

उपसमाध्यक्ष महोदय, हिन्दुजा कहते हैं कि ये दस्तावेज जाली हैं? अगर दस्तावेज जाली हैं तो फिर कानूनी कार्यवाही हानी चाहिए। हम संयुक्त समिति से तो नहीं, हम तो रक्षा मंत्री से पूछेंगे कि ये जो "हिन्दू" ने दस्तावेज प्रकाशित किये हैं, जो फोटो काफियां हैं तो उनके बारे में सरकार की क्या राय है? क्या इस मामले में "हिन्दू" से बात की गयी। क्या इस मामले में हिन्दुजा से बात की गयी।

मैंने पढ़ा है, शायद सही हो, गलत तो नहीं होगा कि रक्षा मंत्री ने कहा कि अगर मन लीजिए सही है तो ज्यादा से ज्यादा यही साबित हुआ कि हिन्दुजा और बोफोर्स का संबंध है। महोदय दस्तावेज हिन्दुजा और बोफोर्स का संबंध स्थापित करत हैं। हिन्दुजा का और बचचन का संबंध पहले से स्थापित है। बचचन प्रधान मंत्री के मित्र हैं, इस तथ्य को कोई नहीं झुठला सकता है। अब उसमें एक और डी जुड़ रही है। स्वीडन में जो हमारे नये राजदूत भेजे जा रहे हैं, बड़ा सीन समझ कर उनका चयन किया गया है वे बचचन परिवार के बचचन से मिले हैं सरकार को डर है कि पता नहीं स्वीडन से क्या निकल जायेगा, कब निकल जायेगा। स्वीडन के अफसर क्या कहते रहे हैं यह बताने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। पब्लिक प्रोसीक्यूटर ने कहा कि हम सच्चाई पता नहीं लगा सके क्योंकि भारत सरकार और स्वीडन सरकार ने हमारा सहयोग नहीं किया...

(व्यवधान)...

यह मत समझिए, कि इस रिपोर्ट के बाद तोपों का मामला ठण्डा हो गया। ये तोपे गरम रहेंगी? ये तोपे तब तक गरम रहेंगी जब तक अपराधियों को बेनकाब नहीं किया जायेगा। सच्चाई की खोज का काम चलेगा। सरकार की

विश्वसनीयता कम हो गयी है, यह बड़े दुख की बात है। एक संसदीय समिति लोगों की नज़रों में गिर गयी यह हम सबको पीड़ा पहुंचाने वाली बात है। लेकिन याद रखिए यह मामला बबेगा नहीं। अंततोगत्वा सत्य की जीत होगी। "सत्यमेव जयते, नानृतम"।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA): Shri Arun Singh, If the House agrees, we will adjourn for lunch for half an hour.

The House stands adjourned for lunch and will meet again at 2.40 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at nine minutes past two of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at forty two minutes past two of the clock. The Vice-Chairman (Shri Jagesh Desai) in the Chair.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—  
Contd.

Notification of the Ministry of Finance  
(Department of Revenue) and  
related paper

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): There is a paper to be laid on the Table.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Rajasthan): Sir, before the paper is laid on the Table of the House, I have a point of order.

Sir, it is understood that the List of Business is prepared with the consent of the Chair. It is to be emphasised that it was only yesterday that the Finance Bill has been passed. It is also to be emphasised that we are in the midst of the Budget Session. But it is wholly understandable, therefore how this Government works when yesterday the Finance Bill has been passed and today the Government is coming forward with a notification reducing the *ad valorem* duty on something which I cannot even pronounce, from 70 per cent

[Shri Jaswant Singh]

to 15 per cent. Sir, this is very irregular. Now, if the Government is committed to reducing this customs duty only by notification, when was it decided? Last night. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, it is a matter of serious objection that supplementary lists of business are circulated in this fashion. It is 2.40 p.m. and we are in the middle of a very important debate, which concerns all of us and in-between you permit the insertion of reduction of customs duty.

**SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO** (Jammu and Kashmir): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, yesterday itself we passed the Customs Amendment Bill authorising the ..

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI)**: Same point you are making.

**SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO**: Perhaps Mr. Jaswant Singh was not here. (*Interruptions*).

**SHRI A. G. KULKARNI** (Maharashtra): Sir, I want to draw your attention to, apart from what our friends are saying, the fact that only yesterday the Appropriation Bill was passed and before that the Customs and other Bills were passed. But leave that aside. I am raising the basic issue that the IPCL manufactured the acrylonitrile fibre. Now the J. & K. Synthetics or whatever it is, they were receiving this raw material from the IPCL and to help the private sector versus the public sector, it is being done. I desire that the Minister should be first asked to explain whether this duty which has been now reduced, whether it is going to help the private sector as against the IPCL. Is it the policy of the government, particularly of the Central Government to ruin the IPCL, Bharat Petroleum and Bongaigaon and help these synthetic manufacturers? ..

**SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO**: That is not the point. Whether the Government is authorised....

**SHRI VISHVJIT P. SINGH** (Maharashtra): Sir, yesterday we have passed the Customs Act. We have passed the Appropriation Bills. Parliament is in session; it is a Budget session. It is going to adjourn in another two days. I would like to congratulate the Minister for bringing this Notification while the Parliament is in session, so that we are aware of it. He has done it purposely. This has been done specifically so that Parliament is taken into confidence. He could have waited for two days; nobody would have known about it; it would have gone unnoticed. I think he must be congratulated on this that he has done it while Parliament is in session taking the House into confidence.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA)**: Sir, I am grateful to you and also the hon. Members. I will readily deal with the points raised by the hon. Members. But before that, let me lay it on the Table of the House.

