

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now taken up the clause by clause consideration of the Bill. There are no amendments.

Clauses 2 to 4 were added to the Bill.

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

DR. D. S. RAJU: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill be passed."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

INQUIRY RE LATEST POSITION ON THE BORDER

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Chairman, may I draw your attention to the state of affairs prevailing in this House? Yesterday my friend, Mr. Gurupada Swamy, wanted to know something about the Chinese withdrawal. You were good enough to say that you would find it out but we find that the Government gave some information in the Lok Sabha. I do not know why we were deprived of that information. Now, today I find from the papers that the Chinese have violated the cease-fire somewhere on the borders. We should like to know whether they have violated. If so, it is a very serious thing. Secondly, we find that Pakistan has insisted that an immediate date should be fixed for ministerial talks. I should like to know whether the Government of India has fixed any date or whether it has not fixed any date.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would pass on your wish to the Government, but I think as soon as the Government have something definite to say, they usually come to this House.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE (Uttar Pradesh): The point is statements are made in the other House. Why is this House being ignored? We have been tabling Short Notice Questions, but they are not being admitted.

SHRI R. S. DOOGAR (West Bengal): Sir, whenever a statement as such is made by the Prime Minister in the other House, he comes and makes a statement here also. That statement that he had made was in reply to questions which Members asked when he was in the House.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: In that case questions should also be admitted here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No questions are admitted. But when the Prime Minister was here, if questions had been raised, he might have said something. There are points on which he does not want to make a statement because perhaps information is not available. If he is in possession of any facts that he wants to convey, he rushes to Parliament. That is my impression.

PROF. M. B. LAL (Uttar Pradesh): I find in the papers today that it is decided in the other House that questions would be asked, but before questions are asked they would be submitted to the Prime Minister. Only such questions will be asked as the Prime Minister would be prepared to answer taking into consideration the present situation. So, I wish some such procedure may be adopted here also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not know what procedure has been adopted. Probably that suggestion was made. But if you express a wish, that wish is conveyed to the Prime Minister.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh): They are admitting two Short Notice Questions in the Lok Sabha.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not know that. I will communicate your views.

PROF. M. B. LAL: Our views should be communicated.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned till 2.30.

The House then adjourned for lunch at six minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at half-past two of the clock, THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MOTION RE. REPORT ON THE WORKING OF THE INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL UNDERTAK- INGS OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

SHRI A. D. MANI (Madhya Pradesh): Madam Deputy Chairman, I beg to move the following Motion:

"That the Annual Report (September, 1962) on the Working of the Industrial and Commercial Undertakings of Central Government for the year 1960-61, laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on the 7th September, 1962, be taken into consideration."

In commending this motion to the House I should like to make a preliminary observation that I do not propose to approach the subject of the public sector undertakings from the point of view of ideology or from the point of view of private enterprises or State undertakings. I shall leave it to the very competent hands of my friend, Mr. Patel, to approach it from the latter point of view and Mr. Bhupesh Gupta to approach it from the ideological angle also. I am interested more in finding out in this survey whether these public sector undertakings have come up to our expectations.

I may mention here that Mr. Herbert Morrison very pithily put the role of public undertakings by stating that they should have sound business management and public accountability. These two considerations are necessary for public undertakings. I would like to apply these two tests to the public undertakings for which the results have been published in the Report. Madam, I have been at pains to go through this annual Report carefully, and I may say that there are many gaps which have to be filled. It is true that this is the first time that the Government has published a consolidated Report on the working of public undertakings, and to that extent Government deserves congratulations for placing the results of the survey before the House. But the manner in which the Report has been drawn up and the figures juggled—I use the word advisedly—leads me to say that the Report is misleading. In the concluding paragraphs the Report says:

"The net profit earned, after providing for depreciation, meeting obligations on interest, taxes etc. showed a rise from Rs. 5.06 crores to Rs. 7.74 crores, or, in terms of percentage of paid-up capital from 4.4% in the last year to 5.5% in the year under Report."

I hope that my interpretation is correct that in arriving at this figure they have taken into consideration the profits yielded by the so-called running concerns. What the Report has done is to take the steel undertakings separately stating that they have not gone into full production. They have taken other concerns like the Ashoka Hotel, Nepa Newsprint, etc., and called them running concerns. There is another category of projects which have not gone into commission. A and C are not taken into consideration but only B is taken into consideration, and the figure of 5.5 per cent is arrived at by them on this basis.