

and will see that any commitment made by the Government is honoured.

The hon. Member said that the Government only speaks, It does not act. I do not think that. The CPI Member said that in July Session Government should bring in the Bill. I will now say that the Government is intending to bring a Bill for nationalisation within this Session. I think within this we shall have this Bill and it should be sent to the Joint Select Committee.

With these words, I feel, and the Hon'ble Members will feel, that the Government is not sleeping over it. Government is not intending to dole out the money. It is not that the Government has not kept its commitment. Government is trying to bring the Bill for nationalisation in this Session of Parliament and it will go to the Joint Select Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :
"That the Bill to amend the General Insurance (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1971, be taken into consideration."

The Motion was adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN : We now take up clause-by clause consideration

As there are no amendments, I will put all the clauses to the vote of the House together. The question is :

"That Clauses 2 to 4 stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

*Clauses 2 to 4 were added to the Bill
Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed"

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed"

The motion was adopted.

16-15 hrs

SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : Sir, I beg to move* :

"That the Bill further to amend the Salaries and allowances of Members of Parliament Act 1954, be taken into consideration."

Sir, this a very simple measure. As brought out in the Statement of Objects and reasons, the objects of this Bill is to provide two of our colleagues in this House, representing the Union Territory of Andman & Nicobar Islands and the Union Territory of Laccadive, Minicoy and Amaldivo Islands the facility of one free non-transferable pass each which will entitle them to travel at any time by the highest class by steamer to and fro any part of his constituency and any other part of his constituency or the nearest port in the mainland of India. This is coterminus with the facilities already available to members under the Identity Card cum-Railway pass in terms of section 6 of the Act. Subsequent to the introduction of Bill in Lok Sabha on the 20th December 1971, a suggestion was made that the steamer pass proposed to be given to two Members should entitle them to take the spouse and a servant with them as is the case with the rail journeys. This suggestion was examined and it was agreed that this facility might be extended to the two Members. Accordingly, I have given notice of moving an amendment to the Bill. This amendment seeks to entitle the members to :

- (i) one free pass for one person to accompany the Member and to travel by the lowest class by steamer and
- (ii) one free non-transferable pass for the spouse to travel by the highest class by steamer to and fro the usual place of residence of the Member in his constituency and the nearest port in the mainland of India, once during every session.

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[Shri Raj Bahadur]

Both these facilities of steamer pass for the spouse and the person to accompany the Member and similar to the facilities of railway pass available to the Members for "spouse" under the existing section 6A, which is now proposed to be re named as section 6B.

The other amendments proposed in the Bill are either consequential or verbal in nature.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That the Bill further to amend the Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament Act, 1954, be taken into consideration."

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Chairman, we certainly support this Bill. We should not deny to the two hon. Members representing the constituencies named in the Bill the privileges and advantages mentioned here. But while supporting that, I wonder why the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should not consider as why others should be deprived of those facilities. Even those hon. Members who do not represent these constituencies should not be deprived the facility of visiting these areas which are part of India.

Similarly, there are some other areas of this country where also the hon. Members representing these constituencies are not getting this benefit. One such instance is the two constituencies of Tripura. There is no railway connection and so the railway passes do not help them at all. The only method of coming is by air to Calcutta and they find it very difficult to get facilities for that. I would request the hon. Minister to consider their case also favourably and bring forward a suitable legislation at the appropriate time.

The only other matter which I would like to bring to the notice of the House is this. Certainly, the Members of Parliament should have all the facilities and benefits. But we are also answerable to the people at large in this country. We find on many occasions that the sitting of the House has to be interrupted for want of quorum. The ruling party, which has got a preponderant majority, is unable to arrange even the minimum attendance for the purpose of conducting the business of the

House. It seems that having obtained almost monopolistic power they have lost faith in parliamentary democracy. We find that very important matters, which are raised on the floor of the House, are not answered adequately or fully or not even answered at all. They are supposed to be dealt with by public speeches delivered at public meetings.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : Is it relevant ?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We must generate faith in parliamentary democracy. Certainly, Members should be given all facilities and benefits but we should not abuse the privileges that we are getting as Members of Parliament.

With these words, I support this Bill.

