

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA
RAJYA SABHA

THE PRESS COUNCIL BILL, 1963

Report of the Joint Committee

(PRESENTED ON THE 17TH FEBRUARY, 1965)



RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
FEBRUARY, 1965

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COMPOSITION OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSES
OF PARLIAMENT ON THE PRESS COUNCIL BILL, 1963

MEMBERS

Rajya Sabha

1. Shrimati Violet Alva—*Chairman.*
2. Shri Arjun Arora
3. Shri K. Damodaran
4. Shri R. R. Diwakar
5. Shri U. S. Dikshit
6. Shrimati Indira Gandhi
7. Dr. Gopal Singh
8. Shri Akbar Ali Khan
9. Shri A. D. Mani
10. Shri Lokanath Misra
11. Shri Shyam Nandan Mishra
12. Shri Narla Venkateswara Rao
13. Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy
14. Shri Bhawani Prasad Tiwary
15. Shri A. B. Vajpayee

Lok Sabha

16. Shri Peter Alvares
17. Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya
18. Shri N. C. Chatterjee
19. Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri
20. Shri Yudhvir Singh Chaudhary
21. Shri C. Dasg
22. Shri L. Elayaperumal
23. Shri Ansar Harvani
24. Shri T. D. Kamble
25. Shri Cherian J. Kappen

26. Sardar Kapur Singh
27. Shri M. K. Kumaran
28. Shri Nihar Ranjan Laskar
29. Shri Shiv Charan Mathur
30. Shri Mathura Prasad Mishra
31. Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee
32. Shri Mohan Nayak
33. Shri Man Sinh P. Patel
34. Shri Kishen Pattnayak
35. Shri Shivram Rango Rane
36. Shri Sadhu Ram
37. Shri Sham Lal Saraf
38. Pandit K. C. Sharma
39. Shri Shashi Ranjan
40. Shri Vidya Charan Shukla
41. Dr. L. M. Singhvi
42. Shri Tula Ram
43. Shri S. Veerabasappa
44. Shri Virbhadra Singh
45. Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRIES

Ministry of Law

Shri G. R. Bal, *Joint Secretary and Draftsman.*

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

Shri D. R. Khanna, *Secretary, Enquiry Committee of Small Newspapers.*

Shri R. K. Govil, *Under Secretary.*

SECRETARIAT

Shri S. S. Bhalerao, *Joint Secretary.*

Shri M. A. Amladi, *Deputy Secretary.*

Shri I. N. Chari, *Under Secretary.*

REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE

I, the Chairman of the Joint Committee to which the Bill* to establish a Press Council for the purpose of preserving the liberty of the Press and of maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers in India was referred, having been authorised to submit the Report on their behalf, present this their Report, with the Bill as amended by the Committee annexed thereto.

2. The Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th November, 1963. The motion for reference of the Bill to a Joint Committee of the Houses was moved on the 8th September, 1964 by Shri A. B. Vajpayee and was adopted by the House on the 15th September, 1964.

3. The Lok Sabha discussed the motion on the 29th September, 1964 and concurred in it on the 30th September, 1964.

4. The message from the Lok Sabha was read out to the Rajya Sabha on the 1st October, 1964.

5. The Committee held 9 sittings in all.

6. At their first sitting held on the 3rd October, 1964, the Committee decided to hear evidence from organisations, institutions including newspaper advertising agencies and individuals desirous of presenting their suggestions on views before the Joint Committee and to issue a press communique inviting memoranda for the purpose. The Committee also authorised its Chairman to decide, after examining the memoranda submitted by individuals as to who should be called to give oral evidence before the Committee.

7. At their second sitting held on the 16th November, 1964, the Committee decided to extend the time for receipt of memoranda etc. upto the 15th December, 1964 and to issue a press communique to that effect.

8. Nine memoranda/representations on the Bill were received by the Committee from different organisations, institutions and individuals.

*Published in Part II, Section 2 of the *Gazette of India Extraordinary*, dated the 26th November, 1963.

9. At their third and fourth sittings held on the 20th and 21st January, 1965, the Committee heard evidence tendered by two organisations and one individual.

10. The Committee decided that the whole of the evidence tendered before it be laid on the Table of the House.

11. The report of the Committee was to be presented on the 16th November, 1964. The Committee was, however, granted an extension of time upto the 17th February, 1965.

12. The Committee considered the Bill clause by clause at their sittings held on the 22nd, 23rd and 25th January and the 13th February, 1965.

13. The Committee considered the Draft Report on the 15th February, 1965 and adopted it on the same date.

14. The principal changes suggested by the Committee in the Bill and the reason therefor are set out in the succeeding paragraphs:

Clause 4

Sub-clause (3).—The Committee are of the opinion that persons having special knowledge or experience in the field of science should also find representation in the Council. The Committee have, therefore, added 'science' to the subjects specified in paragraph (c) of this sub-clause.

Sub-clause (4).—The Committee feel that in making nominations to represent the interests mentioned in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) of sub-clause (3) care should be taken to see that chains or groups of newspapers do not get undue weightage in the Council. The Committee have accordingly amended sub-clause (4) by providing specifically that the Council should keep in view the consideration that no newspaper or chain or group of newspapers should have more than one representative in the Council.

Sub-clause (5).—The Committee are of the view that after the first formation of the Council, the power to notify associations of persons of the categories referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) of sub-clause (3) should vest with the Council and not with Government. The sub-clause has been amended accordingly.

Clause 5

The Committee are of the opinion that a member of the Council should not hold office for more than six years in any case. Sub-clause (7) has been amended suitably to achieve this purpose.

Clause 6

The Committee hold the view that the Chairman of the Council should be a whole-time salaried officer and the reference to honorarium in this context is inappropriate. The Committee have, therefore, omitted the reference to honorarium in sub-clause (1).

Clause 12

The Committee feel that "freedom of the Press" is a more appropriate expression in view of the Constitutional safeguards as to right to freedom of expression. The word "freedom" has accordingly been substituted for the word "liberty" in this clause and wherever else it occurs in the Bill.

Sub-clause (2)—

Paragraphs (b), and (d) (original).—The Committee feel that latter part of paragraph (b), viz "and in particular to prevent the use of any information obtained by journalists for purposes of blackmail" and the whole of paragraph (d) (original) are unnecessary and have accordingly deleted them. It is felt that paragraph (b) (as modified by the Committee) and paragraph (c) are adequate to meet the objects in view.

Paragraph (d) [original paragraph (e)] and paragraph (e) (new).—In the opinion of the Committee, any provision made in the Bill should take into consideration the likely effect it may have on the free flow of news between India and foreign countries. While the Committee feel that any arrangements that may be made for the reproduction of material obtained from foreign countries should not be specifically made the subject of review, they think that the Council should be empowered to review any assistance received by any newspaper or news agency in India from foreign sources. Paragraph (d) [original paragraph (e)] has, therefore, been modified and a new paragraph (e) added to achieve this purpose.

Paragraph (g).—The Committee are of the opinion that the Council should not be burdened with the functions of what may appear to be an employment agency. This paragraph has, therefore, been suitably amended.

Clause 13

Sub-clause (1).—The Committee consider that it should be made obligatory on the Council to record in writing the reasons for censoring a newspaper or an editor or a journalist under the powers

given to it in this clause. The amendment made in this sub-clause seeks to achieve this purpose.

Original sub-clause (2).—The Committee feel that the provision sought to be made in this sub-clause might detract from what they consider should be the unquestioned authority of the Press Council to deal with the offending members of the journalistic profession and might even affect its independent character. In the Committee's view a censure passed by the Press Council against an offending newspaper or editor or journalist should carry sufficient weight with the profession to have the desired effect on the future conduct of the offender. The Committee have, therefore, deleted this sub-clause.

New sub-clause (2).—The Committee feel that provision should also be made in the new sub-clause (2) to deal with complaints that may be made of interference with the freedom of the press by any person or authority including Government in the same manner as laid down in sub-clause (1) except that where such complaints are in respect of the alleged interference by Government, only the report of the inquiry shall be forwarded to Government. A new sub-clause has accordingly been inserted in this clause.

The other changes made by the Committee are of a consequential or verbal nature.

15. The Committee recommend that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

NEW DELHI;
February 15, 1965.

VIOLET ALVA,
Chairman of the Joint Committee,

MINUTES OF DISSENT

I

I dissent from certain provisions of Clause 12 of the Bill, as amended, and my dissension consists of objection to sub-clause (1) and opposition to paragraphs (b), (c) and (e) of sub-clause (2).

I agree that the object of the Press Council should be "to preserve the freedom of the Press" but I do not agree that it should assume normative and regulative powers "to maintain and improve the standards of newspapers in India", as sub-clause (1) of Clause 12 of the Bill contemplates.

My objection arises out of a particular concept of "freedom" that I favour.

There is a distinction between (1) freedom *from* and (2) freedom *to*. This is the distinction between (a) Negative freedom, and (b) Positive freedom.

