

throwing of hand-grenades  
on C.J. of India

(iv). I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Friday, the 1st August, 1975, adopted the following motion in regard to the Joint Committee on the Constitution (Thirty-second Amendment) Bill, 1973:—

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do appoint one member of the Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee on the Constitution (Thirty-second Amendment) Bill, 1973, in the vacancy caused by the retirement of Shri Niran Ghosh from the membership of the Rajya Sabha on the 9th July, 1975 and resolves that Shri Sahil Kumar Ganguli, member of the Rajya Sabha be appointed to the said Joint Committee to fill the vacancy."

11 09 hrs.

#### ASSENT TO BILLS

Sir, I lay on the Table following eight Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current session and assented to since a report was last made to the House on the 22nd July, 1975:—

- (1) The Pondicherry Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1975.
- (2) The Nagaland State Legislature (delegation of Powers) Bill 1975.
- (3) The Defence of India (Amendment) Bill, 1975.
- (4) The Kerala Legislative Assembly (Extension of Duration) Bill, 1975.
- (5) The Finance (Amendment) Bill, 1975.
- (6) The Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1975.
- (7) The Appropriation (No. 4) Bill 1975.
- (8) The Employees' State Insurance (Amendment) Bill, 1975.

11.10 hrs.

#### COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

##### TWENTY-SECOND REPORT

SHRI MADHORAM SHARMA (Karnal) I beg to present the Twenty-second Report of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House.

#### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

##### SEVENTY-THIRD REPORT

SHRI NAVAL KISHORE SHARMA (Dausa): I beg to present the Seventy-third Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Forty-ninth Report on the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (Marketing Division).

11.11 hrs.

#### STATEMENT ON THE CASE RELATING TO THROWING OF HAND GRENADES ON CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA ON MARCH 20, 1975

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI OM MEHTA): It will be recalled that at the crossing of Bhagwandas Road and Tilak Marg, New Delhi, two live grenades were dropped in the car in which the Chief Justice of India was proceeding to his house at about 4.10 P.M. on 20th March, 1975. A case under section 307 IPC, 4/5 of the Explosive Substances Act and Section 6

[Shri Om Mehta]

of the Indian Explosives Act was registered in regard to this crime at Police Station Tilak Marg, New Delhi. The investigation of this case was taken over by the C.B.I. on 30th June, 1975 at the instance of Delhi Administration.

The investigation into this case is almost complete. While it will not be in the public interest to give the details at this stage, we would like to take the House into confidence about certain salient facts relating to this case.

The conspiracy resulting in this outrage was hatched some time in early March, 1975 by a gang of fanatic Anand Margis of which Santoshanand, Sudevanand and Vikram were the principal members.

According to evidence which has now come on record Santoshanand and Sudevanand actually threw the grenades—one each—and Vikram was with them on the spot. After throwing the grenades Santoshanand and Sudevanand stayed for a short period in a room which had been reserved for them in a fictitious name. While staying there Santoshanand got certain letters written in Hindi and English which were posted to various addresses including one threatening letter to the Chief Justice of India. Santoshanand, Sudevanand and Vikram have been arrested.

The C.B.I. has been able to get not only oral but also documentary evidence to establish the complicity of Santoshanand, Sudevanand and Vikram and a few others, and a charge sheet against them will be filed soon.

11.13 hrs.

#### ELECTION LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL\*

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE  
AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.  
R. GOKHALE): Sir, I beg to move for

leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951 and the Indian Penal Code.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Mohan Dharia, the other day, I had given the ruling that at this preliminary stage only technical and constitutional points should be raised.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA (Poona): I am here to oppose the leave sought by the hon. Minister to introduce the Bill. I am referring to your Direction 19(B) as referred to by Mr. Gokhale. It is very clear. Two clear days for circulation of a Bill are necessary and it could be waived for valid reasons. I am reading out from page 2, para 3 of the memorandum. It says:

"In view of the short duration of the current session of Parliament and the need to get the Bill passed in the current session itself, it is not possible to comply with the requirement in direction 19B of the directions of the Speaker...."

It is not stating the reasons. What are the exact reasons? What is the need? Is it because the Supreme Court is going to consider the appeal of the Prime Minister on the 11th August that this Bill is being introduced?

Sir, it was an assurance given by the hon. Prime Minister and also by Mr. Raghu Ramaiah that so far as election reforms are concerned, the Opposition parties and all sections of the House will be taken into confidence. Is it not the duty of the Government, after giving an assurance, to take all sections of the House into confidence? Therefore, I feel that granting of this sort of leave will not be proper; it may not be fair. There was adequate time. The Bill could have been brought for introduction

\*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 4-8-75.