

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : I am asking a question, but half a dozen Members get up every time. My question is whether under the scheme it was open for Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali, an Indian citizen, to receive a gift from an Indian abroad because she claimed that she received money from an Indian national abroad.

(Interruption)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Second question ?

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : Another brief question is whether any other Indian national who received foreign remittance under this scheme disclosed the name to the Government or to the public; if not, why should Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali alone be singled out for this disclosure in spite of the fact that in her generosity ...

(Interruption)

SHRI SHEEL BHADRA YAJEE : He is a reactionary.!

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : You are a Russian agent ...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Mr. Piloo Mody is whose agent ?

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : I want to know whether any other Indian national except Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali was generous enough and frank enough to offer to any agency of the Government the name of the person who sent the remittance.

Thirdly, . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : No third question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : When again and again I wanted to place it, you do not even allow me.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : While replying to the Leader of the Opposition I made the position very clear. He has repeated the question in a different form. Under the scheme when a remittance was received, the receiving party was under no obligation to disclose the name. This is number one. Regarding the second question whether others have also disclosed these things, I do not know, but the income-tax authorities must be having that information. I have no information. If the House wants it, I shall give.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : Sir, I seek your protection . . .

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, मैं अर्जुन अरोड़ा का बड़ा शुकिया बदा करता हूँ। मैं आपके द्वारा सुझाव देता हूँ कि जो लोग फारेन मनी लेते हैं उन सबकी सूची सदन में दे दी जाय।

THE ASSAM REORGANISATION (MEGHALAYA) BILL, 1969

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Shukla.

SHRI C. D. PANDE (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, on a point of order. The item that the hon. Minister is to move cannot be taken now at such short notice.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Let him first say what he wants to say. Afterwards you can raise a point of order.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, I seek your indulgence and the indulgence of the House to move this motion for consideration. Although this item is not on the Order Paper, with your indulgence and the support of the House I would like to move the motion:

“That the Bill to provide for the formation within the State of Assam of an autonomous State to be known as Meghalaya and for matters connected therewith, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

SHRI S. N. MISHRA (Bihar) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, may I say that probably all of us are very much interested in the expeditious passing of this measure. Let there be absolutely no doubt about it, but at the same time this must be made clear beyond any shadow of doubt that we cannot put up with the cavalier fashion in which this House is sought to be treated. We cannot be at the beck and call of the Government and we cannot just to enable the Government to go to Bombay, get this legislation for Meghalaya passed in an irregular way. If we had to do it properly, we would have sat for a day more beyond the 24th.

Another point. This cannot be taken up like this. We are governed by certain rules of procedure. The rules of procedure do not permit this motion to be made in this way and so I must say that some

one must educate the Government on the way in which such things are to be placed before the House. The first step in this connection should be that the relevant rules should be suspended. Now that has not been done, that is not being done. Can this thing be smuggled in like this? The rules have to be waived. Secondly it must be made clear again that if the rules have to be suspended it should be with the approval of the House and not with the consent of the Chair. I am not going to have the element of the consent of the Chair in future. I would certainly have the rules suspended but the element of the consent of the Chair I am not going to consider in future. It has to be ...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : He has made a very important point. The rule has to be suspended, let us suspend it. But I must say we also approached, some of us approached the Government to pass a Bill on the same day. Therefore, I think you should not insist. First of all, it should not be normally a precedent. Secondly...

SHRI S. N. MISHRA : Please wait. The point is this that if today you get the rules suspended with the consent of the House, with the approval of the House, then in future also we will follow it. This should be done, because it would appear that if the Government comes forward with this, therefore, they get the approval of the Chair. If S. N. Mishra moves for the suspension of the rules, there cannot be any discrimination between the Government and S. N. Mishra. That is the point which I would like to make for your consideration.

(Shri G. D. Pande stood up)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Pande, you have already made your point.

श्री राजनारायण (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमान, आपको स्मरण होगा कि इसी सदन में एक रूल को स्थगित करने की बात हमने की थी और चेयर ने उसको एलाऊ नहीं किया, चेयर ने कहा कि रूल सस्पेंड करने की प्रथा इस ढंग से हम नहीं चलायेंगे, यह गलत है, और कहा कि इसको रूल्स कमेटी में भेजो। तो आपसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि पूरी सिम्पैथी सके साथ रखते हुये मैं सरकार से जानना

चाहता हूँ कि क्या यही तरीका सचमुच में अख्तियार किया जायगा। क्या यही संसदीय तरीका होगा कि यकायक लोक सभा से आ जाय और यहां कह दें कि बिना सोचे समझे इस विधेयक को पास कर दो ? देखिये, हमने तो अभी तक इसको पढ़ा नहीं, हम समझते कि जब लोक सभा से विधेयक आयेगा तब हम उसको अच्छी तरह से पढ़ेंगे और उस समय अपनी राय बनायेंगे। इस तरह हम न अपने साथ न्याय कर पायेंगे और न उस क्षेत्र के साथ न्याय कर पायेंगे और जो संसदीय प्रथा और बुद्धि है उसके साथ भी न्याय नहीं कर पायेंगे। एक बात मैं और अपने मित्र श्री ओम् मेहता को बता दू कि यह कोई कबड्डी का खेल नहीं है, यह संसद है, इसमें बुद्धि लगानी पड़ती है। अगर बुद्धि लगाई जाय तो अगले दो महीनों में न तो धरा धंस जायगी और न तो गगन फट जायगा।

अब, जैसे कि मैं इस पर बोलने के लिये खड़ा होऊँ तो मेरा पहला प्रश्न यह उठेगा कि इसका नाम "मेघालय" क्यों रखें। मेघालय दो शब्दों से बना है, मेघ और आलय। तो यह एक बहुत बड़ी चीज है जिस पर पूरी बहस होनी चाहिये कि इसका नाम हम मेघालय क्यों रखें। जैसे कि एवरेस्ट गिरि का नाम हम सरगमाथा क्यों नहीं रखें। बहुत सी ऐसी बातें हैं।

हां, यदि सदन के सभी सदस्य सर्वसम्मति हो तो मैं भी अपना यह विरोध वापस ले सकता हूँ।

श्री उपसभापति : सभी वैसे कह रहे हैं कि उनकी सम्मति है बिल को लेने के लिये आपने कहा कि हमारी भी सम्मति है।

श्री राजनारायण : अगर सर्वसम्मति है तो उस सर्व में हम भी अपनी सम्मति मिलायेंगे और आप कहेंगे कि भाषण न दो तो भाषण नहीं देंगे और अगर कहेंगे कि भाषण दो तो भी दो तीन मिनट में दे देंगे, वह अलग चीज है लेकिन यह प्रथा बिल्कुल गलत है, असंसदीय है और इस प्रकार से हम तमाम सम्मान सदन का खो बैठेंगे।

(Shri C. D. Pande stood up)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Pande, what do you want to say now?

