

(ii) Shri Lila Dhar Barooah—
Governing Body of the Indian
Lac Cess Committee.

(iii) Shri S. Channa Reddy—
Indian Council of Agricultural
Research.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO SHRIMATI RUKMINI DEVI ARUNDALE

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that the following letter dated the 9th March, 1960, has been received from Shrimati Rukmini Devi Arundale:—

"As I have told you personally, I am going on a long tour to America and Europe for cultural and other activities for which I have been invited. I expect to be back in Septemebr.

I request you to grant me leave of absence till then."

Is it the pleasure of the House that permission be granted to Shrimati Rukmini Devi Arundale for remaining absent from all meetings of the House during the current session?

(No hon. Member dissented.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted.

REFERENCE TO A NEWSPAPER REPORT RE ELECTION IN THE CALCUTTA SOUTH-WEST PARLIAMEN- TARY CONSTITUENCY

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR BASU (West Bengal): Sir, on a personal explanation, regarding what Shri Biren Roy* said, I never made that statement either on the floor of this House or anywhere.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Basu, my attention has been drawn to it. He got up and said that. We shall get into touch with the newspaper.

SHRI BIREN ROY (West Bengal): Sir, there is a certain position that I must state. Because you asked me then not to gate-crash, I sat down. Now before I sit down, I would say what is wrong. I would also state that he told me on the phone that he did not say so. But the whole article is inspired stating categorically as though this election was set aside by the tribunal because of large-scale impersonation and that was why this photographic business was going on. And even his speech was also the same thing except this part because he neither read the complaint nor the judgment. I know it personally; I was the man affected and so I know it. It was like the case of Aesop's Fables' wolf and the lamb. I do not want to go into details here. I do not want to take shelter of this privileged House. I can defend myself against such sort of things where executives are practically controlling the judiciary. But in a democratic set-up as ours, we have to take the judgments as they are. But I would like you to please enquire into the matter to know how this report emanated.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That will do.

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC AC- COUNTS AND PROGRAMME THEREOF

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA
NARAYAN SINHA): Sir, I move:

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven members from the Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of

*See cols. 1460—supra.