

[Shri Y. B. Chavan]

A reply to my telegram to the Chief Minister was received in the afternoon of 14th June. A reply to the other Communication from the Ministry was received in the Home Ministry at about midnight of 13th June. Thus when I made my statement in this House in the evening of 13th June neither of these two replies had reached by Ministry.

However, it has since been brought to my notice that in response to a request by the Ministry on 10th June in connection with a Calling Attention Notice in the Rajya Sabha the West Bengal Government had handed in a wireless message in Calcutta on the evening of 12th June, and the message had been delivered to the Home Ministry in the afternoon of 13th June. Unfortunately, this message was not promptly brought to the notice of any of the senior officers who were dealing with the subject, with the result that I had not been informed of it when I made my statement in the evening of 13th June. I regret that not being aware of the receipt of this message I made a statement in this House to the effect that no information had been received from the State Government.

I wish to take this opportunity to make it clear that in stating that no reply had been received to the two communications of 12th June it was far from my intention to suggest that there had been any undue delay on the part of the West Bengal Government. I may add that I have sent a communication to the Chief Minister, West Bengal, assuring him on these lines.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: I appreciate the Home Minister's statement. But in view of the delicate balance, I hope that good care is taken every

time to see that no irritations are caused which can be avoided.

Shri Jyotirmoy Basu (Diamond Harbour): With regard to this correspondence with the West Bengal Government, Sir, would you be so kind as to direct the Home Minister to place copies of the papers on the Table of the House?

Mr. Speaker: There is no question of placing them on the Table.

12.45 hrs.

ANDHRA PRADESH AND MYSORE
(TRANSFER OF TERRITORY)
BILL*

The Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Y. B. Chavan): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the transfer of certain territory from the State of Mysore to the State of Andhra Pradesh and for matters connected therewith.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the transfer of certain territory from the State of Mysore to the State of Andhra Pradesh and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

Shri Y. B. Chavan: I introduced the Bill.

12.46 hrs.

IRON ORE MINES LABOUR WELFARE CESS (AMENDMENT)
BILL*

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Shri L. N. Mishra): Sir,

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary. Part II, section 2, dated 19-6-67.

†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Iron Ore Mines Labour Welfare Cess Act, 1961.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Iron Ore Mines Labour Welfare Cess Act, 1961."

The motion was adopted.

Shri L. N. Mishra: I introduce the Bill.

RE: INDIAN EMBASSY IN CHINA

Mr. Speaker: I would like to announce that about our Embassy in China a statement will be made by the Government at 5.30 P.M. today.

12.48 hrs.

PASSPORTS BILL—Contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up further consideration of the Passports Bill. Shri Supakar will continue his speech. He has already taken about 4 minutes.

Shri Sradhakar Supakar: (Sambalpur): I was dealing with a wide spectrum of colourful personalities like Rita Faria, Dr. and Mrs. Dharma Teja, Sheik Abdulla, the underground Nagas who went to meet Phizo and the delegation of Members of Parliament who went to Taiwan and Israel. Here I would like to quote two interesting cases which were dealt with in the judgment of the Supreme Court.

In writ Petition No. 30 of 1967, Mr. R. D. Chakravarty, Under Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of External Affairs states on affidavit that Om Parkash Kapur was a member of a gang of passport racketeers and had got many students stranded in foreign countries, because as a travel agent he had arranged for their travel with a company which did not exist. In proof of the objectionable activities of the petitioner, the Union of India filed a photostat copy of his letter in which the peti-

tioner had written in his own handwriting how tickets were to be manipulated.

In the second case it is stated that Satwant Singh Sawhney, the famous petitioner, obtained in 1961 an import licence under the Export Promotion Scheme for import of brake liners in ribbons and brass rivets of the face value of Rs. 3 lakhs on condition that he would export finished brake liners worth Rs. 4 lakhs to non-rupee account areas. He however sold away in Indian markets 91 per cent of the imports. He was also alleged to have defrauded the import control authorities by showing fraudulent exports with a view to obtaining import licences under the Export Promotion scheme. Investigations were going on into his doings in Kuwait and the passports were withdrawn, because Satwant Singh Sawhney, it was apprehended, wished to leave India to tamper with evidence.

12.51 hrs.

[SHRI C. K. BHATTACHARYA in the Chair]

This is the character of the cases involved in the Supreme Court majority judgment and I do not know whether after the majority judgment people will not claim a fundamental right to racketeer in passports. That is my apprehension. However, in the Supreme Court majority judgment they have not dealt with the issue whether the allegations against the applicants were correct or not. But there may be some other cases also of rich people, who have enough money to spend, wishing to squander valuable foreign exchange of which we are in short supply. This is very important because now there is a proposal to abolish the P form altogether. We want a legislation on passports which would cover all these classes of cases and also cases of those who are ignorant people who wrongly think that if they go abroad in search of a job they will get it and who, when they actually go abroad, are disillusioned.