

COUNCIL OF STATES

Friday, 23rd April 1954

The Council met at a quarter past eight of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MEMBER SWORN

SHRI T. V. Kamalaswamy (Madras):

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

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

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 132 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the House of the People, I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the Finance Bill, 1954, as passed by the House at its sitting held on the 22nd April, 1954.

The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution of India".

I lay the Bill on the Table.

THE MUSLIM WAKFS BILL, 1952

SHRI AKHTAR HUSAIN (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Chairman, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the better administration and supervision of wakfs, as passed by the House of the People, be taken into consideration."

Sir, this Bill aims at making provision for the proper management, control and supervision of dedicated properties designated as 'wakf'.

12 C.S.D.

As the House is aware, religious-minded and pious people, with a view to spiritual advancement, set apart some portion of their property for the purpose of its being utilised for the benefit of mankind. The idea in creating wakfs has always been.....

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA (Uttar Pradesh): What is the real title of the Bill—the Muslim Wakfs Bill or the Wakfs Bill?

SHRI AKHTAR HUSAIN: If my hon. colleague had only taken the trouble of reading the Bill as amended by the Select Committee, he would not have asked the question. He would have seen that originally the name of the Bill was the Muslim Wakfs Bill but later on when it went to the Select Committee presided over by our Law Minister, the whole matter was carefully gone into and the new name given to the Bill that I have the privilege of moving for consideration before this august House is the Wakfs Bill.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: But I have before me a copy of the Bill which clearly says: "The Muslim Wakfs Bill, 1952" and because it is so I raised the point. So I cannot be accused of not having read the title of the Bill.

SHRI AKHTAR HUSAIN: I can accept no responsibility for any incorrect copy that my hon. colleague may have provided himself with or a copy which might not be up to date or a copy which might have been printed before final shape was given by the Select Committee to the title and the provisions of this Bill.

I am sorry I have allowed myself to be side-tracked, but the submission I was making was that these charitable endowments were created by people for the benefit of mankind and with a view to carry out what they considered to be their religious obligation, these properties have been set apart, and the view that prevails is that when a Mussalman creates a