

[Shri C. D. Deshmukh.]

The last point is the one Shri Reddy raised about the price.

My answer is that there is such a thing as excise.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

That the Bill be passed.

The motion was adopted.

THE NATIONAL CADET CORPS (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE :
(SHRI N. GOPALASWAMI) : Sir, I move that the Bill further to amend the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948, be taken into consideration.

Sir, the Bill is a very simple one. It consists of two clauses—Clause 1 and the operative clause, Clause 2. In Section 12 of the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948, there is power given to the Central Government to appoint an advisory committee and the constitution of that Committee is dealt with in that section. Amongst the persons who could get on to the Committee, the last category consists of two members elected by the Central Legislature. When this Act was passed, we had only the Provisional Parliament sitting. There were not two Houses. After the passing of the Constitution two Houses have come into existence and the Government consider it desirable that each of the two Houses should have representatives on this Committee. So, in sub-section (1) of Section 12 for, 'Two Members selected by the Central Legislature', it is proposed to substitute 'Two members to be elected by the House of the People and one member to be elected by the Council of States annually'. It is a very simple one. I hope the House will have no difficulty in passing this Bill.

SHRI J. R. KAPOOR (Uttar Pradesh) : Mr. Chairman, we must naturally express our gratitude to the hon. the Leader of the Council for having taken the earliest opportunity

of securing representation of this Council on the Central Advisory Committee of the National Cadet Corps, and I have no doubt in my mind that similarly the hon. the Leader of the Council will always see to it that this Council is properly and adequately represented on all Committees of a similar nature or of other natures which have to be appointed either under the provisions of any Act or otherwise by the Government.

Sir, I very much wish that the hon. Defence Minister would in his concluding remarks throw some light on the working of this Act and what progress has been made by the National Cadet Corps under this Act. This Act was enacted in 1948 and has been in operation for the last four years. We are anxious to know how it has worked so far, what is the strength of the various units in the different States, in the different universities and in the different schools and colleges, and what the Defence Ministry thinks about National Cadet Corps all over the country. In particular we would very much like to know what the strength of the various divisions are. Three divisions have been formed under this Act in the various universities and colleges—the senior division to which only male students of the universities are enrolled, the junior division to which male students of schools are enrolled and the girls division to which only girls whether they belong to the universities or schools, are enrolled. What is the total strength of these various divisions all over the country ?

Then we would also very much like to know from the hon. Defence Minister whether the Central Government has organised any unit of this Corps in the State of Jammu and Kashmir and if so, what is the total strength of the unit in that particular State.

I also find that under this Act it was the intention of the Central Government to establish units of this Corps outside the universities and colleges. Under Section 7 of this Act we have it stated "Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, the Central Government may by notification....."

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Kapoor, the point here is this. There is a specific clause to say that the Central Advisory Committee be so constituted as to include two representatives of the House of the People and one of the Council of States. But you are referring to the whole question of the National Cadet Corps, its existence, its extent, its application to the State of Jammu and Kashmir. I do not think all these things arise out of this issue now before the House.

SHRI J. R. KAPOOR : Sir, I was not raising any particular question. I was only trying to get some definite information—maybe of a general nature—as to how this Act has been working so far.

MR. CHAIRMAN : My point is, you can put it down as a question and ask for the total strength of the divisions etc., and you will get an answer. But you cannot do that on this issue.

SHRI J. R. KAPOOR : But while we are considering the question of the advisability of sending a representative on this advisory committee, we have also to satisfy ourselves whether this representation is worthwhile or not. If we learn that the Act has not worked properly, that it has in fact, been a useless one, then there is no use our sending a representative to serve on the advisory committee. On the other hand if this Act has been working well we shall certainly send our representative to serve on the Central Advisory Committee. I will not take long, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have already asked what you wanted to ask.

