

Mr. Speaker: Before the enquiry, can we say whether anyone is responsible?

Shri Priya Gupta: In the other one hon. the Deputy Railway Minister just now said there was a preliminary enquiry and that the railwaymen were at fault.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: These will be known after the enquiry has been held.

Mr. Speaker: Has there been any preliminary enquiry?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: No, Sir. (*Interruption*).

Shri Priya Gupta: Because of compensation cases.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

12.21 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (SIXTEENTH
AMENDMENT) BILL*

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

Shri A. K. Sen: I introduce the Bill.

12.21½ hrs.

INDIAN TARIFF (SECOND
AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and

Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Tariff Act, 1934 be taken into consideration".

This Bill provides for automatic levy of countervailing duty on imported articles where an excise duty is leviable on similar articles produced indigenously. Every time the Finance Bill came before Parliament there were scores of items on which adjustments had to be made under the Indian Tariff Act and the Indian Customs Act, and this became a very lengthy and cumbersome procedure. Therefore, this Bill seems to simplify the procedure and make the levying automatic. The Bill also provides for the applying of the normal rates of duty to certain items on which the duties were originally reduced due to commitments under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) but where such commitments no longer exist. As liberalised trade policies are being followed now, as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade is getting more liberalised and items on which restrictions used to prevail are being deleted, this Bill seeks to amend the Indian Tariff Act to remove those items which are redundant now as far as the Indian export and import policies are concerned.

The Bill also provides for the amendment of articles falling under different items in the first schedule in order to make the tariff more specific and rational by providing component parts of various articles being assessed under the same items as the articles themselves, and also for the deletion of item No. 77(1) I.C.T. from the first schedule relating to instruments, apparatus and appliances imported by a passenger as part of his personal baggage for provision in the Personal Baggage Rules.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part II, Section 2, dated 21-1-1963.