SHRI C. D. PANDE : Sir, an important point has not been covered by him.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY (Mysore) : We are all for passing this Bill. Let there be no doubt about it. What we are objecting to is the way in which the Government is behaving in this matter. There are many important Bills and this is one such important Bill. Many Members are interested in debating over this Bill. They could have brought it before this House before they took it to the Lok Sabha. After we had passed it, they could have taken it there... (Interruptions). There were important discussions there. By that time we could have discussed and debated it. Firstly, there are two points involved. One is suspending the rules permitting the moving of this Bill. We have no objection to suspending the rules. But we have really to debate over this Bill and as Mr. Rajnarain said, there is the name of the new sub-State that they are going to create and other things, because it will have serious repercussions over the entire country. So rushing through this Bill is not very fair. But we all agree that this should be passed. We would like to suspend the rules. We lend our support for passing this Bill.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Everybody has said about it. I think it is a genuine desire that we have expressed. Mr. Mishra has done it. I would have also been against taking it up to day. But this Bill has an origin and history. Most of the parties represented here, practically all the major parties in India, discussed this matter, and the Bill, I understand, is the result, the product, of such a discussion between them on the one hand and the full leaders on the other. It has been gone through. If I have not gone through it, my party people have gone through, the PSP has gone through, the Congress Party has gone through, the Swatantra Party has gone through, at the various levels of discussion. And it is the desire of the full people. They are looking forward to us. I think, in view of this thing, you can make an exception, if you like, and we can have it passed. As far as the names and others are concerned, surely, Mr. Deputy Chairman, in the other House nobody has amended them...

(Interruptions) Let me say. Now all the parties are represented there. Whether we have reservation or not, every party thought and agreed that the Bill should be passed unamended because it embodies a great measure of agreement among the parties. Therefore it has gone through the second test of all-party examination in the Lok Sabha. Therefore, we should have no difficulty, at least in this case, having regard to the fact that we are adjourning today. It is unreal that tomorrow you meet. Then it will not be passed...

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL (Gujarat) : Why not? Why is it unreal?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : It is unreal. You know it very well... (Interruptions) All right. If the Government wants to sit the day after tomorrow, I have no objection. But why can't we pass it today and save a little time? If you like, tomorrow is all right.

SHRI C. D. PANDE : The day after tomorrow.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : My friend Mr. Rajnarain, is a very able leader and he understands things very quickly. If he speaks a little less and he can finish in five or fifteen minutes, I am sure he will be able to make a good speech and we can manage.

SHRI C. D. PANDE : This is a very important Bill. We want that this Bill should be passed. But to bring in a Bill of this nature at quarter to seven and to expect that we shall pass it within one hour or so, it is really ridiculous and it is an insult to this House because in the Lok Sabha this Bill was fully discussed. Of course, it has been said by Mr. Bhupesh Gupta that this thing has been in the country for a long time. But in spite of that also, the Lok Sabha took almost 11 hours to discuss this Bill, for two days. Do you know when this Bill...

SHRI OM MEHTA (Jammu and Kashmir) : No, no. There were many other discussions.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Many more subjects were discussed.

SHRI C. D. PANDE : They took two days. It was discussed the day before yesterday and today. How many hours? Half the time of that House...

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI K. K. SHAH) : I was only then requesting the House. I thought that the House was good enough to accede to my request, that I have got it.

SHRI OM MEHTA : Mr. Pande, three hours.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : I have brought it because I thought that my request was accepted by the House. If the House is not willing, then I will not move it. But I thought once my request will be accepted by the House.

SHRI C. D. PANDE : Even if there is one Home Minister here and you all go to Bombay, we will pass this Bill without delay on Friday because we have made up our minds that we want to give autonomy to that part of the country. But to hurry up like this is not good . . . (Interruptions) I want to speak.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Order please.

SHRI C. D. PANDE : Within one hour we cannot finish this matter.

SHRI OM MEHTA : The Lok Sabha took in all three hours. For Christmas many Members would like to go to their homes. It is not fair that we should detain them from going to their homes.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL : It must be done in a proper way, a proper motion for suspending the rules must come up. We will not be hurried. Firstly, the proper motion should be there to waive the rule.

SHRI BHUPESH GUTA : He is right. I move :

"That the rules be suspended."

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : There are two things. If the rules are to be suspended, firstly I have to give consent and secondly, if we have to decide on that motion, then we have to take the sentiments and the wishes of the House . . .

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. K. SHAH : If you are agreeable I am moving.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I give my consent to move the motion for suspending the rules and now after that I would try to assess the feelings of the hon.

Members and then we can decide whether we can take up this Bill for consideration or not.

SHRI S. N. MISHRA : I have only one submission to make.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You can speak on the motion now.

SHRI S. N. MISHRA : No motion yet. . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, I have already moved :

"That the House resolves the Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha be suspended for the day."

SHRI S. N. MISHRA : A motion can be moved only with your consent. I am sorting out the issue. I am making a submission which would help you in the conduct of the business, it will not delay matters. The point is that—it should again be made clear—this Bill is being hustled through today. We were prepared to sit day after tomorrow . . .

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh) : No, no.

SHRI S. N. MISHRA : Mr. Khan, please hear me. :

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Please be brief.

SHRI S. N. MISHRA . . . I am completing. We are being put to great inconvenience. In fact, the dignity of the House is being diluted. I have to speak with a certain sense of responsibility in this matter. The question is that we were prepared to sit day after tomorrow. Now the plea of Christmas is being made. Where was Christmas last year? I remember we sat till the 28th December and no Christmas came in our way. It is the Bombay session that is coming in their way. The point is that it is their party affair and not the religious sentiment, which is coming in the way of the full consideration of the measure. Even so, we shall submit that if you want the rule to be suspended, the suspension will be with the approval of the House and this matter will then be treated as a precedent. We are not going to treat it as an exception.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : To be exact, I move :

"That the House resolves that Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha be suspended for the day."