श्री शिवनाथ सिंह (झुझुनू) : सभापति महोदय, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ। इन दो मंत्रियों के पास रेलवे के पास है। उनकी अपनी कोस्टीट्यूटन्सी से भारत-भूमि में आने के लिए स्टीमर का पास मिलना चाहिए, यह वाजिब बात है। जैसा कि मेरे पूर्ववक्ता माननीय सदस्य ने कहा है, अंडमान-निकोबार आदि द्वीप हमारे देश के भाग हैं, इसलिए पार्लियामेंट के अन्य मंत्रियों को भी वहाँ जाने की सहूलियत होनी चाहिए, वरन यह डिसक्रिमिनेशन होगा। शायद मिनिस्टर फ़ार पार्लियामेंटरी एफ़ेयर्स का ध्यान इस बात की ओर नहीं गया है। इसलिए यह उचित है कि वह अपने अन्य एम्प्लोयर्स के साथ यह एम्प्लोयमेंट भी रखें कि पार्लियामेंट के अन्य सदस्य भी, जो उन द्वीपों में नहीं आते हैं, वहाँ जा सकें, वहाँ के हालात और संस्कृति आदि को देख सकें। जैसा कि मैंने कहा है कि उन दो मंत्रियों के पास रेलवे का पास पहले से है और अब उन्हें स्टीमर का पास भी दिया जा रहा है, जबकि बाकी सदस्यों के पास केवल रेलवे का पास है। मंत्री महोदय को एक एम्प्लोयमेंट लाकर बाकी सदस्यों को भी यह सहूलियत देनी चाहिए।

श्री रामाचतार शास्त्री (पटना) : सभापति महोदय, मैं संसद सदस्यों के बैठकों और जर्नलों से सम्बन्धित संपादन विधेयक का समर्थन

करता हूँ। लेकिन मैं भी यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जब सरकार सभी सदस्यों को रेलवे से देश के हर एक भाग में जाने की सहुलियत देती है, तब कोई कारण नहीं है कि अगर कोई अण्डमान-निकोबार आदि द्वीपों में जाना चाहे, तो उसे स्टीमर से सफर करने की सुविधा न दी जाये। केवल दो सदस्यों को यह सुविधा देने का कोई औचित्य मुझे मालूम नहीं होता है। आमतौर से सब सदस्य वहाँ नहीं जाना चाहेंगे, लेकिन जो जाना चाहें, उन्हें आवश्यक सुविधा दी जानी चाहिए। सरकार को सभी के लिए एक कानून बनाना चाहिए और सभी सदस्यों को उन द्वीपों में जाने के लिए स्टीमर का पास दिया जाना चाहिए। हम सब सदस्यों के पास रेलवे के पास हैं, लेकिन सब देश भर में सफर नहीं करते हैं। मैं केवल पटना से वहाँ और यहाँ से पटना आता-जाता हूँ और जब तक कोई भीटिंग आदि न हो, मैं कहीं और नहीं जाता हूँ। मेरा कहना यह है कि मंत्री महोदय अन्य सदस्यों को इस अधिकार से क्यों महकूम रख रहे हैं।

जैसा कि श्री सोमनाथ चटर्जी ने कहा है, जो माननीय सदस्य त्रिपुरा से आते हैं, रेलवे लाइन न होने के कारण उनके लिए कोई दूसरी व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए और उन्हें हवाई जहाज से आने-जाने की सुविधा दी जानी चाहिए।

इस बिल में कहा गया है कि इन दो सदस्यों को स्टीमर में भोजन नहीं दिया जायेगा। आखिर इन दो सभ्यताओं के भोजन पर कितना खर्च होगा? यह उचित नहीं है। उन्हें भोजन जरूर दिया जाना चाहिए।

मंत्री महोदय इस विधेयक को थोड़ा व्यापक बनायें, ताकि यह सब सदस्यों पर लागू हो सके।

श्री आर० डी० भंडारे (बम्बई-मध्य) : सभापति महोदय, मैं इस विधेयक का समर्थन करता हूँ। मुझे बड़ी खुशी है कि विरोधी दल के सदस्य हमेशा ऐसे विधेयकों का विरोध करते आते हैं। लेकिन आज यह बड़े आश्चर्य और ताज्जुब की बात है कि वह इस विधेयक का

समर्थन ही नहीं कर रहे हैं, बल्कि अपने लिए और ज्यादा सुविधायें भी मांग रहे हैं। वे यह सुझाव भी दे रहे हैं कि उनके लिए खाने का भी कुछ प्रबन्ध होना चाहिए।

