

[Shri Shinkre]

small countries and we cannot copy whatever statutes they might have for administrative purposes. I also do not say that we should copy them, but my specific suggestion is that we should add one Member to this Administrative Reforms Commission who knows about other administrative set-ups also, so that the Commission may also examine administrative patterns which obtain in those countries which are basically and radically different from the pattern obtaining in England, India or the Commonwealth countries, so that what they produce by way of a report is all-absorbing, and would help us to go ahead by shedding away all the defects which we have been suffering from hitherto.

STATEMENT RE. PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Swaran Singh): With your permission, I would like to inform the House that our Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, has accepted the invitation of President Johnson to visit the United States of America.

Mrs. Gandhi will visit the United States for four days commencing from the 27th March.

This information I thought I should give to the hon. House because several questions had been asked in this House about the proposed visit and the probable date of our Prime Minister's visit to the United States of America.

Shri Hanumanthaiya (Bangalore City): Can we make a suggestion with your kind permission?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: You will recall that President Johnson, when he

postponed the visit of the late Prime Minister Shastri, gave this reason that Congress was in session and therefore he was not free to meet the Prime Minister.

Mr. Speaker: We should give our good wishes.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: Please bear with me. This is a very difficult point.

The President of the United States gave the reason that Congress was in session for postponement of that visit. Now when our Parliament is sitting, we have been urging you and placing our point of view before you that this House should be treated with respect. Any foreign visit ought to take place after the session of Parliament. During the session of Parliament it would not be right for the Prime Minister to leave Parliament to itself and go for any talks, whatever may be their character. It is a question of postponing by one month or so. That is my humble suggestion.

Some hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: There ought not be a discussion over this.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi (Jodhpur): I do not want any discussion.

I think we are grateful that Parliament has been kept informed of this, and has been given the precedence that it deserves.

We would also like to say that this is an important visit that our Prime Minister is making, and the House would like to give all its good wishes to her in the many tasks she would have to face there.

Mr. Speaker: Now, let us leave it here.

Shri A. S. Alva