SHRI K. K. SHAH : If it is going to be a precedent, then we are not prepared.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : The Government should not back out. I have moved the motion only. I have not said any other thing . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Will you please take your seat? I am speaking. This situation has arisen today because of some unforeseen circumstances. This Bill would have been passed by the Lok Sabha, I think yesterday, and then it would have been placed on the table of the house and we would have taken it up for consideration after giving due notice to the hon'ble Members. But unfortunately one hon'ble Member of the other House expired the other day and that is why this Bill could not be passed by the other House. And without their passing it no Message could be received in this House. Therefore, we have to consider whether this Bill should be taken up now after waiving the rule. In view of this condition we have to . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : They must not back out.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : If we have to take it into consideration we have to see whether this should be an exception or this should be a precedent. . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : With the approval of the House . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, I am speaking. Let me speak first. The waiving of the rule can be decided by the general consensus of the House because it is provided in Rule 267 :

"Any member may, with the consent of the Chairman, move that any rule may be suspended in its application to a particular motion before the Council and if the motion is carried the rule in question shall be suspended for the time being."

(Interruption by Kumari Shanta Vashist)

When I am speaking you should not stand up. I am clarifying my point of view . . . (Interruption by Shrimati Vidyawati Chaturvedi) Will you please keep quiet ?

श्रीमती विद्यावती चतुर्वेदी (मध्य प्रदेश) : मैं उनसे कह रही हूँ कि चेयर की रिस्पेक्ट कीजिये ।

श्री उपसभापति : आप भी तो चेयर की रिस्पेक्ट रखिये ।

कुमारी शांता वशिष्ठ (दिल्ली) : इन लोगों को कोई राईट नहीं है इन्टरफेयर करने का । आप लोग भी रुल्स फालो करिये ।

श्री उपसभापति : देखिये मैं बोल रहा हूँ ।

कुमारी शांता वशिष्ठ : मैं पूछना चाहती हूँ आज कन्सेन्ट मिलेगी कि नहीं मिलेगी ।

श्री उपसभापति : आप सुन लीजिये, आपकी समस्या में आ जायेगा कन्सेन्ट मिल रही है या नहीं मिल रही है । जैसा मैंने आपको बतलाया पूरे हाऊस की कन्सेन्ट हो तो यह बिल लिया जा सकता है और आनरेबल लीडर आफ द हाऊस ने कहा है कि आज स्पेशल सर्कमस्टेंसेज में यह बिल आ रहा है और इसको एक एक्सेप्शन मानते हैं और इसी इरादे से इसको लाना चाहते हैं और अगर आप इसको प्रेसिडेन्ट बनाना चाहते हैं तो गवर्नमेंट इसको इस वक्त लाना नहीं चाहती है ।

दूसरी बात यह है कि यह जो मामला है इस मामले पर काफी दिनों से संसद में और संसद के बाहर चर्चा चली, वार्ता चली, और प्रास एन्ड कान्स कंसीडर किये गये और एक नेशनल इश्यू बना गया (Interruption) सुनिये, आखिर में आप ही लोग तो निर्णय लेंगे कि रुल्स सस्पेंड करें या नहीं करें । मैं आपके हाथ में हूँ । मुझे और कुछ करना नहीं है . . .

श्री ना० कृ० शंजवलकर (मध्य प्रदेश) : मेरी प्रार्थना सुन लें आप . . .

श्री उपसभापति : मैं बोल रहा हूँ, आप सुन लीजिये । और इसलिये सभी लोगों ने और सभी पार्टियों ने तय किया, यूनेनिमसली डेसीजन लिया कि यह होना चाहिये, यह सही बात है, आसाम के हित में और राष्ट्र के हित में होना जरूरी है कि जिस तरह से हो पास होना चाहिये । कल लोक सभा के सदस्य अगर गुजर नहीं जाते तो रुल्स के मुताबिक यह यहां आता

लेकिन वह अनहोनी हो गई इस कारण आज हमें सब रूल्स सस्पेंड कर देना पड़ रहा है और इसलिये शायद तीन, चार बजे सभी लोगों ने कहा कि अगर पंजाब का बिल हो जाता है तो मेघालय का बिल भी यूनेनिमसली मान लेंगे। उस वक्त तक रूल्स सस्पेंशन के बारे में कोई झगड़ा नहीं था और मैं समझ रहा था कि पंजाब का बिल पास हो जाने के बाद मेघालय का बिल भी सर्वसम्मति से पास हो जायेगा। इसलिये जब जनरल कान्सेन्सस है, यूनेनिमस ओपीनियन है, सब लोग चाहते हैं, तो इस तरह का बिल लाने में और पास करने में कोई दिक्कत है, ऐसा मैं नहीं समझता। आखिर जैसी भी सदन की इच्छा है उसके मुताबिक करन के लिये मैं तैयार हूँ।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I have made a simple submission to you. I have heard you also. Now it is for you to give your consent to my motion.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The hon'ble Minister has said that he will move only if it is not treated as a precedent.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : The hon'ble Minister has said many things. We have also said so many things. You need not take all these things into account. All that Mr. Mishra has said is important. All that you are concerned with is whether the House desires this Bill to be passed today. The procedure lays down that in such cases a particular rule has to be suspended and that cannot be done without your consent. The Government or the Opposition does not come in. They will come in only when you give the consent to vote on it. You see we are all desirous, whatever our reservations, to pass this Bill, and giving to the Assam people what they want. Therefore, Sir, I want your guidance, direction and permission in deference to the wishes of the House that you be good enough to permit me to move this motion. If it is rejected, the question does not arise. If it is accepted only then we shall pass this Bill. That is the only way.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN : I would request you to take the vote as you have already given your consent.