Negative freedom is the notion that, if I am prevented by other people from doing what I want, I am, to that extent, unfree. Freedom from arrest, freedom from restraint, or freedom from being coerced this way or that, is the traditional way of defining 'freedom', and it will be recalled that Lock, in his, *Essay on Liberty*, conceived of 'freedom' thiswise. Mill, while he admitted that there must be laws, held that laws infringed every man's freedom. These thinkers, therefore, tried to put in a corral, a range of human actions which were to be treated as sacred and untouchable, and in which each individual could gallop or amble, as he saw fit.

The advocates of Positive freedom adopt a different approach. They ask, what prevents a man from being free? The laws, certainly. But was it not often man himself who restricted and shrivelled his own freedom? Man wants to be free, but free to do what? To lead good life, to eliminate evil desires, to realise his own higher self. "What is freedom?" asks Egmont in Goethe's tragedy: and Alva answers, "To do what is right." The true function of the laws, therefore, must be regulative and coercive. This idea permeates, from Plato's *Republic*, and *the Laws*, to the modern Marxists and utopians, and the distinction between 'negative freedom' and 'positive freedom' constitutes the real conflict of modern times, between Liberalism and Communism. It is the basic argument of self-

realisation that curtailment in the freedom of one and extension in that of another enables both to lead better lives.

In clause 12(1) of the Bill, two conflicting doctrines of 'freedom' are dangerously linked up by the nexus of an "and": the first upholds 'negative freedom', while the second, the 'positive freedom'.

Since, it is a postulate of the democratic way of life that what is correct is debatable, and that it being not already known absolutely, it must be investigated through a dialogue and not super-imposed by constituted or external authorities, it would, I conceive, be undemocratic to subject, by law, our free Press, to coercive powers of a statutory Council for maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers in India. The freedom to maintain and improve their own standards should be left to the newspapers themselves through guaranteeing them the necessary negative freedoms, and the Press Council must not get itself involved in the matter by treating it as lying in the domain of 'positive freedoms'.

My objection to paras (b) and (c) of sub-clause (2) of Clause 12 of the Bill springs from the same fundamental argument grounded in the superiority of 'negative freedoms' and undesirability of 'positive freedoms'. These paras aim at being normative and regulative and hence, are coercive in essence. The type of coercion which these provisions implicate is not conducive, in my opinion, to maintenance of a healthy state in our Press.

I cannot overstress the point that there is no middle ground on the fundamental question involved. You can either have a free Press, or a normative and regulative Press Council. Any one who holds that the proper function of a State is to bring about the moral perfection of its citizens, is playing with very dangerous weapons. As it is, the tendency to play with such weapons has become dangerously evident in our body-politic in recent years. It has, therefore, to be reiterated that he who anchors his moral judgments in absolute truths, his conviction will lead him, if he is rigorous enough, to believe that he has the right and the duty to impose those absolutes upon others for their own good, as in Plato's *Republic* or the *Holy Inquisition*, or Calvin's *Geneva*, or Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-four*.

I see a clear danger of the powers assumed under paras (b) and (c) of sub-clause (2) of clause 12 of this Bill, being employed in the direction indicated in detriment of the health and freedom of our Press.

I oppose the new paragraph (e) for different reasons.

Firstly, this paragraph contains the vague and blanket expression, "any assistance received...from foreign sources". This may include not only direct financial assistance but also reactions and information. The basic stuff with which the Press deals is events and human reactions, of public interest, and the basic function of the Press is to gather and communicate them to its reader. To place any restriction, howsoever indirect, on the freedom of the Press to gather facts about events and human reactions from here or abroad constitutes a serious inroad into the freedom of the Press such as can lead to a controlled Press. Secondly, as long as we countenance foreign-based and foreign-oriented political parties in our country, how can we object to their Press being assisted, financially, or otherwise, from abroad? Consistency may not be an absolute virtue for politicians but it is not beneath the contempt of a law-maker.

For these reasons, I am opposed to the last portion, that succeeds the word, "and", of sub-clause (1) of Clause 12, and to the provisions contained in paragraphs (b), (c) and (e) of sub-clause (2) of Clause 12 of the Bill.

NEW DELHI;
February 16, 1965.

KAPUR SINGH.

II

The Press Council Bill which the Joint Select Committee has considered and which is due to be enacted after such modifications as Parliament may determine, will have far-reaching effects on the growth of the press not only in India but in South Asian countries which are awaiting the enactment of the law by Parliament. There are objections to certain clauses of the Bill which I shall set out in this minute. When the Press Commission considered the state of the Press in India during the years 1951-54, one of the main recommendations was that the Chairman of the Council should be a person who has been a judge or is a judge of the High Court and should be nominated by the Chief Justice of India. Under Clause 4(2) of the Bill as it stands after it has emerged from the Select Committee, the Chairman shall be a person nominated by the Chief Justice of India. Since this Bill is in pursuance of the recommendations of the Press Commission, it is necessary that the precise recommendations of the Press Commission should be implemented in its provisions. As Clause 4(2) stands it is open to the Chief Justice to nominate a person, may be a Vice-Chancellor of the University, who is not a lawyer, as Chairman of the Press Council. It may be

argued that the Chief Justice of India would take into consideration the recommendation of the Press Commission before making the nomination. When a Bill of this kind is going to be enacted into law it is essential that the intentions of Parliament should be made clear.

Under clause 14 of the Bill the enquiries of the Council should be held under the Code of Civil Procedure 1908. Witnesses who appear before the Council will be examined on oath, affidavits will be recorded and received and commissions for the examination of witnesses or documents may be issued. Under clause 14 of the Bill every enquiry held by the Council shall be deemed to be a judicial proceeding within the meaning of Sections 193 and 228 of the Indian Penal Code.

When the obligation has been cast on the Council to conduct its enquiries in accordance with the Code of Civil Procedure, it necessarily follows that the presiding authority must be well versed in law. As the Bill does not contain any specific recommendation regarding the qualifications relating to the judicial experience of the Chairman of the Press Council it is open to objection on that ground. The witnesses who appeared before the Joint Select Committee were keen that the Chairman of the Press Council should be a person of judicial experience. It must be emphasized here that the moment the Press Council Bill is enacted into law it is the newspapermen who have to implement its provisions by assisting the Chairman. When the newspaper profession has demanded that the Chairman should be a person of judicial experience it is expected that due weight would be given to their opinion which has not found expression in Clause 4(2) of the Bill as it stands at present.

Clause 14 of the Bill is open to serious objection on the ground that it has been opposed by the Federation of Working Journalists whose membership covers a substantial majority of journalists in the country. When the Press Commission reported in 1954 it had before it the case of Mr. Gunn, Editor of the Daily Sketch in London, who had altered the text of the contribution without the permission of the author and still published it over the author's name. The Press Council could not ensure the appearance of Mr. Gunn before it, when it was investigating the matter, and the Press Commission of India commented as follow:

“The fact that the Press Council in the U.K. is a purely voluntary body has unduly handicapped it in its exercise of authority over the press.”

"We feel that a voluntary body of this nature....may not have the necessary sanction behind its decision or legal authority to make enquiries."

The consideration that seems to have weighed with the Press Commission was the need for legislation which would give the Press Council the authority to summon witnesses. The Press Commission did not express any opinion about the exact procedure to be followed by the Press Council. In para 955 (c) of the Press Commission's Report, the Commission also said:

"In other words, it shall not be for the Press Council to usurp the functions of a court of law nor is it intended that the Press Council in pronouncing on matters coming before them for consideration should follow the strict procedure of the Courts."

Under clause 14 of the Bill as it stands now, the enquiry is to be conducted in terms of the Code of Civil Procedure. It is one of the accepted ingredients of the principles of natural justice that the right to be represented by counsel is one which any party to a dispute can exercise if proceedings are to be conducted under the Code of Civil Procedure or the Code of Criminal Procedure. If the right to be represented by counsel is claimed by any party, it cannot well be refused by the Press Council and if it is refused, the aggrieved party may seek redress through writ process. It will greatly hamper the Press Council if it gets involved in judicial proceedings and becomes a judicial tribunal.

Under clause 13 of the Bill, the decision of the Council in respect of any enquiry shall be final and shall not be questioned in any court of law. If a judicial procedure is gone through under clause 14 of the Bill, it is open to any party to raise the issue in an appeal on the ground of mistaken appraisal of evidence tendered before the Press Council and seek to agitate the matter in the form of an appeal or a writ petition. Both article 226 and article 136 of the Constitution may be cited as relevant in the case of an appeal. The object of the Press Commission was to see that all these disputes of unprofessional conduct or infractions of the Code of Journalistic Ethics were settled on the basis of a domestic Tribunal of newspapermen themselves. The introduction of the judicial process in such enquiries would defeat the purpose of the recommendation of the Press Commission, namely, that the Press Council should not usurp the functions of a court of law. It may be argued that the enquiries would be infructuous under clause 13 if the Council does not have the power of summoning witnesses and examining them on oath. For that argument

the answer is available in the Commission of Enquiries Act. It is open to the Press Council to request Government to invest it with the powers of a Commission of Enquiry under the relevant Act which would give the power to summon and enforce the attendance of persons, cross-examining them on oath, secure statement of affidavits and require the production of documents of evidence.

