

Mr. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the Bill be passed."

SHRI SRINIBAS MISRA : The Minister will kindly turn to page 7, Statement of Objects and Reasons, where it says :-

"In respect of products of the aluminium industry falling within Items Nos. 66 (a) and 66 (1), the Bill seeks to continue the tariff protection, at the existing effective rates of duty."

Now please turn to page 5, where it says :-

"(f) in Item No. 66 (a)- in the fourth column headed "Standard rate of duty" for the figures "40" the figures "27½" shall be substituted;";

That means, after devaluation instead of 40, 27½ is the effective rate.

Then, it says :-

"(g) in Item No. 66 (1),-

in the fourth column headed "Standard rate of duty" for the figures "40", the figures "20" shall be substituted;";

that means, after devaluation instead of 40, 20 is the effective rate. In one case it is 27½ and in another it is 20. What is the reason for this difference ? Are both of them effective rates ? I do not understand this difference. There must be some error somewhere.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI : They are for two different things, 27½ is for one thing and 20 for another.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

17.07 hrs.

RE: BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

Mr. SPEAKER : Now before we take up the next item I would like to inform Members that we will dispose of the Bihar Proclamation and then take up the two discussions. The Constitution (Amendment) Bill we will take up tomorrow morning.

SHRI SRINIBAS MISRA (Cuttack) :
What about my motion ?

Mr. SPEAKER : We will take up these things at about 7 o'clock after we have finished the Bihar Proclamation.

SHRI SWELL (Autonomous Districts) :
The Constitution (Amendment) Bill will be taken up tomorrow ?

Mr. SPEAKER : Yes. That is the only thing pending.

17.08 Hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: CONTINUANCE IN FORCE OF PROCLAMATION IN RESPECT OF BIHAR.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House approves the continuance in force of the Proclamation dated the 29th June, 1968, in respect of Bihar issued under article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months commencing on the 25th January, 1969."

I do not think I need make a very long speech on this motion. As we all know, this Presidential Proclamation was issued on the 29th June, 1968 and was approved by Rajya Sabha on the 22nd July and by Lok Sabha on the 25th July, 1968. The six months' period of the Proclamation will cease to operate on the 24th January, 1969.

As we are aware, we had indicated at the same time that we would like to hold mid-term elections as soon as possible. Indications of this were given to the Chief Election Commissioner who later on went to Bihar and held discussions with all the leaders of the political parties there.

He has recommended and now he has already announced that the elections should be held on the 9th February, 1969. Therefore, it is very essential that this period is extended. Naturally, the period for which we can seek the permission of the House is for six months. But our intention is not to keep the President's rule for another six months. Naturally, immediately after the elections, the Council of Ministers will come