

- (iii) The Companies (Transfer of Profits to Reserves) Amendment Rules, 1976, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 472(E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 1976. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-11125/76.]

11.45 hrs

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
SIXTY-SIXTH REPORT

SHRI G. G. SWELL (Autonomous Districts): I beg to present the Sixty-sixth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

FIFTY-FOURTH, FIFTY-FIFTH AND FIFTY-SIXTH REPORTS

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR (Karimganj): I beg to present the following Reports of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes:—

- (1) Fifty-fourth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirty-Fifth Report on the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (Department of Agriculture)—Reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (Headquarters), the Indian Agricultural Research Institute and the Directorate of Extension.

- (2) Fifty-fifth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Forty-second Report on the Ministry of Education, Social Welfare and Culture (Department of Education)—Reservation for, and employment of, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the University Grants Commission and admission and other facilities provided to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes by the Universities.

- (3) Fifty-sixth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Forty-eighth Report on the erstwhile Ministry of Finance (Department of Banking)—Recruitment of Probationary Officers in the Bank of India.

11.48 hrs.

DELHI SALES TAX (AMENDMENT AND VALIDATION) BILL*

MR SPEAKER: Shri Raghu Ramaiah has been authorised. Shri Raghu Ramaiah

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH) Sir, on behalf of Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend retrospectively the law relating to sales tax as in force in the Union Territory of Delhi during a past period and to validate taxes on the sale or purchase of certain goods during such period.

MR SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend retrospectively

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†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

[Mr. Speaker]

the law relating to sales tax as in force in the Union territory of Delhi during a past period and to validate taxes on the sale or purchase of certain goods during such period."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

11.50 hrs.

TERRITORIAL WATERS, CONTINENTAL SHELF, EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE AND OTHER MARITIME ZONES BILL—contd.

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Sri H. R. Gokhale on the 16th August, 1976, namely:—

"That the Bill to provide for certain matters relating to the territorial waters, continental shelf, exclusive economic zone and other maritime zones of India, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The time taken was 25 minutes. Shri Jagannath Rao may now continue his speech.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO (Chattrapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was submitting yesterday how, at the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea a broad consensus was arrived at regarding the territorial waters, its extent, continental shelf and maritime zones which are synonymous with the exclusive economic zone and, to this extent, the sovereign rights of the coastal States over these areas. What would remain to be decided by that International body was about the exploration and exploitation of the deep sea bed resources and how that body should be constituted, its powers and functions and so on. But, that does not deter us from proceeding with the

admitted areas, that is, the territorial waters, the continental shelf and maritime zones as admitted by a number of States. So, we need not wait for that.

We have got a long sea coast—the Bay of Bengal in the east, the Arabian Sea in the west and the Indian Ocean in the south. We have got vast resources. We found oil in the offshore and also other mineral resources within this area and we will have to exploit them at the earliest and we need not wait till a broad consensus or an agreement is arrived at at that Conference regarding the other matters which are still unresolved.

Sir, the international conferences go on unending; they do not arrive at decisions. That does not mean that we should sit idle as spectators and should wait till a final agreement is arrived at or it is signed. On such of those points as there are agreements—unanimous agreements—we should take them as decisions arrived at at the Conference and we shall have to take advantage of that and start exploiting the resources. We are exploring oil and we have exploited it and got good reserves and we shall have to intensify our efforts to find oils in the Bay of Bengal and also in other places in our country in the sea bed.

Apart from that, as I said, we have got mineral resources such as manganese ore in the deep sea beds as also copper, nickel and other valuable metals. We have to take advantage of it. The sea contains valuable metals—precious stones and all that. I do not understand why we should wait till the treaty is signed or a final conclusion is arrived at on the points which are still unresolved. These are my respectful submissions firstly.

Secondly, as I said, we have no marine technology and we have not been able to apply our mind in that direction. That we will have to do immediately by taking the assistance of our friendly countries. The Soviet