SHRI J. R. KAPOOR : Only one point more, Sir. I would like to know whether the Central Government have established any units outside the universities and colleges and if so what is their strength. I would also like to know what is the amount of money that is being spent by the Central Government on these Cadet Corps from year to year. Of course, I would not like to have any detailed information, but only rough idea of the

annual expenditure on this account. I would further like to know whether it is the intention of the Government to extend the operation of this National Cadet Corps Act. I ask this because we know that in the colleges and schools where these units are in existence the number of applicants is much more than what these units can take in, as they do not have adequate provision for imparting the military training to these numerous applicants. The students simply rush in as they want to have this training, but there is no adequate provision for giving them instructions. Only the other day the Defence Minister during the course of the Budget discussion gave us the information that Government was considering the question of providing military training to the students on a more extensive scale in our schools and colleges. Rather than start any such new schemes, why should it not be possible for the Government to extend the activities of the National Cadet Corps ? Why should we not form more units in the different universities ?

With regard to Section 7 of the Act, I would earnestly urge on the Government seriously to consider the question of establishing civil citizens national cadet corps in different important localities of the country. I understand that recently a National Rifle Association has been established in the country with headquarters at Ahmedabad with the hon. the Speaker of the House of the People as Chairman of the Association. May I know whether it would not be possible for the Central Government and whether it would not be advisable for the Central Government to integrate the activities of all the units that may be established under Section 7 of the Act and those of All-India Rifle Associations ? I would like to know what concrete steps have the Government taken or propose to take in order to establish units under section 7 of the Act.

Lastly I have only one more suggestion to make to the Defence Minister. I would request him to consider the advisability of holding exhibitions of arms and ammunitions in the different

[Shri J. R. Kapoor.]
cantonments so that the members of the National Cadet Corps there may have an opportunity of going to these exhibitions and have a look at these arms and ammunitions that are being used by the armed forces. At one place the military authorities were agreeable to hold such exhibitions, but I do not know what came in their way later and why this suggestion was not implemented. I would earnestly request the Defence Minister to consider whether it would not be advisable to permit the military authorities to hold such exhibitions once a year in different cantonments to which the members of the National Cadet Corps in those localities might be given free access to have a look at the arms and ammunitions. These will be very interesting and encouraging to them.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I request Members to confine themselves to the amending Bill and the points that arise therefrom.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU (Madras) : Sir, the Government can, of course, get this Bill passed even without much discussion, but there are just one or two points which, according to me, require a little elucidation. The first point I would like to be clear about is, while no period is prescribed in the principal Act for Section 12 (h), why should a period of one year be fixed for the elected Members of the House of Parliament ? In clause (h) of section 12 there is scope for nomination of five non-official members, to be nominated by the Central Government and no period is prescribed for the non-official members to be so nominated by the Central Government. Of course, a certain period may be prescribed for the Member of Parliament serving on the Advisory Committee, but the period of one year suggested in the amending Bill is too short a period, because the minimum period for any Member of the Council of States is two years. I would, therefore, suggest to the mover of the Bill to so amend clause 2 as to fix a period of two years instead of one year for the Member to serve on the Ad-

visory Committee. That is my first suggestion.

The second suggestion is this, Sir. Somehow or other, this House is treated in a step-motherly way. Where three Members are to be chosen according to the amending Bill, to represent the Parliament in the Advisory Council, 2 Members are to be elected from the House of the People and one Member from the Council of States. Well, it is not the numerical strength of the Houses that has to be considered as a matter of criterion, but it is the question of competency to advise in such matters that has to be considered. We are the House of Elders and it is only this House that would be in a position to advise on all such matters, especially matters of such serious importance as the National Cadet Corps, where question of defence is involved.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY (Mysore) : Is the hon. Member old ?

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU : There are certain exceptions like you and me—there is no doubt about it. These are the only two suggestions that I would like to make and I would once again request the Mover of the Bill to extend the period to two years and not one year alone.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY (Mysore) : I would just say a few words in support of what my friend Mr. Rajagopal Naidu has suggested. Now, Sir, I can understand a Motion by some other Minister being put before us, where this House, as my hon. friend would put it, is being treated in a step-motherly fashion. But, I cannot understand how the hon. the Leader of the House who ought to lead us in all matters, including, the establishment of privileges, should so mislead us, may I say, and give up the privileges of this House. It may be said that this need not be treated as a precedent as we have been told everytime we appoint Joint Committees. I do not understand how you can go on doing the same thing over and over again and say that they will not be treated as precedents.

