is strange that such a Bill should have been brought here at this stage. I think, better counsel will prevail upon him.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Are you objecting on the question of competence?

Shri Govinda Menon: It is the long standing convention in this House that at the time of leave to introduce a Bill we do not enter into a discussion regarding the merits of the Bill. It does not follow that those who do not speak against the Bill are supporting the Bill.

This is not the occasion to do that.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, I put it to the vote of the House (Interruptions). I permitted Prof. Ranga to say a few words. That is all.

The question is

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament Act, 1954."

Those in favour of the motion will please say "Aye".

Some hon. Members: Aye

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Those against will please say "No".

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I think, the "Ayes" have it . . .

Some hon. Members: The "Noes" have it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let the Lobbies be cleared. Now, the Lobbies have been cleared. I put the question to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament Act, 1954."

Those in favour of the motion will please say "Aye".

Some hon. Members: Aye.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Those against will please say "No".

Several hon. Members: No.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The "Noes" have it, the "Noes" have it.

The motion is negatived.

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, we go to the next item.

Shrimati Lakshmikanthamma (Khammam): May I crave your indulgence? I want to say about the procedure of the House. The right of the Member to introduce a Bill is there. Since some people do not agree with the contents of the Bill, the situation has now arisen where a Bill cannot be introduced even . . . (Interruption).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is over now. You ought to have challenged it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The next item is that of Mr. Vajpayee. He is not present here.

15.55 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT)
BILL—contd.

(Amendment of Article 368) by Shri Nath Pai

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now we shall take up further consideration of the motion moved by Shri Nath Pai to refer the Constitution (Amendment) Bill (Amendment of Article 368) to a Select Committee.

We have already exhausted five hours. Now the Law Minister will intervene. He is not replying. His junior colleague will reply at a later stage.

The Minister of Law (Shri Govinda Menon): I have moved an amendment that this Bill be referred to a Joint Committee of both the Houses . . . (Interruptions).

Shri E. K. Nayanar (Palghat): There are so many members who have not spoken on this.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have said that the Law Minister is intervening and not replying. We have already exhausted five hours. We should try to finish this as early as possible because the next Bill has also to be taken up. (Interruptions). I have already indicated that we have already had enough time for this Bill. We have exhausted five hours. Now the Law Minister is intervening. Then Dr. Lohia is supposed to speak. Then one or two members will be called. We have to finish this as early as possible because the next Bill is also an important one and Mr. Madhu Limaye is sitting here.