SHRI S. N. MISHRA : Only one submission. I think that you have tried to be fair to us but you have not succeeded

in being very fair to us. My point is this that the Government's point can of course be explained by you in a very satisfactory manner. So far as the measure is concerned, we are all anxious that it should be passed. It is not only because of some deaths or some unforeseen circumstances which occurred in the other House that we are finding ourselves in difficulty; perhaps we would have been out of this difficulty if the Government were prepared to sit day after tomorrow. Let it be clear that at 7 P.M. in matters of analysis I would not like to compromise. If the Government were prepared to sit day after tomorrow, probably it would have been much better for the House and for the fuller consideration of this measure. It is not because of only unforeseen circumstances that have taken place that we find ourselves in this predicament. Let us completely remove that impression out of our mind. It is only to suit the convenience of the Government that we are being asked to do it. Even there we would be prepared...

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN : The convenience of the Members also should be taken into account.

श्री डाह्याभाई व० पटेल : थोड़ा सच तो कहिये कि बम्बई जाना है, घर नहीं जाना है। Why do you say you want to go home? Be honest.

KUMARI SHANTA VASISHT : Sir, ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Your leader is speaking.

KUMARI SHANTA VASISHT : You please ask them also not to interrupt.

SHRI S. N. MISHRA : Now, Sir, let the hon. Leader of the House pay some attention to what I say.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : I am paying.

SHRI S. N. MISHRA : We would be prepared to consider the convenience of the Government also. But let the Government bear it in mind that in future they will have to consider the convenience of our side too. Many a time, Sir, I have found the Government completely wooden, unco-operative and callous, they had not agreed to even a simple demand of ours the other day. So let the Government bear it in mind that what we are being asked to do to-day is only to suit the political convenience of the Government, and we are not doing anything specially so far as

[Shri S. N. Mishra]

the urgency of passing this measure expeditiously is concerned. We are all with it, but a day's delay would not have mattered in this case. We could have been prepared to sit on the 26th. So far as your mind in this matter is concerned, I would like to tell you that the issues involved are not the unforeseen circumstances that have taken place in that House, but the issues involved are political, partisan and nothing else.

श्री जेड० ए० अहमद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उप-सभापति महोदय, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो 26 का सवाल उठाया जा रहा है, मैं समझता हूँ कि वह सही नहीं है। आखिर जितने भी पोलिटिकल पार्टीज हैं वे अपनी अपनी काम्फेसेज में जाना चाहती है। कभी हम जायेंगे और कभी ये जायेंगे। अगर लीडर आफ दी अपोजीशन श्री मिश्रा का सवाल अहमदाबाद जाने का होता है तो वे जमीन आसमान हिला देते।

SHRI S. N. MISHRA : We have not asked for any consideration.

श्री जेड० ए० अहमद : मैं समझता हूँ कि यह उनकी कंविनियन्स का सवाल है, वे लोग जाना चाहते हैं और यह एक लेजिटिमेट मांग है। इससे कोई आसमान गिरने वाला नहीं है। क्या कारण है कि हम एक आध घन्टा और बैठकर इस बिल को पास न करें। इसलिये मेरी आप से प्रार्थना है कि श्री भूपेश गुप्त ने जो मोशन मूव किया है उसके बारे में आप अपनी कंसेंट दें और श्री भूपेश गुप्त ने जो मोशन मूव किया है उसके लिये कंसेंट देने में आप हेजीटेड न करें। लीडर आफ दी अपोजीशन ने जो बात कही है वह गलत है। इसमें प्रिसीडेंट, नो प्रिसीडेंट का सवाल नहीं होता है। Why do you confuse the issue by raising this question of precedent? The rules do not lay down that it will be a matter of precedent or it will not be a matter of precedent. It is a straight thing. I ask the Leader of the House to accept the motion of Mr. Bhupesh Gupta. If he does not accept it, if he wants to retreat, let him say that he wants to retreat. Why are you complicating the situation? The clear motion is there. You accept the motion.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, मुझे श्री जेड० ए० अहमद के तर्कों ने मजबूर कर दिया है कि मैं भी उसके बारे में कुछ कहूँ। जो लोग सभी संसदीय प्रथा के बारे में कहते हैं, डिसेन्सी के बारे में कहते हैं, डिफरेंस के बारे में कहते हैं उनसे मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि कभी भी संसदीय कार्यों के ऊपर किसी पोलिटिकल पार्टी के कार्यक्रम को प्रायरीटी नहीं दी जाती है। दुनिया के जनतंत्र ने यह बात इस्टेब्लिश कर दी है कि संसद का कार्य सर्वोपरि है और दूसरे दलीय कामों को छोड़कर संसदीय कार्यों के लिये बैठा जाता है।

श्री जेड० ए० अहमद : संसदीय कार्यों में लोगों की कंविनियन्स को भी देखा जाता है। यह कोई बात है।

श्री उपसभापति : राजनारायण जी, अब आप बैठ जाइये।

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, जहाँ तक संसदीय तरीका है, मैं इस संबंध में अपनी बात को ठीक ठीक रखना चाहता हूँ।

श्री नेकी रास (हरियाणा) : श्रीमन्, मेरा एक प्वाइन्ट आफ ऑर्डर है।

श्री उपसभापति : इस समय कोई प्वाइन्ट आफ ऑर्डर नहीं है। आप बैठ जाइये।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : The Government will be responsible for not passing it.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, मैं अदब के साथ अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि आप किसी मोशन को मूव करने के लिये सोच समझकर इजाजत देंगे। अगर आप इस तरह की कोई इजाजत देते हैं तो आपके ऊपर यहाँ पर यह आक्षेप लगाया जा सकता है कि आपने कांग्रेस पार्टी और गवर्नमेंट को सूट करने के लिये इजाजत दे दी है। इसलिये मैं आपसे सफाई के साथ कहना चाहता हूँ कि चेयर के ऊपर इस तरह का कोई आक्षेप नहीं आना चाहिये। आज की स्थिति में हम इस बिल को पास करने के लिये तैयार हैं और हम सोमवार तक को

बठने के लिये तैयार हैं। संसदीय कार्य प्राथमिकता पाता है और दलीय कार्यों को देखकर संसदीय कामों के मुकाबले में वह प्राथमिकता नहीं पाता है। हम लोग परसों बैठने के लिये तैयार हैं और हम परसों इसको पास करने के लिये तैयार हैं और इसलिये आप परसों इस बिल को रखिये।

SHRI K. K. SHAH : I am in the hands of the House. If he moves the motion, I am bound to support it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I move. :

“That the House resolves that Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of the House be suspended for the day.”

KUMARI SHANTA VASISHT : No, no.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Mr. Deputy Chairman, I have moved it.

