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There was a request made by Shri Nand Lal Sharma that his Bill regarding the prevention of cow-slaughter should be upgraded from B to A. A similar bill was brought by Seth Govind Das and it was discussed in this House sometime back. The House has already expressed its opinion, and so the discussion of the same Bill and spending time on that was not thought to be neces-sary. Therefore, it was put under B category. A request was made by him again sometime before that it should be upgraded from B to A. But that was rejected on the ground that I have already stated, namely, that the same Bill was discussed in this House. He has again made the request. No additional ground is there for taking the Bill from B to A. It has already been consigned to category B, and there is no necessity to upgrade it from that category.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That this House agrees with the Fifty-third Report of the Commit-tee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 16th May, 1956".

The motion was adopted.

INDIAN PENAL CODE (AMEND-MENT) BILL*

(AMENDMENT OF SECTION 494)

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy (Salem): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

Mr. Chairman: The question is

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860".

The motion was adopted.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I introduce the Bill.

Mr. Chairman: Shri M. L. Dwivedi is absent. We shall pass on to the next business.

MINES (AMENDMENT) BILL

8908

(AMENDMENT OF SECTIONS 33 AND 51)

Mr. Chairman: The House will now resume further discussion of the motion moved by Shri T. B. Vittal Rao on the 4th May, 1956:

"That the Bill further to amend the Mines Act, 1952, be taken into consideration"

Out of 1½ hours allotted for discussion of this Bill, 29 minutes have been taken up on the 4th May, 1956, and one hour and one minute are still available. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao will continue his speech. He has already taken 29 minutes and so he will be brief.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): The other day, I was narrating at great length the working and living conditions of workers in the mines. There is an invidious distinction even in the present Act, with regard to two categories of Act, with regard to two calegories of workers. While the monthly rated workers get 14 days of annual leave with wages, the daily rated workers are given only 7 days. So, by the amending Bill, I seek to remove this distinction. Even the grant of this facility is conditional. During the whole year the workers in the mines should not go on any illegal strike. Even if they go on an illegal strike for an hour, what they have earned during the whole year through hard work is taken away. Such is the position in the Mines Act.

I have brought this Bill before the House because today there does not exist any other forum for representation. For instance, we have got various committees in the Ministry of Labour. The various industrial committees which have to meet regularly do not meet regularly. This is due to the inefficiency of the Ministry of Labour. These committees should meet regularly according to the International Labour Organisation's directions and instructions, especially when we are a member of that organisation. But we are not carrying out those regulations. If we take the industrial committee on mines, it has not met since 1952. Four years have elapsed, but there is no meeting. There are several problems which we could have thrashed out in a tripartite meeting and we could have tried to improve the working and living conditions of the miners.

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