

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI OM MEHTA: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

17.16 hrs.

KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
(EXTENSION OF DURATION)
SECOND AMENDMENT BILL

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE
AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (DR.
V. A. SEYID MUHAMMAD): I beg
to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the further extension of the duration of the present Legislative Assembly of the State of Kerala, be taken into consideration."

As the House is aware, the duration of the Kerala Legislative Assembly was first extended by Parliament for a period of six months by the Kerala Legislative Assembly (Extension of Duration) Act, 1975 (23 of 1975), as the Proclamation of Emergency issued by the President under clause (1) of article 352 of the Constitution on the 3rd December, 1971 and the 25th June, 1975 were both in operation when the normal five year term of the said Assembly was due to expire. It was also considered at that time that it might be possible to synchronise the general election to the Kerala Legislative Assembly with the general election

to the House of the People which was due in March, 1976, so that expenditure on elections could be reduced, as far as possible.

When the extended period of duration of the Kerala Legislative Assembly was about to expire, it became clear that the proclamations of Emergency would continue in operation beyond the last date of the extended term of that Assembly, namely, the 21st April, 1976. Meanwhile, the duration of the House of the People has also been extended for a period of one year with effect from the 19th March, 1976 by the House of the People (Extension of Duration) Act, 1976. In these circumstances, it was considered necessary to extend the duration of the Kerala Legislative Assembly for a further period of six months. The duration of that Assembly was accordingly extended for a further period of six months by the Kerala Legislative Assembly (Extension of Duration) Amendment Act, 1976 (46 of 1976).

The circumstances in which the duration of the Kerala Legislative Assembly was extended for a period of six months for the second time (from the 22nd April, 1976 to the 21st October, 1976) continue to prevail. Both the Proclamations of Emergency continue to be in operation. It is, therefore, felt that it is not desirable to hold the elections now. It is proposed that the duration of the existing Legislative Assembly of Kerala may be extended for a further period of six months with effect from the 22nd October, 1976. The present Bill seeks to give effect to this proposal.

With these remarks, I commend the Bill for the consideration of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the further extension of the duration

[Mr. Chairman,

of the present Legislative Assembly of the State of Kerala, be taken into consideration."

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): Sir, this is the third time the life of the Kerala Assembly is being extended. The arguments given now are the same as were advanced last time when the Bill was brought in the March session. So, it appears that even today the argument is, because the emergency is continuing, there should be no election. If that is the position, it should be made clear that so long as there is emergency, there should not be any election. But it was common talk at least before this Bill was introduced, that "Kerala election is coming either in October or in November."

It was thought that this election will be testing ground, a probe for the coming general election and if the ruling party and the coalition fare badly in the coming general election. . .

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil): Do not worry about it

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: then, it will have its all-India repercussions, and then the ruling party will be in a very difficult and precarious position. That was the reason why there was some afterthought and this Bill has been brought again. At one time the talk of the election was so strong that the opposition parties in Kerala submitted one joint memorandum to the State Government, demanding that before the election the emergency should be withdrawn, normal civil liberties should be restored, the fundamental rights should be restored, the right to hold meetings and express free opinions should be granted, and all the political prisoners should be released, because without these things

the election becomes a farce. The opposition parties further decided to hold one joint convention on the 15th September in Cochin, called the Free and Fair Election Convention. They were also preparing to hold similar conventions in each constituency and, ultimately, on a village basis. Now, suddenly, this decision has come. Also, there is still a rumour that keeping the opposition completely unguarded, there may be a sudden announcement of elections. The ruling party is capable of it, and it can do this. There is no doubt in our mind about the role played by the ruling party. When the election will come or will not come will depend absolutely upon the advantage the situation will give to the ruling party. It will select a suitable time which will give it a favourable position. So, no principle is involved in this argument which is being advanced that because there is emergency and the old conditions are still prevailing, so this Bill has come that there will be no elections.

Why is it that the opposition is demanding elections? Last time, Shri A K Gopalan declared that after the six months are over, the elections will not be held but the ruling party will come with another Bill to extend the existing Legislature by still another six months. His forecast has now come true. Because of his ill-health, he is not able to be present here. Otherwise he would have spoken on this Bill.

