

12-16 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THIRTY-EIGHTH REPORT

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to move:

"That this House agrees with the Thirty-eighth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 1st May, 1959."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That this House agrees with the Thirty-eighth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 1st May, 1959."

The motion was adopted.

12-17 hrs.

DISPLACED PERSONS (COMPENSATION AND REHABILITATION) AMENDMENT BILL— Contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Mehr Chand Khanna on the 1st May, 1959, namely:—

"That the Bill further to amend the Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Act, 1954, be taken into consideration."

Shri D. C. Sharma may kindly continue his speech.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): Before we proceed with the Bill, I desire to raise a point of order. The point of order is that this Bill violates article 14 in that it denies equal protection of the law. The Bill specifically singles out displaced persons from among Government debtors for imprisonment for default of payment. Other Government debtors are not sent to prison for non-payment of debt. Now Government have

Amendment Bill

got a class of people who have to pay Government debts. Out of these debtors only these people are singled out for imprisonment; other Government debtors are not sent to prison. Therefore, equal protection of laws to a section of the Government debtors is denied and so it violates article 14. Apart from the fact that the provisions of the Bill are harsh, severe and all that, why should only displaced persons be singled out out of the whole lot of Government debtors for treatment of imprisonment for default? I submit that the Bill violates article 14 and is, therefore, out of order.

Mr. Speaker: All right, let me consider this matter. Let Shri Sharma continue his speech. In the meanwhile, I will consider the point of order.

An Hon. Member: What is the time left?

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid, no time is left. The time allotted was 1½ hours. Time already taken is 1 hour and 45 minutes. Now, are there many amendments to this?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: (Hissar): There are many amendments.

Mr. Speaker: Let us consider it for half an hour more.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: The amendments are to be moved.

Mr. Speaker: We will finish all the stages by quarter past one.

Shri Panigrahi (Puri): By 1-30.

Mr. Speaker: Let us see. Hon. Members will kindly be brief. Now, before I call upon the hon. Member to continue his speech, what has the hon. Minister to say regarding the point that has been raised by Shri Bharucha? Shri Bharucha says that the general law prevents the Government from exercising any right of arresting a displaced person for default in payment of debt.