The introduction therefore of clause 14 in the Bill is a serious departure from one of the principal recommendations of the Press Commission and from the evidence that is available it certainly does not command the support of the majority of the profession. The Bill is likely to defeat its very purpose if at the outset journalists are made to feel that they would be asked to go through a judicial process in the form of an enquiry before the Council without the paraphernalia of protection which the ordinary law of the land permits them in other cases.

In view of my objection to clause 14 of the Bill I am not in favour of clause 21 of the Bill because under that clause every member of the Council shall be deemed to be a public servant within the meaning of section 21 of the Indian Penal Code.

While I am generally in favour of the new sub-clause (2) of clause 13, I have doubts about the propriety of the Council being vested with the power to censure individuals or authorities who are not connected with the press and who have been adjudged guilty of interfering with the freedom of the press. The Press Council after the Bill is placed on the statute book would be a domestic tribunal for journalists set up by journalists. One can understand journalists submitting to the censure of the Council; outsiders and other non-governmental authorities have nothing to do with the setting up of the Press Council. They did not suggest that such a council should be set up or agree to abide by its findings. The Press Council will not therefore be a domestic tribunal for them. I am therefore of opinion that the Press Council should not have the power to censure them for any actions which may be regarded as interfering with the freedom of the Press. The Press Council should publish its findings on such interference by them. The findings may be in the nature of disapproval of their action. Such disapproval itself would have the effect of censure, without being formally described as censure. The object of the new sub-clause inserted in the Bill is to arouse public opinion against such interference and this object will be served if the findings of the Council are made public. This procedure should also apply to Governmental interference with the freedom of the press. Whether the Council should or should not

forward its findings to Government need not be specifically mentioned in a sub-clause. It is a matter of detail which should be decided by the Press Council. It is obvious that when the Press Council arrives at findings on complaints, it would communicate them to the parties concerned. This is a matter of courtesy and need not be raised to the level of statutory recognition.

NEW DELHI;

A. D. MANI.

February 16, 1965.

III

प्रेस परिषद् के गठन का मुख्य उद्देश्य प्रेस की स्वतन्त्रता का संरक्षण तथा संवर्धन करना है। पत्र-स्वातन्त्र्य को सबसे बड़ा संकट शासन से है। दमनकारी कानूनों द्वारा सरकारी विज्ञापन के वितरण में भेदभाव तथा पक्षपात करके अखबारी कागज के आयात और वितरण पर अनुचित नियन्त्रण लगा कर और समाचार-पत्रों तथा सम्वाद समितियों के सम्वाददाताओं को मान्यता देने में मनमानी करके शासन समाचार-पत्रों की स्वाधीनता को बहुत कुछ अंशों में पंगु बना सकता है।

भारत में समाचार-पत्रों को जो स्वाधीनता प्राप्त है वह गर्व का विषय है। किन्तु ऐसे उदाहरणों की भी कमी नहीं है जिनमें सरकार के अनुचित और अनावश्यक हस्तक्षेप के कारण पत्र-स्वातन्त्र्य को कुंठित होना पड़ा है।

संयुक्त प्रवर समिति द्वारा प्रस्तुत विधेयक में जहां इस बात की व्यवस्था की गई है कि समाचार-पत्र-उद्योग आत्मानुशासन करे और प्रेस परिषद् को यह अधिकार दिया गया है कि वह पत्रकारिता की नैतिकता का उल्लंघन करने वाले पत्रकारों की "निन्दा" कर सके वहां पत्रों की स्वाधीनता में सरकारी हस्तक्षेप के विरुद्ध केवल प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत करने का प्रावधान किया गया है। आश्चर्य की बात तो यह है कि जिन व्यक्तियों अथवा संस्थाओं का समाचार-पत्र-उद्योग से सीधा सम्बन्ध नहीं है उन्हें भी आवश्यकता पड़ने पर निन्दित करने का अधिकार परिषद् को दिया गया है, किन्तु सरकार की निन्दा करने का अधिकार उसे नहीं दिया गया। अनुच्छेद 13(2) ख के अनुसार सरकारी हस्तक्षेप की शिकायत प्राप्त होने पर परिषद् जांच करके अपना प्रतिवेदन सरकार को भेज देगी, शिकायत प्रमाणित होने की दशा में भी वह सरकार की आलोचना अथवा निन्दा नहीं कर सकेगी। यह स्थिति सर्वथा असमर्थनीय है। कोई भी प्रेस परिषद्, यदि वह शासन के हस्तक्षेप के विरुद्ध साहस तथा दृढ़ता के साथ नहीं खड़ी हो सकती, पत्रकारों का विश्वास तथा सम्मान प्राप्त नहीं कर सकेगी। सरकारी हस्तक्षेप की दशा में यदि परिषद् हर बार प्रतिवेदन भेज कर ही चुप कर लेगी (और प्रतिवेदन भी उस सरकार को ही भेजा जायेगा जिसके विरुद्ध शिकायत है।) तो वह मखौल का विषय बन जायेगी। आवश्यक है कि प्रेस परिषद्

को सरकार की भी निन्दा करने का अधिकार दिया जाय जिससे सत्ताधीश अपने अधिकारों और मर्यादाओं के अतिक्रमण के विरुद्ध सदैव सचेत रहें और प्रत्यक्ष अथवा परोक्ष रूप में कोई ऐसा काम न करें जिससे पत्रों की स्वाधीनता का हनन हो ?

नई दिल्ली,
17 फरवरी, 1965

मदल बिहारी वाजपेयी
पुद्दुचीर सिंह

IV

Though appending a minute of dissent to this "twice-born" piece of legislation, I do not wish to detract from the welcome that should be accorded to the autonomous professional body of the youth estate which this enactment seeks to establish.

The present Bill represents a somewhat belated cultivation of one of the major recommendations of the Press Commission, and reflects creditably on the intentions of the Government. At the same time one feels that the Bill has not emerged as an integrated piece of legislation and tends in some respects to be a collection of disparate compromises.

I do not know what justification there is for introducing the Chief Justice of India in the process of the composition of the Council. After all, the functions of the Chief Justice are defined in the Constitution and it is neither fair nor proper to cast on that exalted office a host of extra Constitutional duties and obligations, which may not only be onerous but also embarrassing. By not delimiting in detail the categories from which the Chief Justice should exercise his powers of nomination under this enactment, the Chief Justice may well be confronted with a complex and deliematic administrative predicament.

The composition of the Council is based more on a cleavage of classes and interests than on a pluralistic and functional conception. The consequence may well be that the composition of the Council would suffer in strength and effectiveness. The expression "whole-time officer" apropos the Chairman is inept and inelegant; leaving the Chairman's salary and emoluments to the unfettered discretion of the Central Government is inappropriate as well as inconsistent with the autonomy and the independence of the Council.

I feel that the power to censure third parties proposed to be conferred on the Press Council runs counter to its supposed role as a professional body and may well interfere with the rights of

citizens guaranteed by the Constitution and the law of the land. If it is argued that such a power is merely on the moral plane, the provision is rendered all the more redundant. As a matter of fact, however, the Council has powers of a Civil Courts, while holding an inquiry and therefore would be a sort of a tribunal not only in respect of journalists but also in respect of private citizens. This, however, is incompatible with the stated objectives and purposes of the Bill, particularly because the Press Council is after all a professional body and not a court of law.

NEW DELHI;

L. M. SINGHVI.

February 17, 1965.

V

I have, with great respect to my colleagues, decided to dissent from their views in regard to the proposed new clauses 12(2) (e) and 13(2).

Clause 12(2) (e).—The object of this clause, which is an addition to the functions of the Press Council, is that the Council should keep under review any assistance received by any newspaper or news agency in India from foreign sources. The inclusion of this function in the Press Council Bill is likely to create an impression that the Indian Press is in receipt of a large scale assistance from foreign sources. The object under the proposed additions is broadly covered by the other functions of the Press Council mentioned in paras (a), (b) and (c) of sub-clause (2) of clause 12. There is another aspect of the question. What is the machinery that the Press Council will have for ascertaining information on facts relating to the alleged assistance from a foreign source received by an Indian newspaper or a news agency.

Clause 13(2).—This is a new clause added by deleting the sub-clause (2) of clause 13 of the Bill. The new clause provides for an enquiry by the Press Council against alleged interference with the freedom of the Press by Government or any officer or authority under the control of Government or any person. In the case of interference by the Government or officer or authority under the control of the Government, the Council may forward the report of the enquiry to the Government and in other cases, the Council may censure the person or the authority concerned. I am not aware of any other legislation intended mainly to regulate a profession where provision had been made for enquiries against Government. Broadly the Press Commission wanted the Press Council to look after the

editorial independence, objectivity of news presentation and fairness of comments and the regulation of the conduct of the Press in the matter of such objectionable writings as are not legally punishable. In other words, the emphasis was on the creation of a body to enforce a code of conduct which would enhance the prestige of the profession, to arbitrate on doubtful points and to censure any journalist or newspaper guilty of the infraction of the code. It would be open to Press Council to mention in their report cases in which they think that the interference with the Press has taken place at Governmental level.