The role played by the ruling party in relation to holding or not holding elections is now known to us. In Tamil Nadu they could not wait even for two months to hold the elections. They dismissed the Assembly because, according to them, the situation was so bad and so President's rule had to be clamped down. But so far as Kerala is concerned, the longevity of the Assembly is being

increased by six months, and again by six months and no elections. Why? The reason is the same, namely, that the ruling party is not prepared to face the electorate.

Whenever we make this charge, they deny it, and their argument is that the people are rallying in large masses behind them under the 20-point programme under emergency. If that is the reality, then why is the fear in calling for elections? If people are rallying behind you on a large scale, you declare elections, you will get elected. Then your projection of being democratic you will be honestly able to establish. But, what is the method adopted here? Because the Opposition took the initiative and held an election convention and organised campaigns at the lowest level, the ruling party thought that it might go against them, that the time was not appropriate for elections, though the talk was so strong that everybody thought that elections were coming in Kerala. Why are we demanding elections? Because the conditions in Kerala are such that the life of those who are not with the ruling coalition is almost a hell.

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR (Quilon): What about West Bengal?

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: In West Bengal we cannot hold any meeting. Even if there is election, we cannot

SHRI P. M. SAYEED (Lacadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands): Why? People are not supporting you?

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: People know, we are not allowed to meet people. I have submitted a large number of banning orders issued by the District Magistrates and Sub-divisional Officers everywhere. Even today I have submitted to Mr. Om Mehta the orders of District Magistrates and Sub-divisional Officers banning meeting held by CPM and their

allies even on issues of constitutional amendment. Physically we are being murdered wherever we go. Some of the areas we call occupied areas. Semi-Fascist elements are ruling in West Bengal. Whatever news you are served by the bourgeois press is distorted news. That is why you do not know the real position in West Bengal. So, I invite all Members to go there personally and see what is happening, now we are boycotting the Assembly since the 1972 election, and why the sixty days absence clause has not been applied in our case, because there the ruling party knows that it is guilty. They have a guilty conscience, they are not filling those seats. But, unfortunately, because of machinations and propaganda, a wrong distorted image of West Bengal is being created. I say publicly that if there is immediate election in West Bengal, there is no question of our taking part in it because we will not be allowed to hold public meetings. Gangsters will attack us and murder us with the full protection of the police and the administration

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: What about Kerala?

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Kerala murders, I am coming to that.

MR CHAIRMAN: I think the way Mr. Mukherjee is proceeding in this debate looks as if it is a full-scale debate for the whole country. I have only one hour at my disposal. There are 8 Members to speak. I will give five minutes each to the Congress Members, and the same for the three opposition Members, and for Mr. Mukherjee 15 minutes. He has taken ten, I will give him another five.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: I have to place some facts.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No question of facts.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE
My time was taken because I was provoked

MR CHAIRMAN You have taken ten minutes. Please do not provoke him any more. For provocation, he will get two minutes more, total six minutes. He will finish by 5.35.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE
Murders have started in Kerala, still we are demanding elections in Kerala, but in West Bengal, the situation is different.

This is a letter written by a Rajya Sabha MP to Shri Branmananda Reddy on 24th July 1976.

"I write this to bring to your attention the tragic circumstances which led to the sudden and untimely death of Comrade A N Abdullah, a well-known trade union leader of Kerala while he was in detention under MISA in the Cannanore Central Prison."

Last time Shri Gopalan gave three examples of persons being beaten to death in the police lock-up and in jail. As the time at my disposal is short, I do not want to go into details. The doctor recommended Shri Abdullah to shift to the hospital. But that was refused. So, he was forced to die.

Then, here is the letter of a father. He is the ex-Professor of the Calicut Government Arts College. He is writing to the hon Home Minister Government of India. It reads:

"I have been informed by the Principal, Regional Engineering College, Calicut, that my only son P Rajan, final year student of the College has been arrested by the police on 1-3-78. Ever since I tried by every best to know his whereabouts but all my efforts, so far have been futile."

