

जा सकी तो अगले दिन सुबह दी जाती है। पिछले सप्ताह सदन को आल इंडिया रेडियो ने इग्नोर कर दिया। मेरा प्राइवेट मेम्बर बिल जो 'राइट टू वर्क' के लिये था उसको आल इंडिया रेडियो ने बिल्कुल ही ब्लैक आउट कर दिया। सदन का कार्रवाई को डिलीट करना जनतंत्र का डिलीट करना है। यह आल इंडिया रेडियो हकीकत में आल इंडिया रेडियो नहीं है। यह मैं आपके सामने कहना चाहता हूँ।

RULING BY CHAIRMAN ON QUESTIONS OF PRIVILEGE RE. (I) MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS RELATING TO ITS 47TH REPORT, (II) DENIAL OF ACCESS TO THE RECORDS OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS AND (III) RECONSIDERATION BY THE CHAIRMAN OF EARLIER RULING ON THE NOTICES OF BREACH OF PRIVILEGES IN THE KUO OIL DEAL—
Contd.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes; Calling Attention. Shri Mathur.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE (Karnataka): Sir, on a point of order. It is not my intention...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is the matter?

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: ... either to question or challenge the ruling which was given by the Chairman. I do not want even to comment on that. But I would like to express my fear about the far-reaching implications of this ruling.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: About the ruling? (*Interruptions*) you cannot discuss the implications. No, that cannot be discussed. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SADASHIV BAGAITKAR (Maharashtra): We are trying to draw your attention to it after the ruling. We are not questioning the ruling. (*Interruptions*) We can do

it now. We have to bring to your notice what...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Under what Rule, are you going to discuss the implications of the ruling? (*Interruptions*) I will go by rules.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: My submission is, I want to draw your attention to Rule 2, Definitions.

"Bulletin means the Bulletin of the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) containing (a) a brief record of the proceedings of the Council at each of its sittings; (b) information on any matter relating to or connected with the business of the Council or other matter which in the opinion of the Chairman may be included therein; and (c) information regarding Committees of the Council or Joint Committees of the two Houses."

Sir, I would like to say that the Committee on Public Undertakings is a Joint Committee. It is not a Committee of that House only.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is your view.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: Let me complete.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chairman has said like that. He has given a definite ruling (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: But, Sir, I want to know...

SHRI SADASHIV BAGAITKAR: In our understanding, it is faulty. We understand the rules, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chairman has given the ruling. You cannot say anything to circumvent that ruling.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: As Members of this House, do we have any rights and privileges or not? This is what I want to know. Are we here at the sufferance or courtesy of anybody?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That question does not arise.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: That question does arise. We want to know what this Committee is. I want to put a simple question to you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chairman has given his ruling. I cannot say anything more than what Mr. Chairman has said. There is no point. Please take your seat. There is no point in saying that. (*Interruptions*) You have explained that. That is all right.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: Supposing seven Members from this House are not associated with this Committee, will that Committee be complete? Will it function? Will it have any meaning?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That point has been replied.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: That has not been replied. The Committee is a Joint Committee of both the Houses.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The point has been replied. There is no confusion, nothing of the sort. Whether you agree or not is a different matter.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Madhya Pradesh): We have a General Purposes Committee. I would entreat that an immediate meeting of the General Purposes Committee be convened to follow up the implications of the ruling that Mr. Chairman has given, I cannot question Mr. Chairman's ruling. We requested him to reconsider it. He has given the same ruling which reduces the position of the members of this House to that of second class Members. There is no doubt about it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing. That is your view.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: May I request that the General Purposes Committee be convened immediately to reconsider the whole matter.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: We are not here at the courtesy of the Speaker or anybody.

SHRI U. R. KRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): I am a Member of the Committee. I suggest that a meeting be convened immediately.

SHRI SADASHIV BAGAITKAR: Sir, I fully endorse the request made by Mr. Advani that the General Purpose Committee be convened.

