

Mr. Speaker: He has only corrected his statement.

Shri Karmarkar: I shall find out and supply the information.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Ministers who correct their statements must also be prepared to answer supplementary questions arising out of the correction.

12.04 hrs.

**BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
THIRTY-FIRST REPORT**

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha):

I beg to move:

"That this House agrees with the Thirty-first Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 17th November, 1958".

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That this House agrees with the Thirty-first Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 17th November, 1958".

The motion was adopted.

12.05 hrs.

**TEA (ALTERATION IN DUTIES OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE) BILL—
contd.**

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume discussion of the Tea (Alteration in Duties of Customs and Excise) Bill.

The House has already taken 2 hours and 11 minutes on this Bill.....

Sardar Hukam Singh (Bhatinda): No time has been allotted.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as many as 11

speakers have spoken, and the majority of them have pleaded that the relief given is not adequate. They also complained that enough information was not given at the time when the motion was moved.

This came into force on the 28th September, 1958 and when my hon. colleague, Shri B. R. Bhagat, spoke at the time of the introduction of the Bill, he gave all relevant facts to the House. Yet hon. Members pleaded that the cost structure was not made available, labour was not consulted, consumers' interests were not consulted and so on. All these matters are not quite relevant to the Bill under consideration. We are not putting any new impost on tea. On the other hand, we are giving relief after duly considering the representations of the trade, consumers' interests and labour's interests at great length.

The object of the Bill is very simple and, therefore, the Statement of Objects and Reasons is only in two lines. Shri Naushir Bharucha complained that this was the briefest Statement of Objects and Reasons he had ever seen. The object is very simple, namely, to enable the common teas to compete in the international market. so there was no need to elaborate the object. We are sure that what is being sought is being gained by the relief given.

Shri Naushir Bharucha also complained that the tea shares were going down in the market. I do not know whether he has seen the latest figures. I have some figures with me. They all show that perhaps due to the relief given tea shares are moving up. In Calcutta, for instance, Brooke Bond which had begun at 17.57 in the beginning of October moved up to 17.87, Hantpara moved from 116 to 124 and Hasimara from 23.37 to 23.44.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khan-desh): They are minor daily fluctuations.