The amendment also seeks to empower the Press Council to enquire into cases where interference with the Press is alleged by a person other than connected with a newspaper or a news agency or a Government and to censure where it is considered necessary. The inference is that the Press Council, which will be a professional body, would become a tribunal adjudicating on the conduct of persons other than journalists. This would seem to be outside the scope of the recommendation of the Press Commission as well as what was originally conceived in the Bill.

NEW DELHI;
February 17, 1965.

K. C. SHARMA.

Bill No. XXXVIII-B of 1963

THE PRESS COUNCIL BILL, 1963

[AS REPORTED BY THE JOINT COMMITTEE]

(Words side-lined or underlined indicate the amendments suggested by the Committee; asterisks indicate omissions.)

A

BILL

to establish a Press Council for the purpose of preserving the free-
dom of the Press and of maintaining and improving the stan-
dards of newspapers in India.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Sixteenth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

CHAPTER I

PRELIMINARY

- 5 1. (1) This Act may be called the Press Council Act, 1965. Short title
and extent.
- (2) It extends to the whole of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir.
2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,— Definitions.
- 10 (a) "Chairman" means the Chairman of the Council;
- (b) "Council" means the Press Council of India established under section 3;
- (c) "member" means a member of the Council and includes its Chairman;

(d) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act;

(e) the expressions "editor" and "newspaper" have the meanings respectively assigned to them in the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867, and the expression "working journalist" has the meaning assigned to it in the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955. 5 23 of 1867. 43 of 1955.

CHAPTER II

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PRESS COUNCIL

Incorporation of the Council.

3. (1) With effect from such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint, there shall be established a Council by the name of the Press Council of India. 10

(2) The said Council shall be a body corporate having perpetual succession and a common seal and shall by the said name sue and be sued. 15

Composition of the Council.

4. (1) The Council shall consist of a Chairman and twenty-five other members.

(2) The Chairman shall be a person nominated by the Chief Justice of India.

(3) The other members shall be chosen as follows:— 20

(a) thirteen members from among the working journalists, of whom not less than six shall be editors of newspapers who do not own or carry on the business of management of newspapers, so however that the number of editors of newspapers published in Indian languages shall not be less than three; 25

(b) six members from among persons who own or carry on the business of management of newspapers;

(c) three members from among persons having special knowledge or experience in the field of education, science, literature, law or culture; 30

(d) three members, of whom two shall be from among the members of the House of the People and one from among the members of the Council of States.

(4) The two members to be chosen from among the members of the House of the People shall be nominated by the Speaker thereof and the one to be chosen from among the members of the Council of States shall be nominated by the Chairman thereof; and save as aforesaid, all the other members referred to in sub-section (3) shall 35

be nominated by a Committee consisting of the Chief Justice of India, the Chairman of the Council and a person to be appointed by the President of India, and in making any such nomination, the Committee shall have due regard to the consideration that not more than one person interested in any newspaper or any group of newspapers under the same control or management should be nominated to represent any of the categories referred to in clause (a) or clause (b) of that sub-section.

(5) Before making any nomination under clause (a) or clause (b) of sub-section (3), the Committee referred to in sub-section (4) shall, in the prescribed manner, invite panels of names from all such associations of persons of the categories referred to in the said clause (a) or clause (b) as may be notified in this behalf by the Council and in making any such nomination the Committee shall have due regard to the panels of names forwarded to it:

Provided that, until the Council is established, such associations shall be notified by the Central Government.,

(6) Before making any nomination under clause (c) of sub-section (3), the Committee shall consult such associations or persons as it thinks fit.

(7) The names of persons nominated under this section shall be forwarded to the Central Government and shall be notified by that Government in the Official Gazette, and every appointment so made under this section shall take effect from the date on which it is so notified.

5. (1) Save as otherwise provided in this section, the Chairman and other members shall hold office for a period of three years.

Term of office and retirement of members.

(2) Where a person chosen as a member under clause (a) or clause (b) of sub-section (3) of section 4 is censured under the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 13, he shall cease to be a member of the Council.

(3) The term of office of a member chosen under clause (d) of sub-section (3) of section 4 shall come to an end as soon as he ceases to be a member of the House from which he was chosen.

(4) The Chairman may resign his office by giving notice in writing to the Central Government and any other member may resign his office by giving notice in writing to the Chairman; and upon such

resignation being accepted by the Central Government or, as the case may be, the Chairman, he shall be deemed to have vacated his office.

(5) A casual vacancy arising under sub-section (2) or sub-section (3) or sub-section (4) or otherwise shall be filled by fresh appointment and a member so appointed shall hold office for the remaining period for which the member in whose place he is appointed would have held office. 5

(6) Every fresh appointment to fill a casual vacancy or a vacancy caused by the retirement of a member shall be made from the same category of persons to which the member in whose place the appointment is to be made belonged, and every such appointment shall be made by the same authority by which and in the same manner in which, that member was appointed. 10

(7) A retiring member shall be eligible for re-appointment: 15

Provided that no member shall hold office for a period exceeding six years in the aggregate and on the expiry of such period he shall cease to be a member.

Conditions
of service
of mem-
bers.

6. (1) The Chairman shall be a whole-time officer and shall be paid such * * * salary as the Central Government may think fit; and the other members shall receive such allowances or fees for attending the meetings of the Council, as may be prescribed. 20

(2) Subject to the provisions of sub-section (1), the conditions of service of members shall be such as may be prescribed. 25

(3) It is hereby declared that the office of a member of the Council shall not disqualify its holder for being chosen as, or for being, a member of either House of Parliament.

Meetings
of the
Council.

7. The Council shall meet at such times and places and shall observe such rules of procedure in regard to the transaction of business at its meetings as may be provided by regulations made under this Act. 30

Committees
of the
Council.

8. For the purpose of performing its functions under this Act, the Council may constitute from amongst its members such committees for general or special purposes as it may deem necessary and every committee so constituted shall perform such functions as are assigned to it by the Council, 35

9. No act or proceeding of the Council shall be deemed to be invalid by reason merely of the existence of any vacancy in, or any defect in the constitution of, the Council.

Vacancies amongst members or defect in the constitution not to invalidate acts and proceedings of the Council.

10. (1) Subject to such rules as may be made by the Central Government in this behalf, the Council may appoint a Secretary and such other employees as it may think necessary for the efficient performance of its functions under this Act.

Staff of the Council.

(2) The terms and conditions of service of the employees shall be such as may be determined by regulations made with the prior approval of the Central Government.

11. All orders and decisions of the Council shall be authenticated by the signature of the Chairman or any other member authorised by the Council in this behalf and other instruments issued by the Council shall be authenticated by the signature of the Secretary or any other officer of the Council authorised in like manner in this behalf.

Authentication of orders and other instruments of the Council.

CHAPTER III

POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

12. (1) The object of the Council shall be to preserve the freedom of the Press and to maintain and improve the standards of newspapers in India.

Objects and functions of the Council.

(2) The Council may, in furtherance of its object, perform the following functions, namely:—

(a) to help newspapers to maintain their independence;

(b) to build up a code of conduct for newspapers and journalists in accordance with * * high * * professional standards; * * *

(c) to ensure on the part of newspapers and journalists the maintenance of high standards of public taste and foster a due sense of both the rights and responsibilities of citizenship;

* * * * *

(d) to keep under review any development likely to restrict the supply and dissemination of news of public interest and importance; * * * * *

(e) to keep under review any assistance received by any newspaper or news agency in India from foreign sources;

(f) to promote the establishment of such common service for the supply and dissemination of news to newspapers as may, from time to time, appear to it to be desirable; 5

(g) to provide facilities for the proper education and training of persons in the profession of journalism; * * *

(h) to promote a proper functional relationship among all classes of persons engaged in the production or publication of newspapers; 10

(i) to study developments which may tend towards monopoly or concentration of ownership of newspapers, including a study of the ownership or financial structure of newspapers, and if necessary, to suggest remedies therefor;

(j) to promote technical or other research, 15

(k) to do such other acts as may be incidental or conducive to the discharge of the above functions.

**Powers to
censure.**

13. (1) Where, on receipt of a complaint made to it or otherwise, the Council has reason to believe that a newspaper has offended against the standards of journalistic ethics or public taste or that an editor or a working journalist has committed any professional misconduct or a breach of the code of journalistic ethics, the Council may, after giving the newspaper, the editor or journalist concerned an opportunity of being heard, hold an inquiry in such manner as may be provided by regulations made under this Act and, if it is satisfied that it is necessary so to do, it may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, censure the newspaper, the editor or journalist, as the case may be. 25

(2) Where, on receipt of a complaint made to it or otherwise, the Council has reason to believe that there has been any interference with the freedom of the Press by any person or authority, including any Government, the Council may, after giving the person or authority concerned an opportunity of being heard, hold an inquiry so far as may be in the manner referred to in sub-section (1) and,— 30

(a) in the case of any interference by the Government or any officer or authority under the control of the Government, the Council may forward the report of the inquiry to the Government; and 35

(b) in any other case, if it is satisfied that it is necessary so to do, the Council may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, censure the person or authority. 40

(3) Nothing in sub-section (1) or sub-section (2) shall be deemed to empower the Council to hold an inquiry into any matter in respect of which any proceeding is pending in a court of law.

(4) The decision of the Council under sub-section (1), shall be final and shall not be questioned in any court of law.