Another aspect I would like you to consider is that the rule which was just now read by Mr. Hegde, has to be kept in mind. And my submission is this. Whatever Mr. Chairman's ruling is, we are not questioning that. But there are implications of his ruling, and we are victims of that ruling. It is a privilege of a Member that he should be correctly informed. Is it not our privilege? In this House, can wrong information be given to Members? When I gave notice of privilege...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That matter is over. You referred to that.

SHRI SADASHIV BAGAITKAR: No, Sir. The point I am making is: Is it not a right of Members of this House to have correct information? When we have brought to notice that correct information has not been provided to us and that a matter of privilege arises, how can it be disposed of like this? You say that correct information has been given. That is another matter. Therefore, the situation is in the context of the privileges of the Members of both the Houses, we as Members of this House are really second class citizens. There are grave implications. In view of that, this should be considered immediately by the General Purposes Committee.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: When the Committee meets, it will consider it. There is no need to raise it here.

SHRI PILOO MODY: There are two points that are important. One, I am glad, Mr. Bagaitkar has finally made it. Are we to take lying down false information that is given to us? This is the fundamental point. Forget the rulings. You want us to forget that privilege arises out of it. I want to know what the procedure is that we can adopt to stop false information

from being given to us. This is question number one that you will have to answer. If you cannot answer it, ask the Chairman to answer it. Somebody has to answer that question. And the second question I want to ask is, when there are things that we want to discuss in this House, can we only discuss what the ruling party will permit us to discuss? Can we only discuss what the Chairman will permit us to discuss? Or, can we only discuss what you will permit us to discuss? Have we no say in the matter as to what we will discuss and how we will discuss it? These are two fundamental questions to which no answers have been given. We have sat here and listened for almost half-an-hour to the legal drivel that has been dished out... (Interruption) ...to the legal drivel that has been dished out to us which we are not questioning. He is an expert on legal drivel, but I am an expert on what should be discussed in this House and I find that you are impinging on my rights, you are impinging on the rights of the House and you are impinging on the rights of Parliament itself. False information has been given and you are asking us to lump it and telling us, "You keep quiet about it. You don't ask questions about it. You don't discuss it." I want to know: is it the intention of the Government and the Presiding Officers of Parliament to turn Parliament into a rubber-stamp to all the fraud that this Government wants to play on the people of this country?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mody, please refer to the Rules and the Rules will reply to your queries. (Interruptions) The rules are there to reply to your queries. (Interruptions)

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI: Sir, I want to make two points. Apart from endorsing what my friends, Mr. Advani, Mr. Mody and Mr. Bagaitkar, have said, I would like to say that it is for the maturity of the Members of this House to find a way out. Sir, we are hurt today. Personally I feel very much hurt.

Sir, we have read the words of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That point has been replied to. Please don't repeat the same points.

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI: At least be human enough to understand the hurt which has been caused to us. Be human enough, I only request you...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kulkarni, we are all human beings. You don't appreciate the others' views. If you don't agree with it, please don't use such language (Interruptions)

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI: You can call a meeting of the General Purposes Committee or whatever it is. But today the Rajya Sabha has been reduced to a position where the treasury benches are applauding...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is your view. It is not the view of the House.

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI: This is the blackest day in the history of the Rajya Sabha. I don't think people like us have any place to sit here.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we go to Calling Attention. Mr. Mathur, please. (Interruptions)

श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी : दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि यह डिवलूशन राज्य सभा के चेयरमैन की रूलिंग से हो रहा है ।

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : प्वाइंट ऑफ आर्डर । अभी जो बात उठवाई है उसके मुत्तलिक है ।

श्री उपसभापति : मैंने कहाँ उठवाई है, जबर्दस्ती उठा रहे हैं ।.. (व्यवधान) ..