KUMARI SHANTA VASISHT : It cannot be taken up. That was the stand of the Chair. It is not on the Order Paper...

SHRI Z. A. AHMAD : He has moved it.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, मेरा एक प्वाइन्ट आफ आर्डर है और वह यह है कि श्री भूपेश गुप्त बगैर आपकी इजाजत के कोई मोशन मूव ही नहीं कर सकते हैं।

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN : He has given the consent.

श्री राजनारायण : ऐसी सिचुएशन पर मैं यही कह सकता हूँ कि श्रीमन्, आपने, किस नियमावली के अन्तर्गत आज्ञा प्रदान की है?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You kindly give your consent.

SHRI S. N. MISHRA : I would rather suggest to the Chair with all humility...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Kindly give your consent.

(Interruption)

SHRI S. N. MISHRA : Why do you ask for consent? Let us decide about it.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I think the general consensus is, except Mr. Rajnarain, most of the other groups seem to be in favour of waiving the rule and passing this Bill. The general consensus seems to be in favour of sitting now and passing this Bill...

KUMARI SHANTA VASISHT : No.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : ... excepting, let me finish, those two persons Mr. Rajnarain and Mr. Mishra and his group.

SHRI S. N. MISHRA : No, Sir. (Interruptions) I have not said anything like that. I have said something different.

SHRI Z. A. AHMED : There is a consensus; it is a fact.

SHRI S. N. MISHRA : No, no. (Interruptions)

श्री राजनारायण : यहाँ पर राजनारायण अकेला नहीं है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : In view of the exceptional circumstances, in view of the general agreement...

SHRI S. N. MISHRA : No, no. Please do not give any reasons.

(Interruption)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, you say “Yes” or “No”.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : In view of the importance of the matter, I am giving my consent to move the motion.

SHRI RAJNARAIN : You are in the hands of the Government...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I have given the consent in view of the exceptional circumstances and this will not be treated as a precedent in future. Also I would like to urge the treasury benches to try to arrange their legislative business in future in such a manner that there will be no necessity to waive the Rules of Procedure.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : So, Sir, with your consent, I beg to move :

“That the House resolves that Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of the House be suspended for the day”.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, ...

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN : Sir, I second it.

श्री राजनारायण : सुना जाय । वे सेकिन्ड भी कर रहे हों तो भी मुझे बोलने का हक है । चूँकि भूपेश गुप्त ने जो प्रस्ताव पेश किया है उसकी आपने आज्ञा दी, तमाम संसदीय परम्पराओं को तोड़ा, तमाम सभ्य तरीकों को दफनाया, अपनी आज्ञा प्रदान की सरकारी दल के फायदे के लिये, इसलिये जब सभी अनियमितताएं हो रही हैं, तो भूपेश गुप्त के प्रस्ताव का मैं समर्थन कर रहा हूँ ताकि एक अनियमितता और भी हो जाय और भूपेश गुप्त प्रसन्न हो जाय कि इन्होंने बड़ा आसाम के लिये तीर मार लिया । भूपेश गुप्त यहां 1952 से हैं । मैंने बराबर इनकी तारीफ की है, ये संसदीय नियमों के ज्ञाता हैं, लेकिन जिस ढंग से इन्होंने कृतघ्नता का कार्य किया है, संसदीय परम्पराओं के प्रति वह स्पष्ट है । तो मैं इनके प्रस्ताव का समर्थन कर रहा हूँ ।

SHRI S. N. MISHRA : Sir, there is no question of a division on this. Since you have said that the Government must not behave like this in future, I would request all honourable Members on this side of the House to support it unanimously.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the House resolves that Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of the House be suspended for the day."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : Sir, I move :

"That the Bill to provide for the formation within the State of Assam of an autonomous State to be known as Meghalaya and for matters connected therewith, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, as far as this particular measure is concerned, this matter has been debated in the House when the Constitution (Amendment) Bill was to be referred to a Select Committee, and after that the

political parties which are represented in this House have had occasions of discussing this matter at great length.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN) in the Chair]

It is also known that the tribal areas of Assam already enjoy a certain measure of autonomy in the Constitution. And therefore, I hope honourable Members will extend their unanimous support to this measure which I have had the honour of bringing before this House.

The question was proposed.

SHRI C. D. PANDE : Mr. Vice-Chairman, I wholeheartedly support this measure. But I want to bring to your notice about the situation that is prevailing in the State of Assam because the creation of a new State will accelerate division . . . (Interruption by Shri Bramananada Panda) You wanted to pass it today itself and you do not want Members to speak on it. How is it?

The situation in Assam is so bad that the people today do not realize what kinds of things happen there. On the one hand there is the infiltration of foreign people. There is disintegration all round. There is a feeling of animosity or enmity between different communities and people belonging to different linguistic groups. And even the Assamese-speaking people are getting restive. I will give you one example. I will also tell the House how the Government is helping those tensions there. There was a strike, there was a movement in Assam, for a second oil refinery. There was a great agitation. Almost one lakh or more people courted arrest and went to jail. But how did the Government solve that issue? It is a matter of real shame for all of us that the Government took such steps to appease the people on false promises. Their promise was that they would give them two refineries. May I know from the Government whether there is enough crude in the State of Assam, whether the Government has found new wells so that Assam could get three oil refineries?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN) : But we are not dealing with its oil refineries.

SHRI C. D. PANDE : No, no. This Bill will have its repercussions on the newly created State. Assam is already a State. The easiest method to appease

the people was to promise them a second refinery in Gauhati itself. Now there are two refineries, one at Barauni and one at Gauhati. Now, you promise a third refinery by which for the time being you appease the people of Assam. Thus you are winning over their support to the Government. But is it proper that you promise a thing which you cannot fulfil? (*Interruptions*) Either you close the refinery at Barauni or you deprive the crude to the other plants. If the two factories are fighting for full capacity for their production, how do you feed the third plant? This is a very important question.

The second thing is about the composition of the people. This House has always been reminding the Government that a large number of people are coming there from other parts of the country. If people from all other parts come there, then, Assam will fall like a ripe mango because you are not giving proper attention to the development of Assam. You are simply tossing up its problems from day to day. I have given you one example, that is the policy of appeasement, appeasement on false promises, appeasement for petty purposes, for getting the temporary support of the people. This is the feeling there. All the same I support this Bill and I wish all prosperity and all-round development to the people of Meghalaya. They have chosen a nice name, Meghalaya. That shows how they owe their allegiance to the Indian culture. They are part of the Indian people. I hope they will succeed in their efforts for development and they will prosper. . . .