I should say, in so far as advisory and such other committees are concerned, that this House, not because some of us are here are older or younger or whatever it is, but the method of election is such—although it has not served the purpose of the Constitution in the first election, certainly it will in future elections—that it will send up such Members who will be experts in their respective fields and who will be in a better position to advise Government on certain points. So, therefore, I should have thought that the Central Advisory Committee—if it should have representatives of Parliament—should be advised by a Committee comprised almost exclusively of Members of the Council of States. Well, if you want to give one representative for the House of the People, because they are the direct representatives of the people, then two seats should have been given to us. But this I cannot understand that they should have two and we should be content with one. I think, Sir, we should break away from this unprecedented precedent, if I may say so, and we should have at least equal number of representatives from the Council of States as well as the House of the People and I should expect the hon. the Leader of the House, who ought to be in the forefront without our saying anything about it, to establish this precedent, to accept this suggestion and accept the amendment.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU (Uttar Pradesh) : May I say a word, Sir ? The National Cadet Corps Committee has been in existence, I think, for four years. During these four years, only 4 meetings of the Committee have been held. I think it was established in 1948. It met twice in 1948, once in February 1950 and again in September 1951. They met, it seems, once a year on an average. We receive, at our annual meetings, if I may say so, the report of the Director of the Cadet Corps. We express our opinions, disperse and hear nothing more about it till the next year. I think, Sir, that this state of things is unsatisfactory. If Government consider it worthwhile to have a Committee, then the Committee should meet often. It should meet at

least twice in a year. It should have one meeting after the meeting at which it receives the report of the Director of the Cadet Corps in order to know what progress is taking place. It is desirable that the Committee should be more in touch with the formation and progress of the National Cadet Corps than it is at present. I think I am not far wrong in saying that at present the members of the Committee do not know very much more about the Cadet Corps than outsiders. I trust that my hon. friend the Defence Minister will look into this matter.

SHRI P. M. KHAN (JAMMU AND KASHMIR) :

شری پی۔ ایم۔ خان (جسوں اور کھمبر) :

جناب چھرمین صاحب ! نیشنل

کیڈٹ کور (National Cadet Corps)

ایک جہاں کہ لیڈر آف دی ہاؤس

(Leader of the House) نے بتایا

ہے سنہ ۱۹۴۷ء میں بلا - جس وقت

نیشنل کیڈٹ کور اسٹارت (start) ہو

دھا تھا اس وقت اس میں بہت کم

لوگ تھے - لیڈر آف دی ہاؤس اور

ڈیفینس منسٹر نے ابتدا میں یہ کہا ہے

کہ اب بجائے دو ممبر کے تین ممبر

پارلیمنٹ کے ہوں گے - میرا کہنا ہے کہ

نیشنل کیڈٹ کور اب کافی بڑا ہو چکا ہے

اور اس میں کیڈٹس (cadets) کی تعداد

کافی ہو گئی ہے اور تقریباً ہر اسٹوٹ

میں وہ قائم ہو چکا ہے اس لئے سینٹرا

ایڈوائزری بورڈ (Central Advisory

Board) میں بجائے پارلیمنٹ کے

تین ممبر ہونے کے اس میں اگر چار

پانچ ممبر ہاؤس آف پھوپل کے لئے

چاہیں اور دو تین ممبر کونسل آف

اسٹوٹس کے لئے جانیں تو بہت اچھا ہو -

[Shri P. M. Khan.]