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : उपसभापति महोदय... (व्यवधान)... सभापति की दी हुई रूलिंग पर मैं कुछ नहीं कह रहा हूँ । मैं यह कह रहा हूँ कि हमारे रूल्स

में संशोधन होता रहा है, परिस्थितियों के मुताबिक । इसके लिये रूल्स कमेटी है । अब एक ऐसी परिस्थिति पैदा हो गई है जहां पर हमको सोचना पड़ता है कि क्या यह सदन उस सदन के बराबर है या नहीं, क्या इसकी गरिमा जो उसकी है वह है या नहीं । आपने सुना है सभापतिजी ने जो अपनी रूलिंग में कहा । यह सिचुयेशन आ गई है । इससे यह शक पैदा होता है कि यह सदन उस सदन के बराबर है या नहीं । इसलिये यह एक प्राइम फेसों केस हो जाता है । सदन का यह नेचुरल राइट है कि वह उसी रूप में कमेटी में बात उठाये और इसलिये जनरल परपजेज ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I don't think there is any addition to the points that have already been made. It is only wasting the time of the House. Let us proceed with the Business.

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : इसलिये जल्द से जल्द जनरल परपजेज कमेटी की मीटिंग बुलाई जाय ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : यह तो आपके पार्टी के लीडर ने कह दिया है । Your leader has spoken but you don't allow me to proceed with the Business. When the leader speaks, he speaks for all of you. Now, Mr. Mathur. (Interruptions)

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : उन्होंने ... (व्यवधान) ... इसलिये यह जो जनरल परपजेज कमेटी है इसकी मीटिंग बुलाई जाय (व्यवधान) ... ।

SHRI HARKISHAN SINGH SURJEET (Punjab): What is the solution, what is the remedy that you provide us?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can see the rules, under what rule I can do it... (Interruptions) Mr. Mathur, please.

SHRI HARKISHAN SINGH SURJEET: What is the remedy that you provide? (Interruptions)

SHRI GHANSHYAMBHAI OZA (Gujarat): Mr. Deputy Chairman, I do not want to go into the merits of the ruling given by the Chair. I do not want to reopen the question of privilege in any way. But Mr. Pilloo Mody raised a very relevant and pertinent point: What is Parliament? Parliament consists of both Houses—House of the People and the Rajya Sabha—and we have got the Union List about the powers to legislate upon. There is a Union List and petroleum product is on the Union List. And if there is something about it, can we not raise a discussion about it? What are we here for? You know, Rajya Sabha is a constituent part of Parliament. Then there is the Union List about which we are responsible to the people. Therefore, you have got to give us time to discuss it is that we can inform the public what has happened.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO (Jammu and Kashmir): The ruling given by the Chairman cannot be challenged. But the point that has emerged from the ruling is whether or not this House is competent to discuss along with the other Members of the other House in the Public Accounts Committee or the Committee on Public Undertakings. What is the effect? As Mr. L. K. Advani has come out with a good suggestion and as has been pointed out by the Chairman, the General Purposes Committee should meet and discuss it and find a way out how the status of the Members of this House can be maintained. The second point that has been raised is with regard to this. I would request the honourable Minister and the Opposition, let us go after the substance rather than the shadow. After the ruling given by the Chair, there is no point in discussing these privilege issues and other things. The simple question is the Chairman said that the Minister is coming out with a statement, he is giving a statement. I would request you humbly that if

you are in the Chair, you give us an opportunity, to each Member of each group, to ask questions. As the Chairman pointed out, after the reply of the honourable Minister, if something remains which should be replied, I think enough opportunity is there for us to raise the points and the Chairman or you should give us an opportunity to speak.

SHRI B. D. KHOBRAGADE: The question that has been raised in this House is that wrong information has been given to this House. If wrong information is given to the House, who is responsible for giving that wrong information? If wrong information is given to the House, what action should be taken against the person who has given the wrong information? I may only quote one small instance here. In U.K. one Minister had to quit the office of Minister just for giving wrong information that he was not connected with some scandal but later on it was found that he was connected with that scandal—it was known as the Profumo scandal. And he had to quit. So, when this House is given wrong information, what action can this House take against the person who has given the wrong information?...