श्री रेवती कान्त सिंह (बिहार) : एक बात मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह देखा जाय कि सरकारी बेंचेज कितनी इन्टरेस्टेड हैं इस बिल में। यह रिकार्ड में जाना चाहिये कि सदन बिल पास कर रहा है और सरकारी बेंचेज खाली है।

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY : Mr. Vice-Chairman, on behalf of our party I support the Bill that has been placed before us. This is a very important measure and we are granting autonomy to a section of our own people, the hill people. We do want a contented people. They should have the freedom to shape their own lives according to their own likes. And we have recognised that. It is a very important centre no doubt, a very strategic centre. Now that we have granted with the willing consent of all concerned a State within the State of Assam, I hope

the hill people will fully cooperate and the Government of India should not lag behind in giving all encouragement for their development, economic, social and cultural. We wish them well, and I hope that the Indian Union will be intact and nobody will ever think of dividing this country. They are all Indians. They are all patriots. And for the freedom and glory of the country they will all work hard.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, जैसा कि मैंने पहले अपने भावों को व्यक्त किया था, मुझे खुशी है कि इस वक्त श्री यशवन्तराव चव्हाण भी यहां पर विद्यमान हैं—मैं यह समझ नहीं पा रहा हूँ कि मेघालय नाम इसका क्यों रखा गया। जरा मैं इसको जानना चाहता हूँ कि मेघालय नाम क्यों रखा गया। चूंकि हमें ऐसी स्थिति में ला कर रख दिया गया है कि हम इसमें अमेंडमेंट भी मूव नहीं कर सकते, हम इस विधेयक को इम्पूव भी नहीं कर सकते; क्योंकि जो 48 घंटे का समय होता है, वह इस लिये होता है कि उसमें हम विधेयक की धाराओं को पढ़ें और उसको जहां तक तरक्की के रास्ते पर ले जा सकते हैं, ले जायें, लेकिन आपने वह समय नहीं दिया, आपने खुद इस नियम को सस्पेंड करने का प्रस्ताव लाने की आज्ञा दे दी, तो यह सारा दोष जो कुछ भी होगा वह आप पर जाता है, यानी अगर आसाम की जनता और देश की जनता का और राष्ट्र का इस विधेयक से हित हो तो बाहवाही और अगर इस विधेयक से अहित हो तो उसका सारा पाप आप पर जाय।

श्रीमती विद्यावती चतुर्वेदी : कड़ूआ, कड़ूआ थू, मीठा मीठा हप्प।

श्री राजनारायण : हमारी सम्मानित सदस्य श्रीमती चतुर्वेदी जी जब कुछ बोलती हैं, तो मुझे अच्छा लगता है। एक वाक्य बड़े आदमी का मैं इसी लिये पढ़ देना चाहूंगा। श्रीमन्, मैं चाहूंगा कि श्री यशवन्तराव चव्हाण भी उसको सुन लें। जरा सुनें। कभी ऐसा मत बोलना कि देशद्रोही देश को बर्बाद करता है। देशद्रोही तो अपना काम करेगा ही, लेकिन अगर जनत सचेत है तो देशद्रोही को पकड़ कर के उसक

[श्री राजनारायण]

काम खत्म करती है और अगर जनता उदासीन हो जाती है, तो देशद्रोही अपना काम पूरा करता है। यह डा० लोहिया का वाक्य है। इसी तरह से इसमें एक वाक्य मीठी बात के बारे में भी है और खरी बात के बारे में भी है। वह यह है कि मीठी बात करने वाला अपने बेईमान इरादों को मीठी बात में दबा देता है और खरी और तीखी बात करने वाला अक्सर ईमानदार होता है। तो यह मत समझो की लाई-लुई बात जो करते हैं वही ठीक है, खरी बात, सही बात भी जो कहे उसको भी जरा सुना करे।

श्रीमन्, मैं आसाम गया हूँ, आसाम की समस्याओं को कुछ समझने की कोशिश भी की है, कर रहा हूँ और करूँगा। जब यहाँ पर पजाब का विभाजन हो रहा था, पजाब और हरियाण में तब हमने एक वाक्य कह दिया था कि जब देश पर विदेशी सत्ता थी तो विदेशी सत्ता से देश को मुक्त कराने के लिये हमने राव कुछ कुर्बानी की मगर जब देश आजाद हुआ, तो कौन हिस्सा कहा जाये और कौन हिस्सा कहा रहे, इसमें हमें अपनी माथा-पच्ची नहीं करनी है। श्रीमन्, मैं देख रहा हूँ कि चडीगढ़ के सवाल को ले कर आज क्या हो रहा है। पता नहीं कि इसकी आखिरी शकल क्या होगी। उसको छोटिये। यहाँ आसाम की बात है। मगर हमारे आसाम से जो मित्र आते हैं, श्री गोलप बारबोरा, यह हमारे दल के सदस्य हैं और यह हमको बैठा कर के समझा रहे थे कि इससे पेची-दगिया भी पैदा हो सकती है, इससे समस्या का समाधान हो ही जायगा, ऐसा नहीं कहा जा सकता।

श्री एस० पुरकायस्थ (आसाम) : हो ही जायगा।

श्री राजनारायण : तो इन तमाम बातों के साथ मैं आपके जरिये घर मंत्री को इतनी बात जरूर कह दूँगा कि हम इस विधेयक का समर्थन करेंगे, इस विधेयक के साथ रहेंगे, क्योंकि जहाँ पर देश का सवाल हो जाता है, वहाँ देश हित

की रक्षा करना हमारा कर्तव्य हो जाना है। सरकार कहती है कि इससे देश का हित होगा, तो हम अपनी शका को व्यक्त करते हुये इस विधेयक का साथ दे रहे हैं। हमको इसको इम्पूव करने का वक्त नहीं मिला। हम इस विधेयक को इम्पूव कैसे कर सकते हैं, जब कि अमेडमेंट आपने आने नहीं दिया। कहा गया कि अमेडमेंट आपने क्यों नहीं दे दिया लेकिन यह तो कोई पागल ही बोल सकता है कि आपने अमेडमेंट क्यों नहीं दे दिया, क्योंकि जब लोक सभा से आखिरी शकल में विधेयक आ जायगा, तभी तो हम सशोधन देंगे या उससे पहले दे देंगे कि जो हमारे पास पहले विधेयक चला गया उसी में अमेडमेंट दे दें। यह पगलूसपन की बात है, उन लोगों की बात है जो कि ससदीय प्रथा से अनभिज्ञ हैं।