14. (1) For the purpose of performing its functions under this General Act, the Council may require the publisher of any newspaper to furnish to it information on such points or matters as it may deem necessary. powers of the Council.

5 of 1908. 10 (2) While holding any inquiry under this Act, the Council shall have the same powers as are vested in a civil court while trying a suit under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, in respect of the following matters, namely:—

15 (a) summoning and enforcing the attendance of persons and examining them on oath;

(b) requiring the discovery and production of documents;

(c) receiving evidence on affidavits;

(d) issuing commissions for the examination of witnesses or documents.

45 of 1860 20 (3) Every inquiry held by the Council shall be deemed to be a judicial proceeding within the meaning of sections 193 and 228 of the Indian Penal Code.

25 15. The Central Government may, after due appropriation made by Parliament by law in this behalf, pay to the Council in each financial year such sums as may be considered necessary for the performance of the functions of the Council under this Act. Payments to the Council.

30 16. (1) The Council shall have its own Fund; and all such sums as may, from time to time, be paid to it by the Central Government and all grants and advances made to it by any other authority or person, shall be credited to the Fund and all payments by the Council shall be made therefrom. Fund of the Council.

(2) All moneys belonging to the Fund shall be deposited in such banks or invested in such manner as may, subject to the approval of the Central Government, be decided by the Council.

35 (3) The Council may spend such sums as it thinks fit for performing its functions under this Act, and such sums shall be treated as expenditure payable out of the Fund of the Council.

- Budget.** 17. The Council shall prepare, in such form and at such time each year as may be prescribed, a budget in respect of the financial year next ensuing showing the estimated receipts and expenditure, and copies thereof shall be forwarded to the Central Government.
- Annual report.** 18. The Council shall prepare once every year, in such form and at such time as may be prescribed, an annual report giving a summary of its activities during the previous year, and giving an account of the standards of newspapers and factors affecting them, and copies thereof shall be forwarded to the Central Government and the Government shall cause the same to be laid before both Houses of Parliament.
- Accounts and audit.** 19. The accounts of the Council shall be maintained and audited in such manner as may, in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, be prescribed.

CHAPTER IV

15

MISCELLANEOUS

- Protection of action taken in good faith.** 20. (1) No suit or other legal proceeding shall lie against the Council or any member thereof or any person acting under the direction of the Council in respect of anything which is in good faith done or intended to be done under this Act.

20

(2) No suit or other legal proceeding shall lie against any newspaper in respect of the publication of any matter therein under the authority of the Council.

- Members, etc., to be public servants.** 21. Every member of the Council and every officer or other employee appointed by the Council shall be deemed to be a public servant within the meaning of section 21 of the Indian Penal Code.

45 of 1860.

- Power to make rules.** 22. (1) The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules to carry out the purposes of this Act:

Provided that when the Council has been established, no such rules shall be made without consulting the Council.

30

(2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:—

(a) the manner in which panels of names may be invited under sub-section (5) of section 4;

35

(b) the allowances or fees to be paid to the members of the Council for attending meetings of the Council, and other conditions of service of such members;

(c) the appointment of the Secretary and other employees of the Council;

(d) the form in which, and the time within which, the budget and annual report are to be prepared by the Council;

5 (e) the manner in which the accounts of the Council are to be maintained and audited.

(3) Every rule made under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament while it is in session for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in 10 one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if before the expiry of the session in which it is so laid or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no 15 effect, as the case may be; so however that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.

23. The Council may make regulations not inconsistent with this Act and the rules made thereunder, for— Power to make regulations.

20 (a) regulating the meetings of the Council and the procedure for conducting business thereat;

(b) specifying the terms and conditions of service of the employees appointed by the Council;

25 (c) regulating the manner of holding any inquiry under this Act:

Provided that the regulations made under clause (b) shall be made with the prior approval of the Central Government.

APPENDIX I

(Vide para 2 of the Report)

Motion in the Rajya Sabha for reference of the Bill to a Joint Committee

"That the Bill to establish a Press Council for the purpose of preserving the liberty of the Press and of maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers in India be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of 45 members; 15 members from this House namely:—

1. Shrimati Violet Alva
 2. Shri Arjun Arora
 3. Shri K. Damodaran
 4. Shri R. R. Diwakar
 5. Shri U. S. Dikshit
 6. Shrimati Indira Gandhi
 7. Dr. Gopal Singh
 8. Shri Akbar Ali Khan
 9. Shri A. D. Mani
 10. Shri Lokanath Misra
 11. Shri Shyam Nandan Mishra
 12. Shri Narla Venkateswara Rao
 13. Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy
 14. Shri Bhawani Prasad Tiwary
 15. Shri A. B. Vajpayee (Mover), and
- 30 members from the Lok Sabha;

that in order to constitute a meeting of the Joint Committee the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee;

that in other respects, the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Select Committees shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Chairman may make;

that the Committee shall make a report to this House by the first day of the next session; and

that this House recommends to the Lok Sabha that the Lok Sabha do join in the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of members to be appointed by the Lok Sabha to the Joint Committee."

(Motion adopted on the 15th September, 1964)

APPENDIX II

(Vide para 3 of the Report)

Motion in the Lok Sabha

“That this House concurs in the recommendation of Rajya Sabha that the House do join in the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Bill to establish a Press Council for the purpose of preserving the liberty of the Press and of maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers in India, made in the motion adopted by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 15th September, 1964, and communicated to this House on the 17th September, 1964, and resolves that the following 30 Members of Lok Sabha be nominated to serve on the said Joint Committee, namely:—

- (1) Shri Peter Alvares
- (2) Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya
- (3) Shri N. C. Chatterjee
- (4) Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri
- (5) Shri Yudhvir Singh Chaudhary
- (6) Shri C. Das
- (7) Shri L. Elayaperumal
- (8) Shri Ansar Harvani
- (9) Shri T. D. Kamble
- (10) Shri Cherian J. Kappen
- (11) Sardar Kapur Singh
- (12) Shri M. K. Kumaran
- (13) Shri Nihar Ranjan Laskar
- (14) Shri Shiv Charan Mathur
- (15) Shri Mathura Prasad Mishra
- (16) Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee
- (17) Shri Mohan Nayak
- (18) Shri Man Singh P. Patel
- (19) Shri Kishan Pattnayak
- (20) Shri Shivram Rango Rane
- (21) Shri Sadhu Ram

- (22) Shri Sham Lal Saraf
- (23) Pandit K. C. Sharma
- (24) Shri Shashi Ranjan
- (25) Shri Vidya Charan Shukla
- (26) Dr. L. M. Singhvi
- (27) Shri Tula Ram
- (28) Shri S. Veerabasappa
- (29) Shri Virbhadra Singh, and
- (30) Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman."

The above motion was adopted by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on Wednesday, the 30th September, 1964.

APPENDIX III

(Vide para 7 of the Report)

Statement showing particulars of memoranda, representations, resolutions, etc., received by the Joint Committee and the action taken thereon

Sl. No.	Nature of document	From whom received	Action taken
1	Resolution	All India Small and Medium Newspaper Editors' Association.	Circulated to Members
2	Comments	Shri K. V. Umre, Editor, Democratic Times and Member, Standing Committee, A. I. Small and Medium Newspaper Editors' Association.	Do.
3	Memorandum	Indian Federation of Working Journalists.	Circulated to Members and evidence taken on 20th and 21st January, 1965.
4	Copy of an Article	Diwan Singh Maftoon, Dehra Dun.	Circulated to Members
5	Memorandum	Do.	Do.
6	Amendments	All India Newspaper Editors' Conference	Do.
7	Amendments	Bihar Working Journalists' Union, Patna.	Do.
8	Memorandum	Shri K. Srinivasan, Theagarayanagar, Madras.	Circulated to Member and evidence taken on 20th January, 1965.
9	Memorandum etc.	The Press Association, New Delhi.	Circulated to Members and evidence taken on 21st January, 1965.

APPENDIX IV

(Vide para 9 of the Report)

List of Organisations/individual who tendered evidence before the Joint Committee

Name of Organisation/ individual	Names of Representatives	Date
1. Shri K. Srinivasan, Theagarayanagar Madras-17.	..	20-1-1963
2. Indian Federation of Working Journalists.	1. Shri M. N. Roy 2. Shri V. N. Bhushan Roy 3. Shri I. L. Kapur 4. Shri D. D. Khosla. 5. Shri A. C. Banerjee.	20-1-1963
	1. Shri M. N. Roy 2. Shri I. L. Kapur 3. Shri D. D. Khosla 4. Shri A. C. Banerjee	21-1-1963
3. Press Association, New Delhi	1. Shri C. L. Chandrakar 2. Shri J. P. Chaturvedi 3. Shri P. Ramaswamy 4. Shri A. Balasubramanian 5. Shri Sailen Chatterjee 6. Shri Chander Kant Shah	21-1-1963

APPENDIX V

Minutes of the Meeting of the Joint Committee on the Press Council Bill 1963

I

FIRST MEETING

The Committee met from 9.45 A.M. to 10.40 A.M. on Saturday, the 3rd October, 1964.

