

[Shri B. R. Bhagat]

[Placed in Library. For (c) (i) to (iv) and (d). See No. LT-1951/63.]

(e) a copy each of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944: —

(i) Notification G.S.R. No. 1763, dated the 16th November, 1963, publishing the Central Excise (Twenty-fifth Amendment) Rules, 1963.

(ii) Notification G.S.R. No. 1765, dated the 16th November, 1963, publishing the Central Excise (Twenty-sixth Amendment) Rules, 1963. [Placed in Library. For (i) and (ii), See No. LT-1962/63.]

**ALLOTMENT OF TIME FOR
CONSIDERATION OF MOTION *RE*
SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT ON THE
WORKING AND ADMINISTRATION
OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 1956**

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that under rule 153 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I have allotted two hours for the consideration of the Motion regarding the Sixth Annual Report on the working and administration of the Companies Act, 1956.

**STATEMENT *RE* RELEASE OF
SOME DETENUS IN WEST
BENGAL**

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA): Sir, I wish to state that Shri Charu Mazumdar was placed under detention under rule 30 of the Defence of

India Rules by the orders of the West Bengal Government on the 24th November, 1962. An order for detention of Shri Binoy Choudhury was made by the West Bengal Government on 20th November, 1962, but he could not be found until the 23rd November, 1963 when he was taken into custody and placed under detention. It is understood that Shri Binoy Choudhury is a candidate in the forthcoming bye-election to the West Bengal Legislative Assembly from the Burdwan constituency and that Shri Charu Mazumdar is similarly a candidate for the West Bengal Legislative Assembly from the Siliguri constituency. The policy of the Government is to afford all reasonable facilities to detenus who may stand for elections to the State Legislative Assemblies or to Parliament. In pursuance of this policy, the West Bengal Government have released Shri Binoy Choudhury and Shri Charu Mazumdar from detention on the 26th November, 1963.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, I am grateful to the gesture that has been made. Yesterday I raised it with your permission. That is how I intervened.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What then?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: As I said, Sir, the election will take place in two Parliamentary constituencies, involving fourteen Assembly constituencies and two Parliamentary constituencies, altogether sixteen. This is a big, almost a miniature election, mid-term election taking place. In view of these and for also other political reasons, why are the members of the Communist Party, the leading members including the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Opposition, the Secretary of the Party and others not being released in the changed situation? The Government is having election even in Nowgong near the frontier. In Bengal they are having a series of elections. I would therefore press upon the Home Minister to consider

the matter with sympathy and wisdom and find his way to releasing the detenus not only in West Bengal but all over the country. I think the time has come to wipe out that chapter and get all detenus released, and I would implore through you, Sir, in all humility, in all seriousness the Home Minister to kindly personally intervene in this matter. The Prime Minister wrote to me a letter expressing that he was interested in that and that he was sending the matter to the State Government to hasten the question of release. I should like to know why this is not being done and why the Prime Minister's directive that the M.Ps. and M.L.As. should be released, to begin with immediately after the Supreme Court judgment, is not being carried out. This question should now be taken up in all seriousness by our esteemed Home Minister, and we do expect from him certain fair deal in this matter, justice and restoration of civil liberties to the people who have been denied them most unjustly. In West Bengal, as I say, it is political vendetta and nothing else on their part.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think you have made your point.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE (Uttar Pradesh) : May I know, Sir, whether the release of the detenus has been ordered on the suggestion of the Union Government or the initiative came from the Government of West Bengal?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: Consultation goes on between us.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Yesterday we read in the papers that Mr. Annadi Das, a member of the R.C.P.I., is detained under the Defence of India Rules for objecting to high prices. The Defence of India Rules were certainly not meant to deal with such cases. Mr. Niren Ghosh from this House has been kept in detention, and Mr. Biren Dutta and Mr. Dasarath Deb who have been Members of the other House

are still in detention, and nearly 30 M.L.As. and M.L.Cs. are in detention. Please tell us when you are going to release these people and others.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made that point several times over and over again.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Our people are in detention. Am I to sit quiet? Let him put me in jail. My voice will be silenced once and for all. Mr. Mahendra Acharya, a member of the staff of the Parliamentary Committee, who has been working with us for twelve years, has been suddenly taken away under the Defence of India Rules. Sir, you kindly ask Mr. Nanda to consider this matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have asked. this already.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I hope he will listen to you. I hope we shall get the chapter closed. Even the British used to go by better standards. Please do not go by political revenge. We are the second biggest Party in this country, and we are entitled to that.

SARDAR RAGHBIR SINGH PANJHA-ZARI (Punjab): What is the Communist Party doing in the other countries?

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Orissa): May I know whether the charges against the persons have not been withdrawn and they have been temporarily released for election purposes or are they released unconditionally?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: They have been released.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No further clarification is necessary. Now we will take up further discussion of the Motion regarding Committee on Public Undertakings. Mr. Sri Rama Reddy.