

[Shri Jagjiwan Ram]

part (d) of the Question was based on information furnished by the Ministry of External Affairs which was mainly concerned with that part of the Question, I promised to make further enquiries to ascertain the correct factual position.

These enquiries have now revealed that Honourable Member, Shri Madhu Limaye, wrote a letter dated the 16th February 1968 to the Prime Minister, in which he had *inter alia* asked whether the Prime Minister would consider recalling Shri Thomas from Australia. The Prime Minister's Secretariat had sent extracts from that letter to the concerned Ministries. An extract from the said letter regarding the recall of Shri Seomas was not sent either to the Ministry of External Affairs or the Department of Food as the facts of the case had first to be ascertained from my Department and only then would the Prime Minister have been in a position to examine whether there was a *prima facie* case for considering the suggestion for recall. The Prime Minister's Secretariat accordingly sent on the 9th March, 1968 for our comments extracts from the said letter of Shri Madhu Limaye relating to the Department of Food. Our comments were duly sent to the Prime Minister on the 30th March, 1968.

When the reply to the Starred Question No. 1174, answered on the 11th April, 1968, came to be prepared, my Department requested the Ministry of External Affairs for material for reply to parts (c), (d) and (e) of the Question, since that Ministry is concerned with appointments, recalls, etc. of our Heads of Missions. That Ministry advised my Department that they were not aware of any demand for the recall of Shri A. M. Thomas. Their reply was in accordance with the facts as known to them since as I have stated earlier, that Ministry were not aware of that part of Shri Madhu Limaye's letter where in he had made reference to the recall of Shri Thomas. The reply given in this Sabha was based on the information available in the Food Department and as furnished by the Ministry of External Affairs.

From what has been explained by me earlier in this statement, I feel sure that the Sabha would appreciate that the information which was given to the Sabha on this

particular aspect of the Question was not out of any intention to withhold any information from the Sabha.

In view of the changed position with reference to part (d) of the Question, it becomes necessary to restate the Government's position with reference to part (e) of the Question. On this point I would like to state that after full consideration of the matter, the Government are satisfied that no action is considered necessary on the suggestion made by Shri Limaye for the recall of Shri A. M. Thomas.

श्री जाजं फरनेन्डीज (बम्बई-दक्षिण) :
अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं प्रश्न पूछना चाहता हूँ।

MR. SPEAKER : No discussion of the statement. He can give notice of a separate motion.

श्री जाजं फरनेन्डीज : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं प्रश्न पूछना चाहता हूँ। डाइरेक्शन नं० 17 (3) जिस के आधार पर मंत्री महोदय ने बयान दिया है, इस प्रकार है :

"After the statement has been made the Speaker may permit members to ask supplementary questions which are strictly relevant to the subject matter of the correction made by the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : The Speaker 'may' permit. I have not permitted.

श्री जाजं फरनेन्डीज : मैं आप से इजाजत चाहता हूँ प्रश्न पूछने की।

MR. SPEAKER : He can write to me. I may give him a chance later. He can write to me. But he should not break the practice which has been established here. He should not get up just immediately after the Minister. He can write to me and then we can see what can be done. I may give him a chance later on.

12-18 hrs.

BANKING LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL

(i) **Extension of time for presentation of Select Committees Report**

SHRI THIRUMALA RAO (Kakinada):
I beg to move :

"That this House do extend the time

appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, so as to provide for the extension of social control over banks and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, and also further to amend the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, and the State Bank of India Act, 1955, upto the 6th May, 1968."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do extend the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, so as to provide for the extension of social control over banks and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, and also further to amend the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, and the State Bank of India Act, 1955, upto the 6th May, 1968."

The motion was adopted.

(ii) **Appointment of Member on Select Committee**

SHRI THIRUMALA RAO : I beg to move :

"That this House do appoint Shri Hem Raj to the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, so as to provide for the extension of social control over banks and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, and also further to amend the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, and the State Bank of India Act, 1955, *vice* Shrimati Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit resigned."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do appoint Shri Hem Raj to the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, so as to provide for the extension of social control over banks and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, and also further to amend the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, and the State Bank of

India Act, 1955, *vice* Shrimati Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit resigned."

The motion was adopted.

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DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1968-69
—contd.

Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals —contd.

MR. SPEAKER : Now the House will take up further discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals. We have still a little time left—about 40 minutes now and one hour and odd in the afternoon. The Minister will reply at 2:30 or 2:45 in the afternoon. Then we shall take up the discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Department of Communications at about 3 or 3:15, and finish it by the evening, before 6:30, because there is an half-an-hour discussion, so that we can take up something else tomorrow. As I said, the Minister for Petroleum and Chemicals will reply at 2:30 or 2:45 P. M.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN (Ambalapuzha) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a close study of the report of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals will reveal the fact that we are not going in the path of self-reliance but in the path of more and more dependence on foreign countries. We can take one item after another and see the truth of this.

The estimated cost of methanol unit of the Trombay project of the Fertiliser Corporation of India was Rs. 4.5 crores. Due to undue delay the cost went up to Rs. 6 crores. The installed capacity of the unit was 33,000 tonnes per year, but the present production capacity of the unit is only 45 per cent of the installed capacity. The loss due to low production will be Rs. 1.5 crores. In addition, we have to import Rs. 50 lakhs worth of methanol. The cost of production is thrice the international cost of production. This year, during the first ten months, the production was only 6,000 tonnes. That means that the production this year will be only 10 to 20 per cent of the installed capacity. This product is an essential part of our defence industry. Any country which is supplying