PRESENT

Shrimati Violet Alva—*Chairman*

MEMBERS

Rajya Sabha

1. Shri Arjun Arora
2. Shri K. Damodaran
3. Shri U. S. Dikshit
4. Shrimati Indira Gandhi
5. Shri Akbar Ali Khan
6. Shri A. D. Mani
7. Shri Lokanath Misra
8. Shri Shyam Nandan Mishra
9. Shri Narla Venkateswara Rao
10. Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy
11. Shri Bhawani Prasad Tiwary

Lok Sabha

12. Shri Peter Alvares
13. Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya
14. Shri N. C. Chatterjee
15. Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri
16. Shri Yudhvir Singh Chaudhary
17. Shri Cherian J. Kappen
18. Shri Nihar Ranjan Laskar
19. Shri Shiv Charan Mathur
20. Shri Mathura Prasad Mishra
21. Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee
22. Shri Mohan Nayak

23. Shri Man Sinh P. Patel
24. Shri Shivram Bango Rane
25. Shri Sadhu Ram
26. Shri Sham Lal Saraf
27. Shri Vidya Charan Shukla
28. Dr. L. M. Singhvi
29. Shri Tula Ram
30. Shri S. Veerabasappa
31. Shri Virbhadra Singh
32. Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRIES

Ministry of Law

Shri G. R. Bal, *Joint Secretary and Draftsman.*

Shri M. L. Vaidyanathan, *Under Secretary and Assistant Draftsman.*

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting

Shri D. R. Khanna, *Deputy Secretary.*

Shri R. K. Govil, *Under Secretary.*

SECRETARIAT

Shri S. S. Bhalerao, *Joint Secretary.*

Shri M. S. Panigrahi, *Deputy Secretary.*

Shri I. N. Chary, *Under Secretary.*

2. The Committee considered the question of inviting opinions from various Organizations, Institutions including newspapers advertising agencies and individuals interested in the Bill, and decided that a Press Communique be issued advising such Organizations, Institutions and individuals to send memoranda thereon so as to reach the Rajya Sabha Secretariat by the 9th November, 1964.

3. The Committee decided that persons who are desirous of giving oral evidence should be invited to give evidence before the Committee. The Committee then authorised its Chairman to decide after examining the memoranda submitted by persons as to who might be invited to give oral evidence before the Committee.

4. The Committee desired that copies of the relevant material on the subject matter of the Bill that might be useful to the members

in their deliberations, especially the copies of the following documents might be obtained from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and circulated to Members:—

- (i) Report of the Royal Commission on the Press in the U.K. (1961-62) (relevant extracts).
- (ii) Draft Press Bill as introduced recently in the Parliament of Ceylon.

5. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting agreed to furnish the material at an early date. The Chairman informed the Committee that if any material *e.g.*, newspaper articles etc., is sent by a member of the Committee to the Rajya Sabha Secretariat the same would be circulated to all the members of the Committee.

6. The Committee further decided to ask for extension of time up to the first day of the forthcoming Budget Session of Parliament for the presentation of its report and authorised the Chairman of the Committee and in her absence Shri A. D. Mani to move the necessary motion in the House.

7. The Committee then adjourned at 10.40 A.M. to meet again at 9.45 A.M. on the 16th November, 1964.

II

SECOND MEETING

The Committee met from 9.45 A.M. to 10.05 A.M. on Monday, the 16th November, 1964.

PRESENT

Shrimati Violet Alva—*Chairman*.

MEMBERS

Rajya Sabha

1. Shri K. Damodaran
2. Shri R. R. Diwakar
3. Dr. Gopal Singh
4. Shri Akbar Ali Khan
5. Shri A. D. Mani.
6. Shri Shyam Nandan Mishra
7. Shri Narla Venkateswara Rao
8. Shri Bhawani Prasad Tiwary

Lok Sabha

9. Shri Peter Alvares
10. Shri N. C. Chatterjee
11. Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri
12. Shri C. Dass
13. Shri Cherian J. Kappen
14. Sardar Kapur Singh
15. Shri M. K. Kumaran
16. Shri Shiv Charan Mathur
17. Shri Mathura Prasad Mishra
18. Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee
19. Shri Mohan Nayak
20. Shri Shivram Rango Rane
21. Shri Sadhu Ram
22. Shri Sham Lal Saraf

- 23. Pandit K. C. Sharma
- 24. Shri Tula Ram
- 25. Shri S. Veerabasappa
- 26. Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRIES

Ministry of Law

Shri G. R. Bal, *Joint Secretary and Draftsman.*
 Shri N. L. Vaidyanathan, *Under Secretary and Assistant Draftsman.*

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting

Shri Y. N. Varma, *Joint Secretary.*
 Shri R. K. Govil, *Under Secretary.*

SECRETARIAT

Shri S. S. Bhalerao, *Joint Secretary.*
 Shri M. A. Amladi, *Deputy Secretary.*
 Shri I. N. Chary, *Under Secretary.*

2. The Chairman made a reference to the passing away of Shri H. C. Dasappa, Minister of Industry and Supply, Shri L. Lalit Madhob Sharma and Shri G. Rajagopalan, Members of the Rajya Sabha. The Committee observed one minute's silence, all members standing, as a mark of respect to the memory of Shri H. C. Dasappa, Shri Sharma and Shri Rajagopalan.

3. The Chairman informed the Committee that only four Memoranda (which have already been circulated to Members) were received in the Secretariat in response to the Press Communique issued earlier. After some discussion the Committee decided that the time for receipt of Memoranda might be further extended upto the 15th December, 1964 and a Press Communique issued to that effect.

4. The Committee also decided to meet daily from Monday, the 18th January, 1965 for hearing oral evidence and for consideration of the Bill clause by clause. The Committee authorised the Chairman to convene a meeting of the Committee earlier, if necessary.

The Committee then adjourned at 10.05 A.M.

iii

THIRD MEETING

The Committee met at 3.00 P.M. on Wednesday, the 20th January, 1965.

PRESENT

Shrimati Violet Alva—*Chairman.*

MEMBERS

Rajya Sabha

1. Shri Arjun Arora
2. Shri K. Damodaran
3. Shri R. R. Diwakar
4. Shri U. S. Dikshit
5. Shrimati Indira Gandhi
6. Dr. Gopal Singh
7. Shri Akbar Ali Khan
8. Shri A. D. Mani
9. Shri Shyam Nandan Mishra
10. Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy
11. Shri Bhawani Prasad Tiwary
12. Shri A. B. Vajpayee

Lok Sabha

13. Shri Peter Alvares
14. Shri N. C. Chatterjee
15. Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri
16. Shri Yudhvir Singh Chaudhary
17. Shri C. Dass
18. Shri Ansar Harvani
19. Shri T. D. Kamble
20. Shri Cherian J. Kappen
21. Sardar Kapur Singh
22. Shri M. K. Kumaran

23. Shri Nihar Ranjan Laskar
24. Shri Shiv Charan Mathur
25. Shri Mathura Prasad Mishra
26. Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee
27. Shri Mohan Nayak
28. Shri Man Sinh P. Patel
29. Shri Kishen Pattnayak
30. Shri Shivram Rango Rane
31. Shri Sham Lal Saraf
32. Pandit K. C. Sharma
33. Shri Shashi Ranjan
34. Shri Vidya Charan Shukla
35. Shri Tula Ram
36. Shri S. Veerabasappa
37. Shri Virbhadra Singh
38. Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRIES

Ministry of Law

Shri G. R. Bal, *Joint Secretary and Draftsman*

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

Shri D. R. Khanna, *Secretary, Enquiry Committee of Small Newspapers.*

Shri R. K. Govil, *Under Secretary.*

SECRETARIAT

Shri P. N. Krishna Mani, *Joint Secretary.*

Shri M. A. Amladi, *Deputy Secretary.*

Shri I. N. Chary, *Under Secretary.*

WITNESSES

I

Shri K. Srinivasan, Theagarayanagar, Madras-17.

II

Indian Federation of Working Journalists.

1. Shri M. N. Roy
2. Shri V. N. Bhushan Roy

3. Shri I. L. Kapur
4. Shri D. D. Khosla
5. Shri A. C. Banerjee.

The Committee heard the evidence tendered by (i) Shri K. Srinivasan (ii) Representatives of the Indian Federation of Working Journalists.

The evidence of the representatives of the Indian Federation of Working Journalists had not concluded and they were asked to appear again before the Committee for further evidence at 10-30 A.M. on Thursday, the 21st January, 1965.

The Committee then adjourned at 5-35 P.M. to meet again at 10.30 A.M. on Thursday, the 21st January, 1965.

IV

FOURTH MEETING

The Committee met at 10-30 A.M. on Thursday the 21st January, 1965.

