

Sir, the Press Council Bill, 1974 was introduced by me. I submitted my statement in the House that it would meet the requirements needed for benefit of the Press. I requested the House to consider this amendment because an Ordinance had to be issued since the life of the Press Council was expiring. Since the life of the present Press Council was expiring, we had to issue the Ordinance. At this stage, I do not think that I have much<sup>80</sup> to say because it is a very simple Bill. It is only trying to extend the life of the Press Council till the end of the year. If we are able to finalize the formation of the Press Council earlier, of course, the present term would expire earlier. You will recall, I had said in the course of the last debate that a Committee of Members of Parliament has been working for the drafting of the Bill which is likely<sup>160</sup> to come up before the end of this Monsoon Session if time is made available. I will make every effort to bring it before this Session itself. The Committee has been sitting and they have been able to come to their conclusions very soon in this context. I wish to suggest very seriously that if protection is to be given to any industry, the period of protection should be at least two years in the first instance and if this<sup>240</sup> is not possible then it should be at least three years. My reasons for this suggestion are that when protection is given to any Industry, it is on the basis of the recommendation of the Tariff Commission. Now, for instance, protection is given to an industry from 1st January, 1985 for one year for the first time. The industry itself will not be able to know its real position and it will not be able to feel its way. The<sup>320</sup> object of giving protection is to enable the industry concerned to plan for its future production, to find out the possibilities of marketing its product and also to build itself to meet the domestic demand as it grows. It is now in the drafting stage and I hope that it will be possible for me to bring the Bill before the House soon. I would not like to go into the merits and demerits of the new Bill at this<sup>400</sup> stage. I hope that the House will approve this at an early date so that I can go to the other House before the Budget debate is taken up. Mr. Deputy Chairman, I welcome the Minister's statement that before this Session ends, the Government would be in a position to bring the comprehensive Press Council Bill before this House for consideration because that would be the proper occasion for us to discuss the working of the Press Council in depth.<sup>480</sup>

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