

**ESTIMATES COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF SITTINGS**

**Secretary:** Sir, I lay on the Table a copy each of the Minutes (Vol. 6, Nos 1—3) of the sittings of the Estimates Committee held during the year 1956-57

**COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS**

**FIRST REPORT**

**Sardar Hukam Singh (Bhatinda)** I beg to present the First Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions

**CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO  
STARRED QUESTION NO 552**

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar)** In reply to a supplementary raised by Shri B S Murthy on Starred Question No 552 answered on 29-5-57, I had *inter alia* stated that Government have decided to have 43 intensive development blocks—multi-purpose project blocks—in tribal areas and that they cost in all Rs 27 lakhs. In fact, Rs 27 lakhs mentioned by me represents the cost of each block

**POINT OF INFORMATION**

**Shri B C Kamble (Kopergaon)** Yesterday I had given notice under rule 197 calling attention to a matter of urgent public importance. I would like to know what has happened to it

**Mr. Speaker.** The hon Member is new to the House. As soon as such a notice is given, the matter is looked into and the Ministry is consulted. It may be admitted or it may not be admitted. Immediately, at the very next day he cannot expect it to be brought up here. If it is not the next day it will be the following day. Tomorrow he will hear one way or the other, whether it is admitted or rejected. If it is admitted, I will call it here.

**WEALTH TAX BILL.—contd.**

**Mr. Speaker:** The House will now proceed with further consideration of the motion to refer the Wealth Tax Bill to a Select Committee.

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** Mr Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to the ten hon Members who spoke yesterday on this measure, out of whom nine gave their support to the measure. I am also grateful to those hon Members who went through the various clauses of the Bill and suggested possible loopholes which have to be plugged by the Select Committee. I do not think they expect me to deal with all these questions that they have raised at length, but still I think courtesy demands that I must reply to some of them, though the Select Committee would take note of all these suggestions.

My hon friend, Shri V P Nayar, mentioned that the administration of the wealth tax should be entrusted to a new department manned by judicial officers. I am afraid judicial officers—very good and very eminent people, good at their work—can hardly be administratively a success, nor is it possible for the tax-collecting department to be bifurcated. We have undoubtedly to choose wealth tax officers from amongst the income tax officers. I can give him the assurance that we will select the officers—handpicked officers—for administering the wealth tax.

Shri V P Nayar again mentioned about income tax practitioners being allowed to practise. Yes, I think we would be able to allow them to do so, but before we do so, we will probably have to revise our ideas of the qualifications for income tax practitioners. I believe one of the former Income Tax Commissioners, who perhaps was advising the Board, sometimes back had prescribed the qualification, namely, a person who is a graduate in economics was fit to be an income tax practitioner. I am afraid we have drastically to revise the qualification. Naturally, a lawyer or an accountant or anybody well versed in income tax