

head and when it faces another fish it will show its tail! Just like that, the Government wants to pass this enactment. And today, when the elections approach, when the employers create a hullabaloo, the Government will tell them that the Government have protected the contract system and have protected the industry. When the beedi workers will create a hullabaloo and say, "you have rejected all the crucial amendments", the Government will tell them "we have passed this for the first time: we have given you all the benefits, maternity benefits, etc." So, the Government, by passing this Bill and by rejecting the crucial amendments, which were unanimously supported, are acting just like the fish. I request the hon. Minister at least to reconsider the position at this stage.

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: I cannot understand why my hon. friends on the opposite side are suspecting the *bona fides* of the State Governments. I would again reiterate that this Act will have to be enforced by the State Governments. We have had discussions with all the States and they have expressed their willingness to make this Act a very effective one and to put an end to this exploitation of the beedi workers. All the States are very keen and sincere in their desire to enforce this Act effectively. Let the States have a chance.

Shri Umanath: They had a chance for 18 years.

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: Now that we have enacted a uniform legislation from the Centre, let the States be partners in making this beneficial enactment really effective for the benefit of the workers.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

16.56 hrs.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL

REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE

Shri Sezhiyan (Perambalur): Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950, and the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

16.56 1/2 hrs.

CONVICTION OF MEMBER

(Swami Rameshwaranand)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to inform the House that the Speaker has received the following communication, dated the 1st November, 1966, from the Superintendent, Central Jail, New Delhi:—

"I have the honour to intimate that Swami Rameshwaranand, Member, Lok Sabha, was sentenced to pay fine of Rs. 20 or in default to undergo 7 days' simple imprisonment, under Section 32, Police Act, by the Court of Magistrate, First Class, New Delhi, on the 28th October, 1966."

16.57 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: DELHI POLICE

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Nanda): Sir, certain sections of the non-gazetted officers of the Delhi Police have been holding public meetings and indulging in other agitational activities with the object of securing recognition of a union which they have formed and for the redress of their grievances. They had sought registration of the union, but the Registrar of Trade Unions, Delhi, has refused registration on the ground that the provisions of the Indian Trade Unions Act are not applicable to members of a police force.