The pitiable appeals of this aged father to the State Government authorities were only a cry in the wilderness. The father doubts that the boy has been murdered.

I want to remind you of the earlier incident of the police seizing all copies of our party's document on constitutional reforms. Our party published one pamphlet on constitutional reforms. Five thousand copies have been completely seized and confiscated. I do not know whether all these copies have been destroyed or not. But this complaint has been made by Mr E M S Nambodiripad to the Home Minister, Mr Brahmananda Reddy and even to the Prime Minister. But no reply. The Home Minister there said that they have taken these copies of the pamphlet only to see whether it violates the law. But it is more than two months now. This is a letter written by Mr E M S Nambodiripad to Mr Brahmananda Reddy dated 1-6-78. It reads:

"I may inform you that after I met and discussed with the Collector and the S P of the district on May 1 the district authorities of Cannanore made some efforts to bring the situation back to normalcy.

There was gangsterism.

Then it says:

"Encouraged by this double standard by Shri Karunakaran and his friends in Cannanore district, the Congress goondas are having a field day. A large number of libraries have been attacked and completely destroyed along with the offices of our party, trade unions, Harshaka Sanghams and other mass organisations. A partial list of such offices, libraries, etc attacked and destroyed till the end of April was supplied to you along

with the copy of our district party's letter to the Chief Minister. The process unfortunately, is going on. There is, in fact, a diabolical plan to physically destroy all those who oppose the ruling party, as our party is undoubtedly doing.

As I had made it clear in my earlier communications, I would not complain, as I have no right to complain, if action is taken again t any of our people who in such disturbed conditions had behaved in such a way as to attract the due processes of law. My complaint is that on the one hand, the police is giving active protection to those who belong to the ruling party and without any regard even to the elementary norms of observing the law, while false cases are foisted on our people and the police torture them. All this is done for no other reason than the fact that they are egged on to do so by the President of the DCC who in turn gets the active encouragement and help of the Home Minister."

These are the conditions under which our supporters are living there. Naturally they will demand elections; they will demand change of Government. Life is hell there. There are so many other things I can tell you how the cooperatives are being forcefully captured from the supporters of our party or our allies. There are details ..

MR CHAIRMAN: Please try to conclude. You have quoted enough.

AN HON. MEMBER: He can write to the Home Minister.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: All these have been written to the Home Minister.

MR CHAIRMAN: They have been written to the Prime Minister also.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Only the Prime Minister and the

Home Minister know. The Members do not know. When there is a debate, we want to draw the attention of the whole House.

MR CHAIRMAN: The time allotted for this Bill is one hour, and I have already allowed you 15 minutes. Please conclude in two minutes.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Then there is the pre-censorship. The Prime Minister told in Colombo that there was no pre-censorship. But, in Kerala, there is pre-censorship in respect of our party paper, *Devabimani*; now it has been extended to our weekly, *Chintha*, also. Meetings are not allowed; even if meetings are allowed inside a hall, mikes are not allowed. There is no scope for expressing our opinions freely. Organized goonda gangs are attacking our meetings. Under these circumstances, naturally, we want that there must be elections as early as possible; we want that all these restrictions must be withdrawn, all the prisoners must be released and a fair and free election must be held.

Sir, we oppose this Bill.

DR HENRY AUSTIN (Ernakulam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Kerala has been enjoying, for the last nearly six years, a certain political stability, unheard of in its history. The bane of Kerala politics, since the evolution of democratic process, has been lack of stability and it had a very deleterious effect on the development at the economic and social levels. But today thanks to the general awareness among the people, learning from past experiences of how political parties also vied with one another to create conditions for this kind of sorry state of affairs, people have come to realise that stability is basic to all development and to the prime necessity of the State. Today, if you make an assessment of the socio-economic transformation that has already taken place in Kerala,

[Dr Henry Austin]

I am sure objective observers will hold the view that Kerala is in a vanguard position in the matter of socio-economic development. I have heard my good friend, Mr Samar Mukherjee. I have great regards for some leaders of the Marxist Party, I respect Opposition parties. But it is an irony of fate, perhaps, that the Marxist Party, of all the parties, is saying that a reign of violence and terror has been let loose in Kerala. The people of Kerala do recall the sort of violence and the sort of destructive activities carried on by the Marxist Party when they were in power and also otherwise.

