

12.02 hrs.

GOVERNMENT OF UNION TERRITORIES BILL

REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE

Shri Krishnamoorthy Rao (Shimoga): Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill to provide for Legislative Assemblies and Councils of Ministers for certain Union territories and for certain other matters.

12.03 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House that the time required for discussion and voting on the remaining Demands for Grants is 20 hours. Day before yesterday we had a discussion over that and we were doubtful whether we shall have adequate time for the Finance Ministry. The time available for discussion of Demands till 5 P.M. on Wednesday, the 17th April, 1963, when the outstanding Demands are to be gullotined, is only 16 hours.

If the House agrees, we may dispose of all the Demands for Grants at 5 P.M. on Wednesday, the 17th April, 1963, as scheduled, and a separate discussion on Planning may be held for about 4 hours after the Finance Bill, the Super Profits tax Bill and the Compulsory Deposits Bill are passed.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): By your leave, Sir, may I make a brief statement with regard to this proposal to apply the guillotine at 1700 hours on the 17th April? You have rightly said that there are only 20 hours before us during which we have to put the outstanding demands for grants through.

Now, Sir, it is, I believe, in principle, wholly wrong, and my hon. colleagues will agree with me, to put through any demand, whether it is Planning or any other demand, without any discussion. There should be some discussion—it may be even a token one, two hours or one hour.

May I, in all humility submit that this rule....

Mr. Speaker: There is no separate demand for Planning.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: It is Finance and Planning. Finance and Planning was allotted 10 hours and now we cut it down to 6 hours. The entire Finance Ministry which my hon. friend Mr. Morarji Desai heads is to be disposed of in 6 hours.

Mr. Speaker: He may kindly just resume his seat and just have discussion with Mr. Dwivedy also.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I am not talking about that. I am speaking about the rules. The rule of applying guillotine at 17.00 hrs. was formulated apparently on the ground that there is another rule which stipulates that the House will sit till 17.00 hrs. unless you direct otherwise. Should there be any sanctity or rigidity about this guillotine being put at 17.00 hrs. on the 17th, the last day? According to my humble judgment, this is because of that other rule, earlier rule, which stipulates that the House shall sit till 17.00 hrs. Certainly, the House can agree to sit till 18.00 hrs. or 19.00 hrs. on any particular day as we have been doing.

Now, to allot more time to these demands, I would urge with all earnestness at my command that the House should sit, if necessary, one hour longer today, one hour longer tomorrow and till 18.00 hrs or 19.00 hrs on Wednesday or the guillotine be applied at 17.00 hrs. on the 18th.

There is another aspect of the matter also. There is the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act. The Provisional Collection of Taxes Act provides that the Finance Bill and the cognate Bills should be passed within 60 days after their introduction. Now, on a quick computation, I have arrived at this: that period of 60 days means