

taken for submitting the financial report and annual report after the financial year is over. In this connection, I beg to draw attention to the relevant provision in the Act which confers a very valuable right on this House. Section 23, sub-section (2) of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission Act, provides:

"Without prejudice to the provisions of sub-section (1), the Commission shall, as soon as possible after the commencement of each financial year, submit to the Central Government a report in such form and before such date as may be prescribed, giving a true and full account of its activities, policies and programmes during the previous financial year and an account of the activities likely to be undertaken during the current financial year."

If the report is to be presented after seven, eight or ten months after the financial year has begun, where would be the time for the House to examine the activities of the Commission for the current financial year. It is for this House to approve or disapprove of those activities and if the report comes much later...

Mr. Speaker: I have followed him. The Minister has stated that it would perhaps take about six months in future.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, I mentioned it specifically.

Mr. Speaker: He says that he will do it as soon as possible and about six months would be taken. But the objection is, if there is a provision in the Act that it has to be placed before the House and the House has to take into account the current year's project, if there is a delay of six or seven months before placing it on the Table of the House, how would the House get an opportunity to see what programmes are being taken up during the year?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: We learn by experience. The unfortunate thing is that the financial year and the year of working of the Commission do not coincide. It is only after a few months after the close of the financial year that we are able to collect all the data. It is only somewhere in June-July that the Commission gets all the data. Then they have to be correlated and interpreted.

Mr. Speaker: But the objection is that the Act gives a different impression. Therefore some amendment may be thought of.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: That is what I was coming to. We are now considering how some adjustment could be made with a view to come into line with the wishes of the House.

12.35½ hrs.

EXTRADITION BILL*

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): Sir, on behalf of Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the extradition of fugitive criminals.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the extradition of fugitive criminals."

The motion was adopted.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

12.36 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (NO. 3) BILL*, 1962

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): Sir, on behalf of Shri Morarji Desai,