AN HON MEMBER Even today

DR HENRY AUSTIN I know of the difficult Marxist party situation in Kerala; I do not want to embarrass my distinguished colleague any further.

Now, the least I would say is that even to-day if you go to areas where Marxist party has some influence—they have some hold in some isolated pockets—some misguided youngmen and others are still holding on pathetically to the belief that by resorting to violence they can bring about a revolution. But the more sober elements who have supported the Marxist Party to-day realise that the best way for the salvation of our State, a State which is an integral part of our great country, is to take to more sober means for socio-economic transformation. And I am sure that my distinguished friend is not unaware of the sad experience the Marxist Party leaders there are having in terms of depletion of their rank and file. Sir, I do not want to dwell much on this point because every Party has its own vicissitudes.

To-day I would like to say that when this Bill is being brought here

though I personally feel that the State should go through democratic processes as often as possible particularly in Kerala nobody would regret if the life of the Assembly is extended for another year or so. I recall my own experience. Sir, I successfully contested the Assembly elections in 1965. I was able to defeat rival candidate of powerful parties. But then I was not able to sit in the Assembly even for one day because the Assembly was dissolved even before it was summoned. So, in a State like that, naturally when it is extended by one year, nobody would shed tears because we have lost several years of normal tenure of Assemblies because of frequent dissolution of Assemblies. So when our State for the first time has achieved a sort of political stability for five years and more then when it is extended by another six months naturally people would only feel happy that the period of stability, the era of stability has been further extended. Sir if you had read the newspapers of Kerala or even national newspapers last year when the Assembly completed its normal five year term you would have noted the general jubilation in the State, people celebrated the event with much éclat. Public meetings, mammoth meetings were organized, seminars were held and there was general satisfaction that the Ministry completed five years. This only shows how the people liked a government.

Sir how did we reach this kind of stability. As an experience it would throw some light to Mr Mukherjee. It was the Marxist Party, of all the parties which innovated or introduced into our body politic the practice of encouraging mushroom, chota parties. They would say from platforms and from housetops 'We want revolutionary parties. We want ideologically pure parties.' But, on the other hand in actual practice what

did they do? They encouraged communal forces in the garb of some high-sounding political nomenclature. For the sake of anti-Congressism, they encouraged small, insignificant mushroom parties. Their sole aim was to defeat the Congress. One of the reasons why Mr. E. M. S. Namboodiripad could not continue even for two years during his second term was that for the purpose of winning the election, they put up these party candidates and succeeded largely by exploiting limited loyalties or encouraging communal and other forces. But, after winning the election, those small parties started to act according to their own moorings and so they could not carry on... (Interruptions). Your united front was there in 1952. What happened was the United Front could not continue. There was great bickering, within the front by those disparate groups and Mr. E. M. S. Namboodiripad could not continue. Therefore, Mr. Namboodiripad, even when he had the majority, could not simply carry on. But the sort of United Front to-day ruling there is a united front which is committed to stability, a united front which believes that the urgent need of Kerala and the urgent need of Karalites is political stability.

You know that, in spite of the political consciousness of the people in Kerala from the point of view of their economic condition, they are way down. Over 40 per cent of our people are living below poverty line. We want political stability for improving their lot. At this stage, people cannot be rallied for destructive purposes. We have had enough of destruction; and this Government has been able to give a very good image; we have been able to achieve very much on the socio-economic fronts.