श्री रामाबतार शास्त्री : केवल दो सदस्यों के लिए।

श्री आर० डी० भंडारे : मैं उनको धन्यवाद देता हूँ और इस विधेयक का समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्री आर० डी० बड़े (खरगोन) : सभापति महोदय, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ। प्रश्न यह है कि मंत्री महोदय इस बिल को इतनी देर में क्यों लाये हैं। माननीय सदस्यों को चुनाव के तुरन्त बाद यह सुविधा मिलनी चाहिए थी।

जैसा कि श्री सोमनाथ चटर्जी ने कहा है, जब सदस्यों को वेतन और भत्ता मिलना है, तो उसके साथ-साथ उन पर जवाबदेही भी आती है। मैं तीसरी लोक सभा का भी सदस्य था। मैंने उस समय यह कभी नहीं देखा कि बार-बार कोरम की घटी बजती हो, सदस्यों को बार-बार हाउस में आना पड़ता हो और वहाँ तक कि प्राइम मिनिस्टर को भी अपना काम छोड़ कर यहाँ आना पड़ता हो। मैं समझता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में जवाबदेही सबकी है—हमारी भी है और सत्तारूढ़ दल की भी है। इस बिल का समर्थन करते हुए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि पार्लियामेंट के मंत्री अपनी जवाबदेही को समझें।

इस बिल में कहा गया है :

“Provided that nothing in this sub-section shall be construed as absolving the member from payment of any diet charges payable by him during such travel.”

मैं समझता हूँ कि यह लिखने की जरूरत नहीं थी, क्योंकि हम खाना नहीं मांगते हैं। साथ ही राजबहादुर ने अपनी फोरसाइटिवनेस से बड़े व्यवस्था कर दी है कि कहीं सदस्य भोजन न माँग लें।

मैं इस बिल का पूर्णतया समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्री शशि भूषण (दक्षिण दिल्ली) : सभा-पति महोदय, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ। मैं श्री राजबहादुर से यह दरखास्त करना चाहता हूँ कि वह विमान की सुविधा तो दे रहे हैं, लेकिन अण्डमान में, और खासतौर से लककादीवी में एयरोड्रोम...

एक माननीय सदस्य : इसमें विमान की सुविधा नहीं है।

श्री शशि भूषण : अगर नहीं है, तो मैं चाहूँगा कि उनको विमान की भी सुविधा देनी चाहिए। क्योंकि वहाँ से यहाँ आने में बहुत समय लग जाता है।

सब सदस्यों ने इस बिल का समर्थन किया है, लेकिन मुझे हैरानी हुई कि सी० पी० आई० (आओइस्ट) के सदस्य ने हमारी पार्टी को एकाधिकारी सत्तारूढ़ पार्टी बताया है, हालांकि हमारी पार्टी विश्व में सबसे बड़ी प्रजातन्त्रीय पार्टी है।

मैं इस बिल का हृदय से समर्थन करता हूँ।

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : Mr Chairman, Sir, I am very grateful to the hon. Members for the unanimous support that they have given to this measure. This is really creating a history in a way.

I also find that the hon. Members have taken this opportunity to stress the point that the new provision should not be discriminated between one member and another and that, if the two Members, one from Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands and the other from Andaman and Nicobar Islands, are getting this facility, all other members should also get it. But let me tell them that these two members constitute a class by themselves. Their home constituencies lie in one island and, therefore, this facility is being provided to them. They do not have very easy means of communications. Let us imagine for ourselves how much time they have to spend in their journey. Let us also imagine that this is co-terminous, completely in line, with the facility that other members are getting on the railway.

As Regards the question of providing the same facility to other members is concerned, while I must confess that I too have every sympathy with the basu idea namely that all other members should also be in a position to visit these islands—those parts of our country—, the question is again one of availability of finances. I am sure the members themselves must have taken this particular aspect into account; otherwise, they would have come with some specific amendment, but none of them has done so...

MR. CHAIRMAN : All the amendments have come from you.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : They could have tabled an amendment, but they did not. As I said, it might involve a substantial amount of money; this would have to be calculated and we would then have to approach the President for necessary recommendation. On grounds of economy therefore, we may deny ourselves, for the time being, this facility. On the other hand, as the Minister of Shipping and Transport, I would like the members to visit Andamans, Laccadives, Minicoy and Amindivi islands, and if they do so, I will try to make all possible arrangements for them—as best as I can. That will be something, though it will not be completely what they want.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Including meals ?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : If they come with me, I will provide meals because then we shall visit them on an official tour or inspection tour.