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI: These record books have to be burnt.

SHRI B. D. KHOBRAGADE: That is what I say. The point is if wrong information has been given by any person to this House, then that person should be taken to task. Now the question I would like to raise is supposing, as the Chairman ruled—and I do not want to discuss the ruling, I am not commenting on it, I am only making a suggestion—if there is a Joint Committee of both the Houses and the Members do not have equal rights along with the Members of the Lok Sabha, then abolish the Joint Committee. Abolish the Joint Committee...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is your view.

SHRI B. D. KHOBRAGADE: Let there be a Committee of Rajya Sabha for Public Undertakings, for Public Accounts and for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and so on. Let there be separate Committee of Rajya Sabha so that they can be responsible to Rajya Sabha. You make separate Committees. Why do you want to tie Rajya Sabha to Lok Sabha, if the Members of Rajya Sabha do not have equal right? If we have equal rights, I do not mind having joint committees. Otherwise, like so many other Rajya Sabha Committees, let there be separate committees for these also. I would request you and the Government that there should be separate Committees of Rajya Sabha for Public Accounts, Public Undertakings and for Scheduled Castes and Tribes.

श्री संयुक्त सित्ते रज्जा (उत्तर प्रदेश):
श्रीमन्, मेरा सर्वाभियान यह है कि बहुत देर से विरोध पक्ष के लोग बार-बार यह कह रहे हैं कि रांग इन्फारमेशन फीड की गयी है... (व्यवधान)

SHRI R. R. MORARKA: Mr. Deputy Chairman... (Interruptions)

श्री उपभार्यति: आपकी पार्टी के इतने मेम्बर बोल चुके हैं... (व्यवधान)

श्री संयुक्त सित्ते रज्जा: मान्यवर, बहुत देर से इस बात की कोशिश की जा रही है कि पब्लिक अण्डर टेकिंग कमेटी को तरफ से मिनट्स की सूची में रांग इन्फारमेशन फीड की गयी है सबसे पहले यह बात गलत है कि रांग इन्फारमेशन फीड की गयी है। यह एक सिम्पली बेस लेस एलीमिनेशन है। क्योंकि कोई भी तत्व साबित नहीं कर रहा है कि जो भी मिनट्स यहाँ पर महेन्द्र मोहन मिश्र जी ने पुट अप किये, वह गलत तरीके से यहाँ कोई मिस लोड करने के लिए किये गये हैं। जहाँ तक... (व्यवधान) वरवेट्स की बात है

SHRI R. R. MORARKA (Rajasthan): The hon. Member does not know it... (Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SUBTE RAZI: I speak what I know. I do not want to speak what I do not know... (*Interruptions*)
 वरवेटम रिपोर्ट की बात है जो सभा पटल पर रखी गयी है, उसकी सत्यता का कोई भी किसी भी तरह का वेरीफिकेशन नहीं हुआ है, जो भी वरवेटम हुआ है। जसा कि चेयरमैन ने कहा Mr. Mody, you dumped the report on the Table.

उसका कोई वेरीफिकेशन नहीं है, कोई आथेटीफिकेशन नहीं है और सिर्फ यह कहना कि तयाकथित रिपोर्ट पेश करके, मिसलीड करने की कोशिश की है, गलत है। इसलिए मेरा सवमिशन नहीं है कि यह रांग इन्फरमेशन फीड की गयी है, इसमें कोई तथ्य नहीं है... (*व्यवधान*)

श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवानी : इसमें मुद्दा यह है कि उस दिन के इविडेंस में सारी की सारी चर्चा मिंसिंग फाईल पर थी और उसका जिक्र नहीं है... (*व्यवधान*)

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL (Gujarat): Whatever was laid has not been contradicted. The Government has not contradicted it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: How is the Government concerned about it? It is for the Committee.