PRESENT

Shrimati Violet Alva—*Chairman.*

MEMBERS

Rajya Sabha

1. Shri Arjun Arora
2. Shri K. Damodaran
3. Shri R. R. Diwakar
4. Shri U. S. Dikshit
5. Dr. Gopal Singh
6. Shri Akbar Ali Khan
7. Shri A. D. Mani
8. Shri Shyam Nandan Mishra
9. Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy
10. Shri Bhawani Prasad Tiwary
11. Shri A. B. Vajpayee

Lok Sabha

12. Shri Peter Alvares
13. Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri
14. Shri C. Dass
15. Shri Ansar Harvani
16. Shri T. D. Kamble
17. Shri Cherian J. Kappen
18. Sardar Kapur Singh
19. Shri M. K. Kumaran
20. Shri Nihar Ranjan Laskar

21. Shri Shiv Charan Mathur
22. Shri Mathura Prasad Mishra
23. Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee
24. Shri Mohan Nayak
25. Shri Man Sinh P. Patel
26. Shri Kishen Pattnayak
27. Shri Shivram Rango Rane
28. Shri Sham Lal Saraf
29. Pandit K. C. Sharma
30. Shri Shashi Ranjan
31. Shri Tula Ram
32. Shri S. Veerabasappa
33. Shri Virbhadra Singh
34. Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRIES

Ministry of Law

Shri G. R. Bal, *Joint Secretary and Draftsman.*

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting

Shri D. R. Khanna, *Secretary, Enquiry Committee of Small Newspapers.*

Shri R. K. Govil, *Under Secretary.*

SECRETARIAT

Shri P. N. Krishna Mani, *Joint Secretary.*

Shri M. A. Amladi, *Deputy Secretary.*

Shri I. N. Chary, *Under Secretary.*

WITNESSES

I

Indian Federation of Working Journalists

1. Shri M. N. Roy
2. Shri I. L. Kapur
3. Shri D. D. Khosla
4. Shri A. C. Banerjee

Press Association, New Delhi

1. Shri C. L. Chandrakar
2. Shri J. P. Chaturvedi
3. Shri P. Ramaswamy
4. Shri A. Balasubramanian
5. Shri Sailen Chatterjee
6. Shri Chander Kant Shah

The Committee heard further evidence tendered by the representatives of the Indian Federation of Working Journalists.

The Committee also heard the evidence tendered by the representatives of the Press Association, New Delhi.

It was decided that members desirous of giving notices of amendments, should send them so as to reach the Rajya Sabha Secretariat by 1.00 P.M. on the 22nd January, 1965.

The Committee then adjourned at 1.40 P.M. to meet again at 1.30 P.M. on the 22nd January, 1965.

V

FIFTH MEETING

The Committee met at 1-30 P.M. on Friday the 22nd January, 1965.

PRESENT

Shrimati Violet Alva—*Chairman.*

MEMBERS

Rajya Sabha

1. Shri Arjun Arora
2. Shri R. R. Diwakar
3. Shri U. S. Dikshit
4. Dr. Gopal Singh
5. Shri Akbar Ali Khan
6. Shri A. D. Mani
7. Shri Lokanath Misra
8. Shri Syam Nandan Mishra
9. Shri Narla Venkateswara Rao
10. Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy
11. Shri Bhawani Prasad Tiwary

Lok Sabha

12. Shri Peter Alvares
13. Shri N. C. Chatterjee
14. Shri C. Dass
15. Shri T. D. Kamble
16. Shri Cherian J. Kappen
17. Sardar Kapur Singh
18. Shri M. K. Kumaran
19. Shri Mathura Prasad Mishra
20. Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee
21. Shri Mohan Nayak
22. Shri Man Sinh P. Patel
23. Shri Kishen Pattnayak

24. Shri Shivram Rango Rane
25. Shri Sham Lal Saraf
26. Pandit K. C. Sharma
27. Shri Sashi Ranjan
28. Dr. L. M. Singhvi
29. Shri Tula Ram
30. Shri S. Veerabasappa.
31. Shri Virbhadra Singh
32. Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRIES

....

Ministry of Law

Shri G. R. Bal, *Joint Secretary and Draftsman.*

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting

Shri D. R. Khanna, *Secretary, Enquiry Committee of Small Newspapers.*

Shri R. K. Govil, *Under Secretary.*

SECRETARIAT

Shri P. N. Krishna Mani, *Joint Secretary.*

Shri M. A. Amladi, *Deputy Secretary.*

Shri I. N. Chary, *Under Secretary.*

It was decided that copies of the evidence tendered before the Committee should be circulated to the members of the Committee.

2. The Committee took up the clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

CLAUSES 2 AND 3

The clauses were adopted without any change.

CLAUSE 4

Sub-clauses (1) and (2) were adopted without any change.

Sub-clause (3).—The Committee decided to add “science” to the subjects mentioned in para (c) of this sub-clause.

The Committee expressed the view that provision should be made in this sub-clause to the effect that no chain or group of newspapers

shall have more than one representative in the Council. The Draftsman was asked to submit a draft accordingly for the consideration of the Committee.

Further consideration of the sub-clause was held over.

Sub-clauses (4) and (5) were adopted without any change.

In adopting sub-clause (5), the Committee decided that provision should be made to the effect that after the first formation of the Council the power to notify associations of persons of the categories referred to in sub-clause (3) (a) and (b) shall vest with the Council only and not with Government. The Draftsman was asked to submit a draft accordingly.

Sub-clauses (6) and (7) were adopted without any change.

CLAUSE 5

Sub-clauses (1) to (6) were adopted without any change.

The Committee decided that sub-clause (7) should be redrafted so as to provide that no member shall hold office for more than six years in any case.

Clause 6 was still under consideration when the Committee adjourned at 5-15 P.M. to meet again at 10-30 A.M. on Saturday, January, 23, 1965.

VI

SIXTH MEETING

The Committee met at 10-30 A.M. on Saturday the 23rd January, 1965.

PRESENT

Shrimati Voilet Alva—*Chairman.*

MEMBERS

Rajya Sabha

1. Shri Arjun Arora
2. Shri R. R. Diwakar
3. Shri U. S. Dikshit
4. Dr. Gopal Singh
5. Shri Akbar Ali Khan
6. Shri A. D. Mani
7. Shri Lokanath Misra
8. Shri Shyam Nandan Mishra
9. Shri Bhawani Prasad Tiwary

Lok Sabha

10. Shri Peter Alvares
11. Shri N. C. Chatterjee
12. Shri Yudhvir Singh Chaudhary
13. Shri C. Dass
14. Shri Ansar Harvani
15. Shri T. D. Kamble
16. Shri Cherian J. Kappen
17. Sardar Kapur Singh
18. Shri M. K. Kumaran
19. Shri Nihar Ranjan Laskar
20. Shri Mathura Prasad Mishra
21. Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee
22. Shri Mohan Nayak

23. Shri Man Sinh P. Patel
24. Shri Kishen Pattnayak
25. Shri Shivram Rango Rane
26. Shri Sham Lal Saraf
27. Pandit K. C. Sharma
28. Shri Shashi Ranjan
29. Dr. L. M. Singhvi
30. Shri Tula Ram
31. Shri S. Veerabasappa
32. Shri Virbhadra Singh
33. Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRIES

Ministry of Law

Shri G. R. Bal, *Joint Secretary and Draftsman*

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting

Shri D. R. Khanna, *Secretary, Enquiry Committee of Small Newspapers.*

Shri R. K. Govil, *Under Secretary.*

SECRETARIAT

Shri P. N. Krishna Mani, *Joint Secretary*

Shri M. A. Amladi, *Deputy Secretary*

Shri I. N. Chary, *Under Secretary.*

Further clause by clause consideration of the Bill continued.

CLAUSE 6

The clause was adopted subject to the deletion of the words "honorarium or" in sub-clause (1).

CLAUSES 7 TO 11

The clauses were adopted without any change.

CLAUSE 12

Sub-clause (1) was adopted subject to the substitution of the word "freedom" for the word "liberty".

Sub-clause (2)—

Para (a) was adopted without any change.

Para (b) was adopted as modified in the following form:—

“(b) to build up a code of conduct for newspapers and journalists in accordance with high professional standards;”.

Para (c) was adopted without any change.

Para (d) was deleted.

Para (e) was adopted as modified in the following form:—

“(e) to keep under review any development likely to restrict the supply and dissemination of news of public interest and importance;”.

In adopting this para, the Committee expressed the view that a new para should be inserted on the following lines:

“(ee) to keep a watch on the arrangements made by newspapers or news agencies in India with foreign newspapers or news agencies or other persons or bodies;”.

The Draftsman was asked to submit a draft for the consideration of the Committee.

Para (f) was adopted without any change.

Para (g) was adopted as modified in the following form:

“(g) to provide facilities for the proper education and training of persons in the profession of journalism;”.

Paras (h), (i), (j) and (k) were adopted without any change.

The Committee adjourned at 1-30 P.M. to meet again at 10-00 A.M. on Monday, January 25, 1965.

VII

SEVENTH MEETING

The Committee met at 10.00 A.M. on Monday the 25th January, 1965.

