

this is a bad thing. They feel the pinch but then they are the people who have religious sentiments behind them and they feel that this system has acquired religious sanctity and that it has got to be observed even if it means their ruin. In any case, it will be the best thing if this Bill could be withdrawn but if the Government insists that it should not be withdrawn, then I would prefer it to be passed in the present form in which it has come to us for the simple reason that Government would have the satisfaction that it has taken a step forward in regard to social legislation. The provisions of the Bill and particularly the explanations to clause 2 practically nullify the effect which it is hoped that this Bill will have. In the circumstances, I feel that the most satisfactory arrangement would be for Government to withdraw this Bill because it is not going to help us in any way and it will constitute a laughing stock; if Government does not want to withdraw this measure, then it may be passed because Government will then have the satisfaction, as I said earlier, of having taken a step forward and this will be the case with others also who want to take shelter behind this measure.

I cannot support the Bill but then the Bill has to be passed and it may be passed in the present form without accepting any of the amendments which have been given notice of because the amendments are worse than the disease itself.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The house stands adjourned till 2 P.M.

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

The House reassembled after lunch at two of the clock. Mr. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA

THE INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE BILL, 1959

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

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the Indian Statistical Institute Bill, 1959 as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 14th December, 1959."

Sir, I lay the Bill on the Table.

THE DOWRY PROHIBITION BILL, 1959—*continued*.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have got still about 15 names before me and we have hardly 45 minutes. So, Members will please take 5 minutes each.

SHRIMATI SAVTTRY DEVI NIGAM (Uttar Pradesh): In five minutes what can be said?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Everything that has to be said on the Bill has been said.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND: It is a social measure and

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am calling the hon. Minister to reply at 2.45 P.M.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE (Bombay): The Chairman has said that the discussion might continue up to 3 o'clock.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We will take up the amendments tomorrow but the discussion will close.