SHRI R. R. MORARKA: Give me one minute. I won't take more time than that. I am obliged to speak because of the statement made by Shri Sibte Razi. I have put it on record in a letter addressed to the Speaker as well as to the Chairman of our House saying that the minutes are not correct. The minutes are deliberately distorted. They do not represent what transpired at the meeting on the 2nd April. How can he say that nobody has challenged it? In what manner you want to challenge the minutes? The minutes are

absolutely incorrect. I do not want to use strong words. They are motivated and deliberately drafted in a way to shield the whole transaction and to shield an individual... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ERA SEZHIYAN (Tamil Nadu): I am not challenging the decision given by the Chairman. Just now we have been told that the minutes have been placed on the Table of the House. Whenever a paper is laid on the Table of the House, it is done either by a Minister or by an individual with full responsibility by an authentication of it... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is the minutes of the meeting of the Committee.

SHRI ERA SEZHIYAN: Whenever it is done, it should be duly authenticated... (*Interruptions*) How can it be authenticated by somebody outside the House? It is always authenticated by the person who lays it on the Table of the House...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: These are the minutes of the Committee.

SHRI ERA SEZHIYAN: Whatever it may be; it should be authenticated by the person who lays it on the Table of the House. Otherwise, who is responsible for it... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have been the Chairman of a Committee for a long time... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PILOO MODY: The man who places it has to authenticate it.

SHRI ERA SEZHIYAN: Whoever puts it on the Table of the House has to do it and he has to take the responsibility for that. Suppose something wrong has been done. Against whom should I take action? (*Interruptions*) Against whom should I initiate action?

SHRI PILOO MODY: The person laying it on the Table is not a delivery boy. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: Sir, I rose on a point of order. Before I could complete it, several other colleagues rose to speak and you allowed them to speak.

My first point was that according to Rule 7, with regard to a Committee, whether it is a Joint Committee or a Committee of this House, there is no distinction at all. It does not envisage any distinction between a Joint Committee and a Committee of this House. (*Interruptions*) Therefore, you know, the Committee that has been appointed, whether it is a Joint Committee or a Committee of this House...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am sorry, this has been replied to.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: Sir, I won't take more than a couple of minutes. I will put the proposition to you. Suppose all these seven Members of this House who are associated with that Committee resign.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That point has been replied to.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: Now, that Committee will be a valid Committee even then? That is number one. Then, number two is this: The Chairman was pleased to say, as if it was a great favour, that...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I don't think you should comment on his observations.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: Sir, he said that it was "gratifying".

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You may not agree with his observations. But you should not comment on them.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: Sir, he said that it was "gratifying". Sir the Minister and the Leader of the House seemed to agree to make a statement on this. Sir, that is not what we wanted. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That point has been made clear already.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: Sir, if the Minister makes a statement

with the Chairman's permission, no Member has a right to ask questions.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hegde, in this House, we have been following a convention.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: No convention.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why not?

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: It is not a convention. (*Interruptions*) The Rules says, 'Statement by Minister'.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hegde, please let me say. (*Interruptions*) Mr. Hegde, will you please hear me first? You are arguing a wrong thing.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: It is not a wrong thing.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hegde, please hear me. You please take your seat first. (*Interruptions*). Please hear me first. Please have the courtesy to hear me. I am telling you that if you are so much anxious about the parliamentary rules, I am all for that. But then you will suffer. You consult your colleagues. Don't say that this is the rule or this rule is not there. This House has followed a convention and it is better that our House does not follow the rule. But if you want to follow the rule, you can follow the rule. But this House has a convention.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: But the rules are followed according to the convenience of certain people here. (*Interruptions*). They hold them against us. Therefore, Sir, my suggestion is that either through a special Motion—either the Government benches will move the Motion or we should be allowed—or...

AN HON. MEMBER: Through a Calling-Attention Motion.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: ... through a Calling-Attention Motion, it should be discussed. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI ERA SEZHIYAN: In the case of the Artulay affairs, a Calling-Attention Motion was allowed.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: Either through a special Motion or through a Calling-Attention Motion it should be brought up and it should be taken up immediately.

SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE (Maharashtra): Sir, I have a submission to make. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I have been trying to raise a point of order and I have a very simple point of order.

SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE: Sir, I want to make a submission.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Sir, I have been nominated to the PAC.

SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE: Sir, I have a submission to make.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Sir, after this ruling, I am not sure whether I am a Member or an Associate of that Committee. I see that the parliamentary publications mention me as a Member and not as an Associate. What is the true position, Sir? I want to know this.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That has been stated by the Chairman.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: The second point is this: If I am a Member, as mentioned in all the parliamentary papers, then, Sir, as a Member of a Committee, which Committee belongs to the Lok Sabha, do I approach the Speaker directly by passing the Chairman on all matters concerning that Committee? This is my second question.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That has been made clear.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: I have these two questions. I would like to know whether I am a Member or an Associate and, if I am a Mem-

ber, as mentioned in the bulletin, what my position is as a Member of that Committee.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Chairman has ruled and kindly does not take that position.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: My further question is this: If I am a Member of a Committee, which belongs to the Lok Sabha, then concerning any matter of that Committee where, I am told, we have full powers, should I have to approach the Speaker by passing the Chairman of the Lok Sabha in all matters? That is my second question.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That has been made clear.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: What is the answer? Sir, what is the answer to my question?

1 P. M.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Chatterjee, the Chairman has explained his ruling. He has explained the whole position. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: I am asking you... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That will not improve matters.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: In the other House, the other day, there was an objection raised about Shri P. V. Mukherjee becoming the Finance Minister. It was challenged and many precedents were given which show that a Member of the Rajya Sabha cannot become the Finance Minister. The Speaker gave a ruling... *(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing is left now, and the matter concludes now. There is nothing left out. *(Interruptions)*. I will not allow further discussion on this. Now we go to Calling Attention. Shri Mathur... *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI KALYAN ROY (West Bengal): What is left out we will get out.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: He does not answer my question. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI KALYAN ROY: You listen to us for one minute each.

SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE: This ruling given has given rise to very important implications about the rights and privileges of the Members of the Rajya Sabha as associate Members or... (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is all right.

SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE: It is a very important matter. It has got very far-reaching effects, and you should not shut out a discussion on this matter. It should be seriously considered by this House. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI KALYAN ROY: In the case of the Committee on the Viswa-Bharati Bill, we have co-opted Members of the Lok Sabha. Does it mean, Sir, that they are fifty per cent and we are hundred per cent... (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is a different Committee. (*Interruptions*). Do not mix up the two, Mr. Kalyan Roy. (*Interruptions*). If you cannot appreciate it, I cannot help much.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Does it mean, Sir, that I have less rights then...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This has been replied to. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Thirdly, in view of the assurance of the hon. Chairman in his Chamber that he will admit a Calling Attention, after a statement is made we will have the right to ask questions regarding the petroleum scandal and... (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is all right. Mr. Mathur.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Reported delay in the publication of school text books by NCERT causing harassment to school children due to shortage and high prices of text books

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Education and Culture and Social Welfare to the reported delay in the publication of school text books by NCERT causing harassment to school children due to shortage and high prices of text books and the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): Sir, the Honourable Members in their Calling Attention have referred to a reported delay in the publication of school text books by NCERT. Neither the Government nor NCERT is aware of any specific complaint relating to delay in publication of school text books this year.

2. I am grateful to the Members for raising this matter because it gives us an opportunity to inform all concerned about the steps taken by NCERT this year for timely publication of school text books.

3. Sir, I have information indicating an excellent position not only in respect of publication but also in respect of distribution for sale. This House will be happy to know that adequate copies for the current academic session have already been printed. I may also clarify that for distribution of its publications for sale NCERT utilises the channels established by the Publications Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The latter have certified that supply and sale of text-books this year have been very regular and that they have not received any complaints from any dealer, customer or institution.

4. Experience has shown that not all educational institutions are always