جسوں اور کشمیر میں کیدت کور
سنہ ۱۹۵۰ء سے شروع ہوا اور اس دفعہ
آنریبل چیرمین نے اس کا انسپیکشن
سری نگر میں کیا۔ وہ ابھی نیشنل کیدت
کور سے افییلیٹ (affiliate) نہیں ہوا اور
اس کی وجوہات کچھ مالی دقتیں ہیں
جن کو ہم اگر دور کر دینگے تو وہ اٹیٹھیٹ
ہو جائے گا۔

میں پھر لیڈر آف دی ہاؤس سے
عرض کروں گا کہ نیشنل کیدت کور کی
سہولت لیڈوایزری بورڈ میں اپ پارٹنمنٹ
سے زیادہ ممبر لیں کیونکہ اب یہ کافی
زیادہ تعداد میں بچہ گیا ہے۔ بس مجھے
اتنا ہی عرض کرنا ہے۔

[For English translation, see Appendix
II, Annexure No. 46 B]

SHRIMATI LILAVATI MUNSHI
(Bombay) : Sir, I want to make
a very small observation or rather
one or two suggestions. First of
all, I should like to know from the
Leader of the House whether this
can be made compulsory in our col-
leges and schools. I understand, Sir,
in U. P. in almost every college and
school, joining the N.C.C. is compul-
sory.

AN. HON. MEMBER : No.

SHRIMATI LILAVATI MUNSHI :
Probably then I am misinformed. So
far as Bombay is concerned, I am con-
nected with some colleges there, I
know that we are asking for more
and more boys to be admitted. So
many boys are ready, but they are
not being admitted because of the
financial or certain other reasons. If
we are to train the youth of the country,
I think, this should be made compul-
sory and made applicable to all the
colleges so that all the boys can get
a chance. Then there is another

thing. There are three Divisions.
The Senior Division has 21,370 cadets,
the Junior Division 37,080 cadets and
the Girls' Division only 270 cadets.
Sir, I do not know why girls are in
such a small number. I think, Sir,
at a time of disturbance it is the girl
who would require to know the art
of self-protection and there should not
be any difference so far as this is con-
cerned between the boys and the girls.
And for this reason, Sir, I should say
that there certainly should be a women's
committee—a separate committee—
to look after the progress of this move-
ment among girls. Otherwise, in a
man-made world they never have any
chance. As against so many thousands
of male cadets, there are only 270 girls.
Therefore, Sir, I urge upon the Minister
for Defence that he should take
this point of view into consideration.
In other organisations like Guides and
such others, women have separate
committees to look after girls and in the
same way if that could be done here,
it would go a long way.

SHRI N. GOPALASWAMI : Sir,
firstly, the object of the bill is very
limited. A number of general questions
have been raised; I am referring to some
of the very detailed kind of information
which my hon. friend Mr. Jaspat
Roy Kapoor wanted. It is difficult for
me to be accurate on the spur of the
moment so far as answers to his ques-
tions are concerned, but, generally speak-
ing, I can give him some information
which can be treated only as rough and
approximate. As hon. Members know,
there is a Junior Division, a Senior
Division and a Girls' Division of the
National Cadet Corps. The strength
of the Junior Division has mounted
up to something like 50,000 and the
Senior Division to about 35,000 and
the strength of the Girls' Division is
unfortunately, as my hon. friend Mrs.
Munshi pointed out, only about 200
at the present moment. That is a
very small number. I quite realise
that more effort should be devoted
raising the numbers of these Girls'
Divisions. But I may inform her that
when we put the question of raising
a Girls' Unit to a particular State

Government recently, unfortunately the State Government pleaded want of finance. They said that they could not afford the necessary funds for raising a Girls' Unit. Though it may not be possible for them to find the necessary fund during the current year, I do hope it would be possible to provide for it next year. We from the Centre certainly are trying to press the State Governments to raise more units of girls.

Then there is an Air Wing and a Naval Wing of the National Cadet Corps. The expenditure of the Central Government at present is roughly about 50 lakhs, while the State Governments spend about 125 lakhs. Of course, it is spread over all the States in the country. This question of financing the expansion of the National Cadet Corps movement has recently come under my notice and I am trying to see in what way it will be possible to make such financial arrangements as would not cry a halt to what we have been doing in this direction so far and which will permit of further expansions from year to year and I hope we will be able to arrive at some solution for this knotty financial problem with which we are faced at the present moment.

