

LALA LAJPAT RAI (Punjab): Sir, I lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the First Report of the Standing Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution on the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 1998.

REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND WELFARE

SHRI JIBON ROY (West Bengal): I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare:-

- (i) First Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on "Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes".
- (ii) Second Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fifth Report of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants—Ministry of Labour-1997-98.
- (iii) Third Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventh Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Labour and Welfare on "Demands for Grants—Ministry of Welfare-1997-98".

RE. RESIGNATION BY MEMBER

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that following his re-election to the Rajya Sabha in the vacancy caused by the death of Shri Gyan Ranjan, Shri Ram Deo Bhandari, a Member representing the State of Bihar has resigned his seat in the Rajya Sabha to which he was elected on 8th July, 1992. I had accepted his resignation with effect from 22nd June, 1998.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that a letter has been received from Shri Suresh A. Keswani stating that he is proceeding to U.S.A. to attend the 'Fifth International Sindhi Sammelan 1998' and, therefore, unable to attend the sittings of the House for two weeks from 3rd to 17th July, 1998. He has, accordingly, requested for the grant of Leave of Absence.

Does he have the permission of the House for remaining absent from the sittings of the House from 3rd to 17th July, 1998?

(No hon. Member dissented)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted.

भारतीय विज्ञान संस्थान, बंगलौर की परिषद् के लिए निर्वाचन का प्रस्ताव

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री और विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री (डॉ. पुरेली मनोहर जोशी): मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि:

"भारतीय विज्ञान संस्थान, बंगलौर के विनियमों के विनियम 3.1 के साथ पठित उक्त संस्थान की परिसम्पत्तियों और निधियों के प्रशासन और प्रबंधन हेतु योजना के खण्ड 9.1 के उपखण्ड (ड) में अन्तर्विष्ट उपबंधों के अनुसरण में, यह सभा उस रीति से जैसा सभापति निर्देश दे, सभा के सदस्यों में से एक सदस्य को 1998-2001 तक के चार वर्षों के लिए भारतीय विज्ञान संस्थान, बंगलौर की परिषद् का सदस्य होने के लिए निर्वाचित करने की कार्यवाही करे।"

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE CENTRAL SUPERVISORY BOARD

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): Sir, on behalf of my colleague Shri Dalit Ezhilmalai I move:

That in pursuance of Clause (f) of the subsection (2) of the Section 7 read with clause (a) of Section 8 of the the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation of and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994, this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one female Member from among the Members of the House to be a member of the Central Supervisory Board.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, there is a statement regarding Government Business. Shri Dilip Ray.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE. GOVERNMENT BUSINESS FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING 6TH JULY, 1998

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI DILIP RAY): Sir, with your permission I rise to announce that the Government Business during the week commencing Monday, 6th July, 1998 will consist of:-

1. Discussion on the Statutory Resolutions seeking disapproval of the following Ordinances and consideration and passing/return of the Bills replacing these Ordinances as passed by Lok Sabha:-

- (i) The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998.
- (ii) The High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Ordinance, 1998.
- (iii) The Lotteries (Regulation) Ordinance, 1998.

2. Consideration and return of the Finance (Amendment) Bill, 1998 as passed by Lok Sabha.

3. Consideration and return of the Appropriation (Railways) No. 3 Bill, 1998 as passed by Lok Sabha.

4. Discussion on the working of the following Ministries:-

- (i) External Affairs; and
- (ii) Human Resource Development.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, may I know from the Government about the Womens' Reservation Bill and Lokpal Bill? Has the Government made up its mind or is it still considering? If they are still considering, then I have the apprehension that the Government is in no mood to keep its commitment to the House because in the last Session a categorical statement was made by the Government that they will be introducing and seeking the co-operation of all parties to get the Women's Reservation Bill passed. Let us know if the Government is ready to move it now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sikander Bakht, do

you have to say anything in this regard?

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): We are already committed to it. We are committed to bring the Bill.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Then, why is it not in the List? If it is so, why is it not in the List? If the Government is still committed and if they feel that there is a commitment to fulfil their pledge to the House, why is it not there in the List?

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU (West Bengal): The hon. Leader of the House had mentioned that on the first day itself the Bill would be moved. So, I think we have the legitimate ground to ask why is there ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, history is repeating itself in respect of the present Government. It does not keep its promise. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Sir, the Leader of the House should respond. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I want to know whether history is repeating itself.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: We are committed to bring the Women's Reservation Bill.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: When? ...(Interruptions)...

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Silence itself is eloquent. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, Governments have been making ambiguous commitments for too long. Let us know when and how. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: There is eloquent silence on the part of the Government.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Sir, you will recall that during the last part of the last Session, the women Members of the House raised the issue and the Minister of Home Affairs said that it would be moved. But, we wanted a date. The Assurance we got from the Home Minister was this: It is going to be done very early. Has there been any decision to bring it and by when?

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: I have said, yes, we are going to bring it.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: By when? Can