

**MOTION RE EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSES ON THE DELHI RENT CONTROL (AMENDMENT BILL, 1964)**

**SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Orissa):** Sir, I beg to move :

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Bill further to amend the Delhi Rent Control Act, 1958, be extended up to the last day of the Sixty-sixth (November-December, 1968) Session of the Rajya Sabha.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

**THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1964 (to amend article 291)—Contd.**

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) :** Mr. Balachandra Menon was speaking when we adjourned last. Is he here?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS :** No.

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA) :** Mr. Dahyabhai Patel.

**SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL (Gujarat) :** Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I listened to a part of the debate when I was able to. Unfortunately, on the last occasion when I wanted to speak I had to go away to another Committee meeting and I should be excused if I have to do the same thing today because it is the usual practice here that certain Committee meetings are kept on Friday evenings and, therefore, for some of us it is not possible to sit in both the places.

Sir, the question of privy purses was settled, I think, many years ago. In 1948 when we had our freedom the whole world was looking to see whether we shall be able to hold together. The prophets of doom, particularly some of our officers of the ex-Rulers, I mean the British I. C. S. officers, felt that the task was far beyond us that we would not be able to do it, and one of the difficulties that was raised was the question of the ruling princes. Let it be said that due to the patriotic action, the patriotic response that the Rulers gave to the call from our Government

and which my father as the Home Minister gave, we have a unified India in spite of repeated efforts to divide the country.

I know and those people in this House at least who read and write should know that certain States were sought to be taken away from us by temptations from unfriendly people around our borders. It is a pity that in spite of our efforts to make them friendly they persist in their attitude even till today. We know what the vacillating attitude of the border State on the North has cost us. But, by and large, it was the patriotic action of the Princely States of India and their Rulers that has given us a united India. This fact was recognised by all authorities. The then President of the Congress, Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, wrote a letter complimenting their action and saying that it was perhaps the largest sacrifice anybody made for winning freedom and making a unified India. He used somewhat similar words in the letter that he sent to them as President of the Congress. Others paid their tributes in this House and outside.

Now, Sir, I do not know for what reason the present Government seems to be wanting to get out of that contract. Senior Members in the Government should particularly know—we know that the Government is a house divided against itself—something of this history, if their conscience pricks them and tells them not to do this, that this is not right. Some of them are not in the Government today. But those who were in important positions in the Government have also said so. We have still people like Mr. K. M. Munshi, our leader, Mr. Rajagopalachari and Mr. S. K. Patil, who was in the Government at that time, who have said that it would be wrong and immoral for the Government to take this step. Unfortunately, I do not understand why the present Home Minister has taken a different line, and particularly what I could not understand is the distinction between morality inside and morality outside.

When the Kutch Agreement was discussed in this House, Mr. Chavan strongly defended and asked what would be our picture in the outside world if we did not stand by the Agreement that we have signed, that our image in the world would be something different. Sir, does this House feel