Our Government has implemented two or three projects which have caught the imagination not only of the people of our State but also that

of the whole nation. For instance, we have been able to achieve a miracle in the field of public health. Every Panchayat in our State has now got a Public Health Centre. This indeed is an achievement of which the State can be proud of; elsewhere in the country. I am told, that at least in some areas, people have to walk 20 to 25 miles to get to the nearest public health centre. Even in the remotest village, we have some kind of medical facilities. This was achieved, no doubt, largely by Central aid but the direction and leadership of the Ministry was basic. Everyone knows about the one lakh housing scheme. In every Panchayat, about 1,000 houses have been constructed. This programme has been, by and large, implemented by the voluntary cooperation of the people. There was a tremendous people's involvement in this big housing scheme. Housing was one of the more important and acute problems faced by our people. Lakhs of people particularly in the coastal areas are living without a roof over their heads. So the people trusted the Government and responded to the call of the Government: when the housing scheme was started, the people came forward voluntarily to make the scheme a success. The rapid strides Kerala has made in the matter of land reforms is well known. To-day every tenant in Kerala has ten cents of land. This is no mean achievement. Today Kerala is in the vanguard of the agrarian reform. After the present Government came to power, agrarian reforms continued to change our social fabric to social progress. The agrarian revolution has ignited a sense of euphoria in our State even among the lower echelon of our society. These are two or three more significant achievements to the credit of our government.

For instance, we have expanded to new horizon in exploiting new resources. During the last few years, as everybody knows, a blue revolution has set in in Kerala. We have

[Dr Henry Austin]

exported—it was zero in 1953—marine products worth over 150 crores in the last year. Today, we have a leading position in the world in the sea-food export. In the same way, our plantation products also have a good place in world market. We are to-day having an international market. These could not have been achieved had it not been for the fact that we have a Government committed to the welfare of the people.

Again one more word, Sir. The weaker sections of our society who are the main victims of exploitation by the gullible propaganda by the Marxists Party are deserting them. It is the weaker sections of our society, the vulnerable sections of our society who have benefited from very many nation-building activities. I have catalogued earlier carried on by our Govt. From the social and economic angles as well as from the political angle our State has achieved much in recent years. In the wake of these significant achievements, this Bill for extension is welcome and the people will only be happy.

However, the ruling United Front, much less the Congress Party is ready to fight the elections any time. You know, Sir, that ours is the single party in the State. In any election to come the Congress and its allies who have succeeded in giving our people leadership stability and economic progress will be returned with overwhelming majorities.

Therefore, Sir, I welcome this Bill.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA
(Tellicherry) Sir, this is the third time that Government is coming forward with the Bill to seek extension of the life of the Kerala Legislature.

I stand to support this Bill. But, I am not so jubilant in supporting this extension as Mr Henry Austin has

And also I am not so diffident as Mr Samar Mukherjee is about the situation in Kerala. Why is it so? Because during the last six months after the last extension was sought in this House it would have been possible for the Central Government to arrange for the Kerala elections and there was a congenial condition existing in that State. The President of the Congress Party and the leaders of the Congress Party in Kerala said on more than one occasion that they are ready to face the electorate. The Chief Minister of Kerala spoke on behalf of the coalition that the coalition is also ready to face the electorate in Kerala.

Then Sir, the Government says the situation in the country remains as it was before and as such they are seeking extension of the life of Government in Kerala. If I remember in this House itself ministers after ministers were coming and telling that they are trying to relax the emergency and they are releasing prisoners. They are trying to bring about condition under which the harshness of emergency will be felt little. While speaking to foreign press in Colombo the Prime Minister himself said that the Government's aim is to relax the emergency. If that is the situation and the Government is going in for relaxation of emergency then I think it would have been very appropriate for the Government to go in for elections in Kerala.

When I say this I would like to make it very clear that Shri Samar Mukherjee and his party need not indulge in day-dreaming that in the elections they will again come back victorious in Kerala. I think that is a closed chapter. They cannot. They will be badly defeated. It is not that they have no freedom to work among the people or do their propaganda—I have not any quarrel with the Marxist party when they say they are harassed—but they are rather exposed before the

people. Mr. Henry Austin narrated the various socio-economic measures that the Kerala Government had taken up during the last several years. I need not repeat the same. Now, to all these schemes what was the attitude of the Marxist party? Absolutely negative and cynical attitude was taken by the Marxist party. So, they are exposed. They are thoroughly isolated from the people. Their rank and file is running away from the leadership.

Sir, the main point is, today in Kerala the United Front is ready to go in for election as has been made clear by Mr. Achuta Menon and all the parties to the coalition. That being the case—while supporting the Bill—I would request the Government that they should not come to this House again, the fourth time, for an extension. I will support this Bill but they should not come again and say that the situation is the same. Situation in Kerala is good for holding elections.