श्रीमन्, अब प्रश्न यह उठता है कि इसका नाम घनालय क्यों न हो, मेघालय क्यों हो।

श्री शीलभद्र याजी (बिहार) : क्योंकि वहाँ बारिश ज्यादा होती है, इसलिये मेघालय नाम पड़ा।

श्री राजनारायण : ये बेचारे भारतीय संस्कृति और भारतीय शब्दों से इतने अनभिज्ञ हैं कि इनको मेघ और घन का फर्क नहीं मालूम। तो घनालय क्यों न हो ?

डा० हरिवंश राय बच्चन (नाम-निर्देशित) : कालिदास ने घनदूत क्यों नहीं रखा, मेघदूत क्यों रखा ?

श्री राजनारायण : सही है, ठीक है, चूँकि हमारे एक कवि जी बोल रहे हैं, हिन्दी साहित्य के विद्वान हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री अफ़्ज़र अलीखान) : अब तो मान जाइये।

श्री राजनारायण : मैं उनसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि कालिदास ने जहाँ मेघ शब्द रखा है, वहाँ घन शब्द क्यों नहीं रखा ? कालिदास के मेघदूत का जो अनुवाद है वह मैं पढ़ रहा हूँ।

मुनिये ।

“ धाम धम नीर औसमीरन को सन्निपात,
ऐसो जडमेघ कहा दूत वाज करिहै ।

नेह को सदेशो हाथ चानुरे पठैबे जोग,
बदरा बिचारो कौन भाति सो उचरिहै ।

बाढी उत्कठा यक्षबुद्धि बिसरानी सबै,
वाही सौ निहोरे जानि याते काज मरिहै ।

काम के तपाये मति हीन है सदा ही तिन्हें,
चेत और अचेत कहा भेद जानि परिहै ।

डा० हरिवंश राय बच्चन : घन के साथ
घमड लगा हुआ है । “ घन घमड बरसत नभ
घोरा । ”

श्री राजनारायण : मुनिये । “ घन घमड बर-
सत नभ घोरा, प्रिया विहीन डरपत मन मोरा । ”

तो मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इसका नाम
घनालय हो, वहाँ से घमड इतना गरजे कि कोई
भी बाहरी शक्ति, बाहरी सीमा की शक्ति,
इधर आख लाल करने की हिम्मत न करे ।
हमारे कवि ने हमारी बात का समर्थन किया है ।
उन्होंने कहा है कि घन शब्द से ताकत का इज-
हार होता है, शक्ति का इजहार होता है । तो
मेघ पिया के मन को मोहता है और घन दुश्मन
के घमड को चूर करता है । यह दोनों में फर्क
है और इन दोनों के फर्क को समझा जाय । और
इस समय यह सदन पिया-मोहक बन रहा है,
यह सजनी सरकार आज चल रही है, इस सजनी
सरकार ने हमारे देश को कहा ले जा कर छोड़ा
है । मैं आज बहुत ही प्रसन्न हूँ कि हमारे कवि
ने हमारी मदद में वह बात कही जिसको कि
मैं कहना चाहता हूँ ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री अकबर अली खान) :
अब तो खत्म करिये ।

श्री राजनारायण : हम अब भी चाहते हैं
कि सरकार इसको मोचे ओर वहाँ के लिये
मधुर नाम न रखे । इसलिये हमने पहले ही
कहा कि जहाँ दुश्मन हो वहाँ मधुर वाणी दुश्मन
के पापों और कलुषित कामों को छेद नहीं सकती
है, इसलिये वहाँ घनालय की आवश्यकता है,

वह अपना घन बरसा कर दुश्मनों के मस्तक
को चर करे । इसलिये इस विधेयक का नाम
ऐसा हो कि जिस नाम को सुन कर के लोग
समझ जाय कि यह क्यों बनाया जा रहा है ।
मैं आपको यह भी कह दूँ कि यहाँ आज भी
कुछ वंश परम्परा के गुलाम हैं, खानदानी गुलाम
हैं । मैं कहता हूँ कि एवरेस्ट गिरि है, उसको
हम एवरेस्ट गिरि कहते हैं, लेकिन वह एवरेस्ट
गिरि नहीं है, उसका नाम है सरगामाथा ।
वहाँ की जो पब्लिक है वह उसको सरगामाथा
कहती है यानी सरग पर ले जाने वाला मस्तक,
तो यह बिलकुल अच्छा नाम है ।

फिर भी आखीर में हम इतनी बात जरूर
कहेंगे कि अब की बार इस विधेयक में सरकार
ने थोड़ी सी अक्ल लगाने की कोशिश की है,
इसने एक भारतीय नामकरण किया है, वह
ठीक है । उसको हम ठीक मानते हैं, और चूँकि
हमें इसका विरोध करना नहीं है, इसलिये सदन
का ज्यादा समय हम लेना नहीं चाहते
और हमको भी जाने की जल्दी है, इसलिये हम
भी अब इस विधेयक का आखीर में समर्थन
कर के यहाँ से चले जा रहे हैं । धन्यवाद ।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA Mr Vice-
Chairman, now it has been seen how
the entire House, especially the Oppo-
sition, has been co-operative in this matter
but for which we would not have been
in a position to pass this Bill

Mr Vice-Chairman, we know that
we are doing something which is not ordi-
narily done, we are passing this Bill
so expeditiously waiving even the rules
for the time being because we want to give
legislative expression to the deep urges
and sentiments of the hill tribes and the
people living in that area. We accept
this thing because it is the result of agree-
ment among themselves. The Bill is
not just the product of any bureaucracy,
is not that in Delhi somebody prepared it.
Behind it has gone a lot of discussion,
among various parties, among the plains
people and the hills people and, naturally,
the discussion has been held under the
aegis largely of the Home Minister of
the country. Now we need not harp
on the past. There are certain grievances,
lacunae and weaknesses which people
may find fault with, but this is the quan-
tum of agreement which we have arrived

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta.]

at, and I think we should respect that agreement. The importance of this measure lies in this that for the first time we are giving autonomy to the hill tribes or the people living in that area which has been their demand for many many years. Naturally they are anxious to have this law passed and we are passing it today. It is more or less a consensus in the sense that all those who took part in the discussion, more or less with their reservations here and there, came to accept that perhaps this is the best common desideratum for a solution to be arrived at, and naturally we support it. I think, even if we have been denied the opportunity of suggesting a name; which my friend Rajnarain would like to suggest, Meghalaya is a poetic name; it recalls to my mind Kalidas, and it is certainly very poetic and good that this name has also been accepted. Now I think that we can accept it.

