

11-04½ hrs.

**PARLIAMENT (PREVENTION OF
DISQUALIFICATION) BILL**

**LAI'D ON THE TABLE AS RETURNED BY
RAJYA SABHA WITH AMENDMENTS**

Secretary: I lay on the Table of the House the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Bill, 1958 which has been returned by Rajya Sabha with amendments

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: With regard to this Bill, we have not been able to understand the full implications of what has been done by the Rajya Sabha because the words 'director or member' have been deleted. Now does it mean that a person can be a director as well as a member

Shri Ranga (Tenali): He can be a member as well as a director, but not the president

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: (Hissar) The words are 'director or member'

Mr. Speaker: I am sure the hon. Member does not expect the Secretary to explain it. It is for hon. Members to construe or send it back as they like

11-06 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

**LAY-OFF BY ASSAM RAILWAY TRADING
Co**

Shri Muhammed Elias (Howrah): Under rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel to the following matter of urgent public importance

and I request that he may make a statement thereon.

"The reported lay-off of 800 workers by the Assam Railway Trading Co due to reduced coal allocation"

The Minister of Steel Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): So far as the fact could be ascertained, it appears that workers of Namdung, Ledo and Baragola collieries of Assam Railways and Trading Company, Margherita, went on strike on the morning of December 15, consequent upon the laying off of approximately 800 workers due to a shortfall in the off-take from these collieries during the last two or three months. The North East Frontier Railway are the main consumers of the produce from these collieries and it appears that they could not take the full quota allotted to them from these collieries. During the last one month period they could take only 14,000 tons against the normal allocation of 18,000 tons. This has resulted in accumulation of some stocks in the collieries in question. As soon as this was brought to the notice of the Coal Controller, he took steps to allocate part of the surplus from these collieries to the Tea industry in that region. Further, it is expected that from January, 1959 onwards, the North East Frontier Railway will take 20,000 tons per month. In the circumstances, there was no obvious justification for laying off of workers by the Assam Railways and Trading Company and the consequent strike by the workers. More details of the subject matter of the notice are not yet available, but the latest information shows that the strike was called off on the 17th December, 1958.

11-07½ hrs.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr. Speaker: The Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House in their Eleventh Report

[Mr Speaker]

have recommended that leave of absence may be granted to the following Members for the periods indicated in the Report —

- 1 Shri U Muthuramalinga Thevar
- 2 Shri B Pocker,
- 3 Shri S C Choudhury,
- 4 Shri Bishan Chandra Seth,
- 5 Shri Laxmi Narayan Bhanja Deo, and
- 6 Shri Keshavrao Marutirao Jedhe

I take it that the House agrees with the recommendations of the Committee

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur) May I know what has happened to Shri T T Krishnamachari? There is no leave or anything of that sort

Mr. Speaker. Shri T T Krishnamachari comes and goes, as hon Member would be aware

Shri S. M. Banerjee. We did not see him That is why we are asking

Mr. Speaker. Shall I bring him here? Unless leave of absence is asked for, I am not watching the course of events with respect to every individual It is for him to take care of himself?

I suppose there will be general agreement that leave of absence may be granted to the Members whose names I had read out

Several Hon. Members: Yes

Mr. Speaker: The Members will be informed accordingly

11-09 hrs.

CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO STARRED QUESTION NO. 563.

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): With your permission, I wish to amend the reply given by me to starred question No 563 on 4th December, 1958, in the Lok Sabha In reply to the question whether it was a fact that a large sum was due from Pakistan which was paid by India as their share of contribution to the International Civil Aviation Organisation after independence, I had mentioned that a sum of \$ 15,635 was recoverable from Pakistan and the matter was being pursued through the Secretary-General of International Civil Aviation Organisation In reply to the supplementary question I had mentioned that Pakistan had agreed to pay this share of \$15,635 and that the only question that remained was the method to be adopted for adjustment of the dues We have since received intimation through our Representative on the International Civil Aviation Organisation that the International Civil Aviation Organisation has received the sum of \$15,635 from Pakistan on the 16th September, 1958 I greatly regret that the information I gave to the House on the 4th December, 1958 did not convey the latest position

11-10½ hrs

PREVENTION OF DISQUALIFICATION (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Law (Shri A K. Sen): I beg to move—

“That the Bill further to amend the Prevention of Disqualification Act, 1953, be taken into consideration”

The House will recollect that this Act was to expire on the 31st December of this year Though we had extended it only up to the 31st December of this year in the thought that in the meantime, the Parliament