In this context, I have certain questions to ask. While speaking about this, Dr. Austin said that the Government had done well and political stability had been given to the State. But is it an argument? If a Government is doing good and it is providing political stability, can you say that that Government can continue with one extension after another without election?

DR. HENRY AUSTIN: I said that the current political stability is admired by the people and so this extension will not be resented by them.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Make it a permanent thing!

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: I did not say that Dr. Austin said it. But is that an argument for not having election or for postponing election?

In this context, I would like the hon. Minister to enlighten us as to what the attitude of this Government is towards holding elections in the country, for

Parliament as well as the State Assemblies. The same argument can be extended. After emergency has been imposed, after the 20-point economic programme has been implemented, there are good things happening; political stability is ensured, reaction is pushed back. But can you say that we will seek more extension for Parliament and we will go ahead without election?

The Minister who was answering a question in the other House said that it is the prerogative of the Prime Minister to decide about the election. I agree with him. It is the prerogative of the Prime Minister, but this House has the right to know from this Minister when he is seeking an extension of the life of the Kerala legislature at least an indication as to when we are going to face the electorate. I think the Congress Party today can face the electorate. They will ask, Who are you to say that? Well, that is my view. This country can go in for an election now; it cannot seek refuge under any pretext that we will go on extending and extending without election.

There are certain strange arguments being advanced like these. Under socialism there is no election necessary. This is a very strange theory, a reactionary theory. Then another theory is advanced that when a Government is doing good for the people, no election is necessary. I say this will eat away the vitals of parliamentary democracy. So when you speak of parliamentary democracy, when we are living under a Constitution which provides for parliamentary democracy, there is no escape from facing the electorate.

We supported the emergency; we are still supporting it. We supported extension of the life of Lok Sabha. We supported the extension of the Kerala legislature, we are going to support it

[Shri C. K. Chandrappan]

again. But we are entitled to know from the Government what is their attitude in relation to the problems I am raising. Will you face the electorate in the near future and go in for elections, parliamentary as well as Assembly?

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Keeping the emergency intact!

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Shri Samar Mukherjee may have his view.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Forget the provocation.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Statements made by official spokesmen many times suggested that emergency and election need not be counterposed. I am also saying: do not counterpose election and emergency. But give an assurance...

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: With the Opposition in jail.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: when we are going in for elections. This will lay to rest the prophets of doom here and in the western press that democracy in India is doomed. Democracy in India need not be doomed. For that I think the Government should adopt a positive attitude towards the problem. They should say that they are ready to face the electorate and that they will not come before the House for seeking another extension for the Kerala Legislature. Then, there is reason to support that; otherwise unwittingly you will be contributing to the enemies of the country, enemies of the policies of the government who would say that in

India democracy has been doomed, think they will not do that.

When you are extending the life of the Kerala Legislature, certain demands of the Kerala government should be conceded also. There is the Kerala Labour Welfare Fund Bill awaiting President's assent for one year or so; it is a good Bill providing so many good things for the poor people. The Marxist Party never did it; the Coalition did it. That assent should be given. A draft Ordinance for nationalisation of foreign plantations has been pending assent for the last five long years. What will happen to that? There is the Medical Practitioners' Bill which was sent back without assent; it provided facilities for those who got their degrees in integrated medical courses, those who were ayurvedic as well as allopathic. The Kerala government wanted some facilities to be provided but the Central Government sent it back. Lastly, tomorrow the Central Sales Tax Bill is coming up and I should request the hon. Law Minister to consider the point raised by the Kerala Government. Because out of Kerala's total revenue of Rs. 127 crores, Rs. 23 crores will be knocked off if that Bill is enacted as it is proposed without agreeing to the amendment that is proposed by the Kerala government. I think those good things should be favourably considered by the government when the extension of the life of the Kerala Legislature is sought. With these words I support the Bill but I again request them not to come here again for a similar extension.

18.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, August 31, 1976/Bhadra 9, 1898 (Saka)