I entirely agree with my hon. friend Pandit Kunzru when he said that the Central Advisory Committee has not been used to the extent that it should have been. As hon. Members know, the Central Advisory Committee is set up for the purpose of advising Government on all matters of policy connected with the constitution and administration of the National Cadet Corps. Unfortunately, I do not think we have been trying to give full expression to the wishes of the legislature so far as the work of this Committee is concerned. It certainly must meet more often than in the past and more business must be placed before it than has been placed before it so far and it will be my endeavour to see that it does meet more often and transacts more business which will be

of great use for Government both in the administration of the Corps and in scrutinising schemes for expansion and so on.

Now, Sir, I understand that though there is a National Cadet Corps unit in Jammu and Kashmir, it has not come within our purview. Perhaps the Jammu and Kashmir Government are themselves doing it at the present moment, but we shall have to enquire into it and see how it should be co-ordinated with the general movement in the whole of India, and that will be done. There is of course of a provision, as my hon. friend Mr. Jaspal Roy Kapoor has pointed out, under Section 7, by which we can co-opt units of a kind which exactly are not within the National Cadet Corps proper, but that is a matter which has to be further co-ordinated with what we propose to do in schools and colleges, on which matter I told my hon. friend on a previous occasion that we are now in communication with the Heads of various institutions with a view to finding out what practical scheme we can evolve in that direction. Now, if any more information of this kind is wanted, I am always ready to get the information and supply to hon. Members, but I do not think, Sir, I need say any more on these general questions now.

Now, in regard to the Bill itself, two points have been raised. One is why we have limited the tenure of these members who would be elected by the two Houses of the Legislature to one year, while non-official members nominated by the Central Government have no term as such. But as a matter of practice non-official members are there only for a year and that was the reason why even in the case of members elected by the legislature the same term has been proposed in the amending Bill. And I think there is reasonable advantage in getting these representatives elected annually. All the other members of the Central Advisory Committee are all *ex-officio* members and it is only the nominated non-official members

[Shri N. Gopalaswami.]
and members elected by the legislature who will come in by way of appointment or by way of election. In several similar institutions these elections take place annually and that is why it has been proposed to have one year as the term. Let us try it for some time. It is always open to the Council of States or the House of the People to elect the same member every year for a term of two to three years just as it likes.

As regards the other point of prestige between the two Houses which has been raised, namely, that there is no reason why the representation of the Council of States should be limited to one while two members are proposed to be sent from the House of the People, well, Sir, the proportion was fixed more or less in accordance with the strength of the two Houses. I do not know if as Leader of the House I failed in my duty but I thought that a proportionate representation is as good a lead as I could give to the two Houses and that is why I suggested two might be from the House of the People and one from the Council of States. Now, I think, Sir, we are more or less adopting this kind of practice in nearly all matters and I do not think I can plead guilty to the charge levelled against me by Mr. Reddy that I failed in my duty in this matter of representation. Perhaps he would have congratulated me or showered praises on me if I had said that the Council of States should have four and the House of the People two. I think two for the House of the People and one for the Council of States is a reasonable proportion. I would let it stand at that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

That the Bill further to amend the National Cadet Corps Act, 1938, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Title and the Enacting Formula were added to the Bill.

SHRI N. GOPALASWAMI : Sir I beg to move that the Bill be passed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

That the Bill be passed.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU : Sir, the hon. Minister said that the period of one year is reasonable. Now, we have all heard Pandit Kunzru who had served on the Committee last time—that is what I gathered from what he said. And during one whole year there was only one meeting of the Committee. And what can we do by attending one meeting of the Committee ? In order to enable us to know what it is all about, and how the National Cadet Corps works, and so on, we should attend at least half a dozen meetings, so that we may be able to offer advice in the matter. So it will be reasonable for the mover of the Bill to have a period of two years. That certainly would be a reasonable period.

SHRI N. GOPALASWAMI : I have nothing to say except that so far as my hon. friend Pandit Kunzru is concerned, I believe, unless I am mistaken, he has been appointed every year to this Committee since it was started. As regards the paucity of number of meetings, I have already said that I do not justify what happened in the past. That practice has got to be changed, and will be changed.

The motion was adopted.

THE ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES (TEMPORARY POWERS) AMEND- MENT BILL

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) : Sir, I
beg to move:

That the Bill further to amend the Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946, be taken into consideration.