So far as the question of diet is concerned, this is not provided with the railway pass also. Since no diet is provided during travel by rail, so also no diet is provided during journey by steamer. It is only an additional facility to cover the sea journey; nothing more.

I am grateful to the hon. members for the support that they have given, and I hope that the Bill will be passed.

AN HON. MEMBER : What about quorum ?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : About quorum, these matters are extraneous to this (Interruption).

About Tripura, they are entitled to travel by air. My information is that the Tripura members can go to Agartala by air. There is no difficulty about it even in accordance with the ordinary rules...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Only once when they attend the session ; not always.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : If the House is of the opinion that we should seriously consider it we will have to bring another Bill. (Interruption)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament Act, 1954, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now we take up clause-by-clause consideration,

To Clauses 2 and 3, there are no amendments. I shall put these Clauses to the vote of the House.

The Question is :

"That Clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill

Clause 4—(Insertion of new section 6A.)

MR. CHAIRMAN : We take up Clause 4 now. There are three amendments by the hon. Minister—Nos. 3, 4 and 5.

Amendments made :

Page 2, lines 16 and 17.—

for "one and three-fifths of the fare"
substitute—

"one fare" (3)

Page 2, line 24,—

for "one and three-fifths of the fare"
substitute—

"one fare" (4)

Page 2,—

after line 28, insert—

"(6) In addition to a free steamer pass issued to a member under sub-section (1), he shall also be entitled—

- (i) to one free pass for one person to accompany the member and travel by the lowest class by steamer to and fro any part of the constituency of the member and any other part of his constituency or the nearest port in the mainland of India ; and
- (ii) to one free non-transferable pass for the spouse, if any, of the member to travel by the highest class by steamer to and fro the usual place of residence of the member in his constituency and the nearest port in the mainland of India, once during every session :

Provided that nothing in this sub-section shall be construed as absolving the person accompanying the member or the spouse of the member from payment of any diet charges payable by such person or spouse during such travel." (5)

(Shri Raj Bahadur)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Clause 4, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 4, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 1—(Short title)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now we take up Clause 1. There is an amendment by Government—No. 2

[Mr. Chairman]

Amendment made

Page 1, line 4,—

for "1971" substitute "1972" (2)

(Shri Raj Bahadur)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the question is .

"That Clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill

Enacting Formula

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : I beg to move :

Page 1, line 1,—

for "Twenty-second", substitute—

"Twenty-third." (1)

MR. CHAIRMAN ; The question is :

Page 2, line 1,—

for "Twenty-Second" substitute—

"Twenty-third" (1)

The motion was adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the question is :

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill

The Title was added to the Bill.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : Sir, I move :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted

16.37 hrs.

NATIONAL SERVICE BILL

MR. CHAIRMAN ; Now we take up the next item. Mr. K. C. Pant

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT) : I beg to move :*

"That the Bill to provide for the registration of qualified persons and for the rendering of national service by such persons and for matters connected therewith be taken into consideration."

This Bill was introduced in the present in the present Lok Sabha on the 5th April, 1972. It had been introduced earlier in the Fourth Lok Sabha on 26th August, 1970, but with its dissolution in December, 1970, the Bill had lapsed.

The main objective of the Bill is to ensure that engineers and doctors are made available in adequate numbers for the defence of the country and for other activities of national importance, such as, family planning programmes and health services in rural areas, construction of dams in remote and difficult areas, etc.

In the wake of the Chinese aggression, the Government formulated a Compulsory Liability Scheme whereby engineers and doctors, upto the age of 40 and 45 years respectively, in Government service or in public sector undertakings, were made liable to render service in the Armed Forces or on work relating to defence efforts anywhere in India or abroad for a period of four years. Experience has revealed that the Compulsory Liability Scheme cannot, by itself, be relied upon to provide a sufficient number of doctors and engineers for the Armed Forces of the Union or for other forms of national service. It is, therefore, considered necessary that this liability should be extended to all persons who hold recognised medical qualifications within the meaning of

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.