PRESENT

Shrimati Violet Alva—*Chairman.*

MEMBERS

Rajya Sabha

1. Shri Arjun Arora
2. Shri R. R. Diwakar
3. Dr. Gopal Singh
4. Shri Akbar Ali Khan
5. Shri A. D. Mani
6. Shri Lokanath Misra
7. Shri Shyam Nandan Mishra
8. Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy
9. Shri Bhawani Prasad Tiwary
10. Shri A. B. Vajpayee

Lok Sabha

11. Shri Peter Alvares
12. Shri Yudhvir Singh Chaudhary
13. Shri C. Dass
14. Shri Ansar Harvani
15. Shri T. D. Kamble
16. Shri Cherian J. Kappen
17. Sardar Kapur Singh
18. Shri M. K. Kumaran
19. Shri Nihar Ranjan Laskar
20. Shri Mathura Prasad Mishra
21. Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee
22. Shri Mohan Nayak

23. Shri Man Sinh P. Patel
24. Shri Kishen Pattnayak
25. Shri Shivram Rango Rane
26. Shri Sham Lal Saraf
27. Pandit K. C. Sharma
28. Shri Shashi Ranjan
29. Shri Vidya Charan Shukla
30. Dr. L. M. Shinghvi
31. Shri Tula Ram
32. Shri S. Veerabasappa
33. Shri Virbhadra Singh
34. Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRIES

Ministry of Law

Shri G. R. Bal, *Joint Secretary and Draftsman.*

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting

Shri D. R. Khanna, *Secretary, Enquiry Committee of Small Newspapers.*

Shri R. K. Govil, *Under Secretary.*

SECRETARIAT

Shri P. N. Krishna Mani, *Joint Secretary.*

Shri M. A. Amladi, *Deputy Secretary.*

Shri I. N. Chary, *Under Secretary.*

Further clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill continued.

CLAUSE 13

Sub-clause (1) was adopted subject to the insertion of the words "for reasons to be recorded in writing" after the words "it may" in line 16.

Sub-clause (2) was deleted.

Sub-clause (3) and (4) were adopted without any change.

The Committee expressed the view that provision should also be made in this clause to deal with complaints that may be made of interference by Government or any person (whether an agency or

an individual) with the independence of the press in the same manner as laid down in sub-clause (1), except that where such complaint is in respect of an alleged interference by Government, there shall be no censure but the report of the inquiry shall be forwarded to Government. The Draftsman was asked to submit a draft accordingly for the consideration of the Committee.

Clauses 14 to 23 were adopted without any change.

The Committee decided to meet again at 10-30 A.M. on Saturday, February 13, 1965 to consider the draft amendments to be submitted by the Draftsman to give effect to the decisions taken by the Committee on some of the clauses.

The Committee adjourned at 5-10 P.M.

VIII

EIGHTH MEETING

The Committee met at 10.30 A.M. on Saturday, the 13th February, 1965.

PRESENT

Shrimati Violet Alva—*Chairman.*

MEMBERS

Rajya Sabha

1. Shri Arjun Arora
2. Shri R. R. Diwakar
3. Dr. Gopal Singh
4. Shri A. D. Mani
5. Shri Shyam Nandan Mishra
6. Shri Bhawani Prasad Tiwary
7. Shri A. B. Vajpayee

Lok Sabha

8. Shri Peter Alvares
9. Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya
10. Shri N. C. Chatterjee
11. Shri Yudhvir Singh Chaudhary
12. Shri C. Dass
13. Shri T. D. Kamble
14. Sardar Kapur Singh
15. Shri M. K. Kumaran
16. Shri Nihar Ranjan Laskar
17. Shri Shiv Charan Mathur
18. Shri Mathura Prasad Mishra
19. Shri Man Sinh P. Patel
20. Shri Sham Lal Saraf
21. Pandit K. C. Sharma
22. Shri Shashi Ranjan

23. Shri Vidya Charan Shukla
24. Dr. L. M. Singhvi
25. Shri Tula Ram
26. Shri S. Veerabasappa
27. Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRIES

Ministry of Law

Shri R. C. S. Sarkar, *Secretary, Legislative Department.*

Shri G. R. Bal, *Joint Secretary and Draftsman.*

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting

Shri D. R. Khanna, *Secretary, Enquiry Committee of Small Newspapers.*

Shri R. K. Govil, *Under Secretary.*

SECRETARIAT

Shri S. S. Bhalerao, *Joint Secretary.*

Shri M. A. Amladi, *Deputy Secretary.*

Shri I. N. Chary, *Under Secretary.*

Consideration of the clauses which had been held over was resumed.

CLAUSE 4

(4) was adopted subject to the addition of the following words at the end:—

“and in making any such nominations, the Committee shall have due regard to the consideration that not more than one person interested in any newspaper or any group of newspapers under the same control or management should be nominated to represent any of the categories referred to in clause (a) or clause (b) of sub-section (3).”.

Sub-clause (5) was adopted as modified in the following form:

“(5) Before making any nomination under clause (a) or clause (b) of sub-section (3), the Committee referred to in sub-section (4) shall, in the prescribed manner, invite panels of names from all such associations of persons of the categories, referred to in the said clause (a) or clause (b) as may be noti-

fied in this behalf by the Council and in making any such nomination the Committee shall have due regard to the panels of names forwarded to it:

Provided that, until the Council is established, such associations shall be notified by the Central Government.”.

Clause 4, as amended, was adopted.

CLAUSE 5

Sub-clause (7) was adopted as modified in the following form:

“(7) A retiring member shall be eligible for re-appointment:

Provided that no member shall hold office for a period exceeding six years in the aggregate and on the expiry of such period he shall cease to be a member.”.

Clause 5, as amended, was adopted.

CLAUSE 12

Sub-clause (2).—The following new paragraph was inserted after paragraph (e):—

“(ee) to keep under review any assistance received by any newspaper or news agency in India from foreign sources;”.

Sub-clause (2), as amended, was adopted.

Clause 12, as amended, was adopted.

CLAUSE 13

Sub-clause (1).—The following further amendment was made in sub-clause (1):—

“In line 13, for ‘shall’ substitute ‘may’.”

Sub-clause (2) was adopted as modified in the following form:—

“(2) Where, on receipt of a complaint made to it or otherwise, the Council has reason to believe that there has been any interference with the freedom of the Press by any person or authority, including any Government, the Council may, after giving the person or authority concerned an opportunity of being heard, hold an inquiry so far as may be in the manner referred to in sub-section (1) and,—

(a) in the case of any interference by the Government or any officer or authority under the control of the Govern-

ment, the Council may forward the report of the inquiry to the Government; and

(b) in any other case, if it is satisfied that it is necessary so to do, the Council may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, censure the person or authority.”.

Clause 13, as amended, was adopted.

The Committee authorised the Draftsman to carry out changes of a minor and consequential nature, if necessary, in the Bill.

The Committee decided to meet again at 10.30 A.M. on Monday the 15th February, 1965, to consider the draft Report and the Bill as amended.

The Chairman announced that the Minutes of Dissent, if any may be sent so as to reach the Rajya Sabha Secretariat by 10.00 A.M. on Wednesday, the 17th February, 1965.

The Committee then adjourned at 12.40 P.M.

IX
NINTH MEETING

The Committee met at 10.30 A.M. on Monday, the 15th February, 1965.

PRESENT

1. Shrimati Violet Alva—*Chairman.*

MEMBERS

Rajya Sabha

1. Shri Arjun Arora
2. Shri A. D. Mani
3. Shri Shyam Nandan Mishra
4. Shri Bhawani Prasad Tiwary.

Lok Sabha

5. Shri Peter Alvares
6. Shri C. Dass
7. Shri T. D. Kamble
8. Sardar Kapur Singh
9. Shri Nihar Ranjan Laskar
10. Shri Mathura Prasad Mishra
11. Shri Mohan Nayak
12. Shri Man Sinh P. Patel
13. Shri Shivram Rango Rane
14. Shri Sham Lal Saraf
15. Pandit K. C. Sharma
16. Shri Vidya Charan Shukla
17. Dr. L. M. Singhvi
18. Shri Tula Ram
19. Shri S. Veerabasappa
20. Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRIES

Ministry of Law

Shri G. R. Bal, *Joint Secretary and Draftsman.*

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting

Shri D. R. Khanna, *Secretary, Enquiry Committee of Small Newspapers.*

Shri R. K. Govil, *Under Secretary.*

SECRETARIAT

Shri S. S. Bhalerao, *Joint Secretary.*

Shri M. A. Amladi, *Deputy Secretary.*

Shri I. N. Chary, *Under Secretary.*

The Committee resumed consideration of the Bill.

CLAUSE 1, ENACTING FORMULA AND TITLE

2. Clause 1, the enacting formula and the title were adopted subject to minor consequential changes.

3. The Committee adopted the Bill as amended.

4. The Committee considered the draft Report and adopted the same with minor correction.

5. The Committee decided that the whole of the 'evidence tendered before them may be laid on the Table of the House.

6. The Committee authorised the Chairman or in her absence Shri A. D. Mani to present the Report on their behalf and to lay the evidence on the Table of the Rajya Sabha after the presentation of the Report.

7. The Committee also authorised Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman or in his absence Dr. L. M. Singhvi to lay the Report of the Committee and the evidence on the Table of the Lok Sabha on the 17th February, 1965.

8. The Chairman announced that the Report would be presented to the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday, the 17th February, 1965 and that the evidence would be laid on the Table the same day.

9. The Committee then adjourned at 11.05 A.M.

PRINTED IN INDIA, BY THE GENERAL MANAGER, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS,
MINTO ROAD, NEW DELHI.