Madam, I bag to lay on the Table under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) Notification No. 156/88-Customs, dated the 11th May, 1988, amending Notification No. 136/86-Customs, dated the 17th February, 1988, so as to reduce the basic customs duty on Acrylonitrile from existing 70 per cent *ad valorem* to 16 per cent *ad valorem*, together with an Explanatory Memorandum thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6164-A/88].

If you permit me, I will answer the point which has been very rightly raised by the hon. Member. It is not at the cost of the public sector or the IPCL at all. This is for the

benefit of the IPCL that it has been brought down, and the reasons are, this acrylonitrile if imported, has to be under February Notification for 70 per cent *ad valorem* duty, which was used by IPCL and JK Synthetics. But IPCL produced on their own, meaning that no import is necessary. This, which is shortly known as ACN is necessary for the purpose of manufacture of Acrylic fibre. IPCL produced on their own; JK Synthetics got it from the IPCL. Now, the public sector, the IPCL, is expanding. So they will consume their entire produce. Therefore, JK Synthetics shall have to import. JK Synthetics being in the private sector will have to import it and pay 70 per cent duty. Now, if 70 per cent duty is paid, the price of their product will go up because the price has gone up from 500 dollars in January 1987 to 1000 dollars in March 1988. We calculated the price and if it is made 15 per cent, it will be at par...

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: The Government is affected.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: If the price goes up, the burden will be passed on to the consumer and the consumer will suffer. And that is why to make it on par, we have brought it down and for this reason I am grateful to the other hon. Member, who rightly pointed it out. Therefore, with an Explanatory Memorandum I have placed it before the House. We could have done it after Friday also, on Monday. Yesterday, Sir, you were at that time presiding and we thought that all these things must be brought to the notice of Parliament at the earliest possible opportunity and that is why we have brought it here today.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): Was it not possible for you to do it yesterday?

SHRI AJIT PANJA: All this information was not available and that is why we have come today.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West Bengal): This is highly improper. The

Minister has not replied to the question. When yesterday the Finance Bill was being passed, the Union Finance Minister himself was replying to the debate. What prevented the Government from bringing this Notification before the Finance Bill was passed so that the House could have an opportunity to discuss it. The point is, even the reply given by the Minister to Mr. Kulkarni's point of clarification shows and that itself establishes that it requires a debate because he has added to the controversy than setting it at rest.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: Not at all.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Naturally, the Government has to be pulled up. (Interruptions) This cannot be allowed to be laid on the Table of the House. This should be brought forward by way of a Motion or a Resolution so that the House can discuss it. Then only it can be taken into consideration. (Interruptions)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, at 2.39 we get the Supplementary List of Business and at 2.40 the hon. Minister is laying the Notification. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): I think, the Government should take proper care in future.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA (Bihar): This cannot be allowed to be laid. This means approval of the House. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): This is more than enough. I have already said that the Government should take more care. The Finance Bill was discussed only yesterday and the hon. Minister replied to the discussion. Within about fifteen hours, they are bringing forward a Notification like this. While replying to the debate on the Finance Bill yesterday, it could have been brought forward. The hon. Minister should take care. (Interruptions)

[Shri Jagesh Desai]

Now that is all. The matter ends.  
(Interruptions)

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, it is not simply a question of procedure. The question is more fundamental that of public sector *versus* the private sector.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): Now, Shri Ajit Panja to make a statement.

### STATEMENT BY MINISTER

#### II. Re. introduction of changes to the direct tax laws (Amendment) Act, 1987 and Investment Allowance Scheme

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): Sir, The Hon'ble Members would recollect that while presenting the Budget for the year 1988-89, in Part B the Finance Minister had mentioned that some of the provisions introduced in the Income-Act, 1961 by the Direct Tax Laws (Amendment) Act, 1987 would be reconsidered, in view of various representations received by the Government, to take care of genuine grievances.

In the Budget Speech, he had also mentioned that he would be bringing forward a separate Bill for introducing Wealth Transfer Tax which would avoid the rigidities and procedural delays which characterised the operation of the old Estate Duty Act and would apply only to wealth-tax assesses.

Subsequently, during the course of discussion on the Finance Bill, both in Lok Sabha on 27th April, 1988 and Rajya Sabha on 5th May, 1988, the Finance Minister made statements announcing Government's decision to make certain amendments in the original Budget proposals, as also about

some other tax incentives. These, *inter alia*, relate to extension of 100 per cent tax holiday under section 10B even to existing units, complete exemption in respect of export profits by taking these out of the purview of section 115J, exclusion of State Electricity Boards and other companies engaged in generation or distribution of electric power from the purview of section 115J, introduction of certain measures for encouragement of tourism for augmenting foreign exchange resources.

Hon'ble Members will kindly recall that the Finance Minister had announced the Government's intention to reintroduce the Investment Allowance as an option in lieu of the Investment Deposit Scheme in respect of certain selected high priority industries. The matter has been considered further and I am glad to announce that the option of Investment Allowance will be available on the same basis as was available earlier under section 32A of the Income-tax Act, in respect of new ships and aircraft acquired after 31.3.1988 or new machinery or plant installed after 31.3.1988 for the purpose of business of generation or distribution of electricity or any other form of power or in any industrial undertaking for the purpose of construction, manufacture or production of any article or thing not being an Article or thing specified in the list in the Eleventh Schedule of the Income-tax Act. As before, Investment Allowance will be available for machinery or plant used in a small scale undertaking as well. On the same basis, Investment Allowance would not be available in respect of machinery and plant referred to in the proviso to sub-section (1) of section 32A.

The work relating to amendment of the provisions introduced by the Direct Tax Laws (Amendment) Act, 1987, preparation of a separate Bill for Wealth Transfer Tax and for incorporating new provisions relating to various tax incentives, about which