As far as other amendments are concerned, for the time being we have not got the opportunity to give them but, in future, if it is necessary, I think, again by consensus we can bring forward amendments. But please understand, Sir, that in a matter like this it is not merely putting across my views against some other point of view; in a matter like this involving national integration and also the policy of uplifting these people and bringing them closer to us and establishing their rapport, cultural, economic and political, it is also necessary that we have a both-way traffic, that is, exchange of information, and agreement arrived at. That is very very essential, and this Bill to that extent represents this consensus and agreement. So we have no difficulty on that score in supporting it. Future will determine as to what amendments we need.

Finally only one thing. I congratulate the people of the hill areas of Assam who have patiently fought for a solution and sought it by democratic means, through peaceful discussions and so on. That is why it has been arrived at, and I think the gesture they have shown towards themselves and to us has to be acclaimed, and it goes to the credit of the leadership of the hills people that they sought discussion and consultations with those who live in the plains and with the political parties for arriving at a solution of the problem through negotiations, through discussions, through deliberation. And this in itself has to be welcomed. We

assure them of our best wishes and I hope the Government of India will not lose time in implementing the measure in the spirit in which we are passing it today. All our hearts go to the people who are living in that area so that they are better integrated and their grievances are removed and they are happy and prosperous. I hope in that spirit it will be implemented. Democratic, honest implementation of this measure is of vital importance, not only from the point of view of the people who inhabit that area but of the rest of the country and I would only ask and urge upon the Government to take immediate steps, after the Bill is passed today, to put it into effect, again with the co-operation of all those whose toil and labour, struggle and sacrifice have resulted in the enactment, of an important democratic, significant measure of this kind.

Thank you.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : I am indeed very grateful to this House for the way they not only welcomed this Bill but made it possible to make it a law today. I think this is a recognition of the method of arriving at decisions by agreement and consensus, which the parties concerned undertook.

Sir, this question was pending before the country and the Government for the last nearly eight to nine years. After Nagaland was constituted as a separate State, this demand came up before the country. And the then Prime Minister of India, Pandit Nehru, accepted the principle of giving them maximum autonomy to these people. Now, this Bill is in fulfilment of that commitment which was made on behalf of the country.

Sir, prolonged and patient deliberations and negotiations and widest possible consultations among the parties concerned were responsible for this agreed solution. When we discussed the Constitution (Twenty-Second Amendment) Bill we had gone into the details of the principles involved in it. Sir, this Bill, really speaking, embodies the basic principle of having an autonomous State within the State of Assam. Without bifurcating the State, without disintegrating the State of Assam we have transferred a large number of items—legislative powers—to this autonomous State, and as far as these subjects are concerned, this autonomous State will be treated as a State. The

Bill is somewhat lengthy because most of the important Articles in the Constitution relating to the State have been incorporated in this Bill. Now, Sir, I am very glad indeed that we are making it possible for this Bill to become an Act today. I recommend that this Bill should be accepted in the spirit in which it has been brought forward. I assure this hon. House that soon after this Bill becomes an Act we will take steps to see that the new autonomous State is constituted. The Parliament has given its best wishes to the people of these hill areas, and I am sure this augurs well for the new State.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN) : The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the formation within the State of Assam of an autonomous State to be known as Meghalaya and for matters connected therewith, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN) : We shall now take up the clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 77 were added to the Bill.

The First Schedule, the Second Schedule, the Third Schedule and the Fourth Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : Sir, I move:—

"That the Bill be passed."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MESSAGES FROM THE LOK SABHA

1. THE COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1969
2. THE MEDICAL TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY BILL, 1969

SECRETARY : Sir, I have to report to the House the following messages received from the Lok Sabha signed by the Secretary of the Lok Sabha:—

(1)

"I am directed to inform Rajya Sabha that Lok Sabha, at its sitting

held on Wednesday, the 24th December, 1969, adopted the annexed motion in regard to the Commissions of Inquiry (Amendment) Bill, 1969.

I am to request that the concurrence of Rajya Sabha in the said motion, and also the names of the members of Rajya Sabha appointed to the Joint Committee, may be communicated to this House.

MOTION

"That the Bill to amend the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952, be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of 45 members, 30 from this House, namely:—

- (1) Shri N. C. Chatterjee
- (2) Shri Y. B. Chavan
- (3) H. H. Maharaja Pratap Keshari Deo
- (4) Shri C. T. Dhandapani
- (5) Shri Surendranath Dwivedy
- (6) Shri Hem Raj
- (7) Shri V. N. Jadhav
- (8) Shri Bhogendra Jha
- (9) Shri N. Sreekantan Nair
- (10) Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani
- (11) Shri D. K. Kunte
- (12) Shri Bal Raj Madhok
- (13) Shri Dhuleshwar Meena
- (14) Shri P. Ramamurti
- (15) Shri S. S. Syed
- (16) Shri Gajraj Singh Rao
- (17) Shri Bhola Raut
- (18) Shri Rabi Ray
- (19) Shri R. Dasaratha Rama Reddy
- (20) Shri Bishwanath Roy
- (21) Dr. Sisir Kumar Saha
- (22) Shri N. K. P. Salve
- (23) Shri Shantilal Shah
- (24) Shri Viren Shah
- (25) Shri Biswanarayan Shastri
- (26) Shri S. M. Siddayya
- (27) Shri Sant Bux Singh
- (28) Shri S. Supakar
- (29) Shri P. R. Thakur
- (30) Shri Vidya Charan Shukla, and
15 from Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee the quorum