

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 Investigations were going on into his doings in Kuwait and the passports were withdrawn, because Satwant Singh Sawhney, it was apprehended, wished to leave India to tamper with evidence.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.