

12.18 Hrs.

PLANTATIONS LABOUR (AMENDMENT) BILL**APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO JOINT COMMITTEE**

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): I beg to move :

"That this House do concur in the recommendation of Rajya Sabha that Lok Sabha do appoint a member of Lok Sabha to the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Bill further to amend the Plantations Labour Act, 1951, in the vacancy caused by the resignation of Shri Madhu Limaye and do resolve that Shri Samar Guha be nominated to the said Joint Committee to fill the vacancy".

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do concur in the recommendation of Rajya Sabha that Lok Sabha do appoint a member of Lok Sabha to the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Bill further to amend the Plantations Labour Act, 1951, in the vacancy caused by the resignation of Shri Madhu Limaye and do resolve that Shri Samar Guha be nominated to the said Joint Committee to fill the vacancy".

The motion was adopted.

श्री मधु लिमये : अध्यक्ष महोदय, क्या लुफ्ताना के विमान को दुर्घटना के बारे में बयान दिया जायेगा ?

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister will come out with a statement.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Is he making a statement at 5 P.M.?

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : Sir, I have given notice under rule 377.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not the proper stage for notices under rule 377.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Home Minister to certain assurances—

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down for a moment. Shri Nitiraj Singh Chaudhary.

12.20 Hrs.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951."

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Sir, I am sorry to oppose this Bill, at the introduction stage, to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951. If you will kindly go into the Statement of Objects and Reasons, you will find that a Joint Committee of both the Houses of Parliament was appointed to consider the various recommendations of the Chief Election Commissioner, and they considered all the aspects of it and submitted a report, both interim and final reports. It is really surprising that this Bill which seeks to amend many clauses of the Representation of the People Act, and makes certain things as election offences, is being introduced at the fag-end of this session.

Sir, I have three objections. The first is this. In order to ensure that the maximum number of persons, who have completed 21 years of age prior to election and consequently are eligible to vote, are included in the electoral rolls, it is proposed to provide for four qualifying dates. Then, it is also proposed to do away with even the existing nominal fee of ten paise and one rupee payable respectively for making an application and for filling an appeal regarding the inclusion of names in the electoral rolls.

* Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 20-12-73.