

COUNCIL OF STATES

Monday, 19th May 1952

The Council met at a quarter to eleven of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MEMBERS SWORN

Shri Somnath S. P. Dave (Bombay).

Thakur Bhanu Pratap Singh (Madhya Pradesh).

Shri Ram Chandra Gupta (Uttar Pradesh).

PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS

MR. CHAIRMAN : Before I take up the next item, a question of privileges has been raised by Mr. Bimal Comar Ghose. He says :

It appears that under powers conferred on him under Article 118 (2) of the Constitution, the Chairman has modified the practice obtaining in the old Council of State relating to asking of questions by Members to the disadvantage of the rights of such Members.

It is not a question of privilege. The House is a Sovereign body and it will have its own Rules Committee which can consider the whole question. In the meantime, you have the right of putting short notice questions and questions on two days in the week. In the Rules Committee which will be constituted, all these matters can be considered.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY (Mysore): I would like to ask on a point of information, Sir, Rule No. 30 says :

Unless the Chairman otherwise directs, not less than ten clear days' notice of a question shall be given.

This House will be sitting only for a short time and if we are to give ten days' notice, there can be no question being put and no answer being received from the Government. I would therefore request you to change the period from ten days to a shorter period, if possible.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will consider this question.

SHRI H. D. RAJAH (Madras) : I trust that the Chairman will be pleased to change this ten days' rule and, if that is not possible, he can suspend that rule from operation. Secondly, with regard to oral questions, have we to send oral questions for the week or for the whole session ? That is not clear, Sir. It would be better if this point is clarified. Thirdly, with regard to Resolutions, no non-official day has been allotted. We request that the Chairman may be pleased to consider allotting a day for non-official Resolutions.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All these questions will be considered.

MESSAGES OF GOODWILL FROM FOREIGN PARLIAMENTS

MR. CHAIRMAN : Some messages of goodwill have been received from the Parliaments of Sweden, Norway and Denmark. The message of goodwill from the Swedish Parliament runs :

On behalf of the Swedish Riksdag we beg to offer our best congratulations on the opening day of the Indian Parliament.

The message from the Danish Parliament runs :

On behalf of the Danish Parliament we send the Parliament of India our warmest congratulations and good wishes for the future of the people of India.