

**THE INDIAN PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1953.**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Before we take up Dr. Seeta Permanand's motion which comes next, Mr. Rama Rao will introduce his Bill if she will please yield to this.

*(No hon. Member dissented.)*

SHRI RAMA RAO (Andhra): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is :

"That leave be granted to Shri Rama Rao to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860 "

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAMA RAO: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

**THE WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S INSTITUTIONS LICENSING BILL, 1953**

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND (Madhya Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, I beg to move :

"That the Bill to regulate and license institutions caring for women and children be circulated for eliciting opinion thereon by the 15th March 1954."

Sir, the object behind this Bill is clearly stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons and as such I would not like to dwell at length at this stage on the objects of the Bill. but I would make only a few observations.

Sir. the Government has introduced the Children Bill, but a comparison of both these Bills would show that the scope of that Bill is almost entirely different from the present Bill.

The present Bill seeks to license the existing institutions, usually of a private nature, for women and children, and for an obvious purpose.

Sir, it is known that, as a rule, the homes for women and children which are sometimes known as orphanages are run out of selfish motives and oroflt is made out of them, usually to the detriment of the inmates. Sometimes these institutions develop into a scandal and it is sought by this Bill to make it compulsory for those who organize these institutions to take a licence so that the running of these institutions is subjected to proper inspection and control regarding nutrition, sanitation and discipline in the institutions and also a general supervision, to ensure that the institutions are run for the welfare of the inmates.

Sir, it is usually said in our country that it is a punishment to have children and if you look at the condition of even school-going children this would be quite obvious. Sir, the condition of the children who come from these orphanages is pitiable. I would not like to be ungrateful to those who run them but sometimes the condition in the institutions, run even by foreign religious institutions, is such that one wonders whether it is really desirable that these children should live in these institutions meant for their general welfare and education, and continue to receive education or they should be left to earn their living instead, even at a school-going age. It is very difficult to say which will be ultimately in their interests. Very often you see. Sir, that the people who run these institutions themselves live a luxurious life and the children inside are treated as labourers and made to starve almost.

It is necessary to make one more point, and that I would like to make here before the Bill is sent out for eliciting public opinion, namely, that this Bill would apply to Part C States: first and it will be left open to other