

[Mr. Deputy Chairman]

deeply grateful to the Vice President acting as President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 28th March, 1977."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF (Rajasthan) : Sir, you can adjourn the House now.

SHRI KAMLAPATI TRIPATHI : Sir, we can take up the whole thing on the 9th. We can adjourn now.

श्री उपसभापति : अगर 9 तारीख को सारा कार्य किया जा सकता है तो मुझे कोई ख़ास एतराज नहीं है।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, may I make a special request to the Prime Minister ?

Sir, we understand that in the other House some Constitutional amendments are being introduced. I was telephoned by the Law Minister and it was good of him to have done so. As far as the question of restoring the five year term for the Assemblies is concerned, we are all in favour of it. But I thought that the Prime Minister would, in such matters, hold consultations with the leaders of the Opposition groups. The example of bringing forward Constitutional amendments by disregarding the Opposition that way is not good although we are all in favour of restoring the five-year term to the Lok Sabha and also the Assemblies and there is no doubt about it. But the move was not good. There was an impression that the Prime Minister would consult the major Opposition groups and other parties including the members of the ruling party in order to see how best we could take up such business as amendments to the Constitution. I do hope that in the matter of bringing forward any legislation and Constitutional amendments in particular, the Prime Minister would hold consultations with the Opposition parties and groups not only with regard to the content, but also with regard to the manner in which the

legislation should be passed. Sir, I hope that this will not be pushed through during this very Session. If they have already introduced it, let it be there. But let there be consultations and we can proceed with it later on and not now. This is my request. Also, do not extend the time of the Session. Sir, the Prime Minister is here. I am not opposing these things. But I think we can take a little time because, after all, you can do it in the next Session also. This is all that I have to say.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI : We are not pushing it through.

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA The Parliamentary Proceedings (Protection of Publication) Bill, 1977

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha :

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose herewith the Parliamentary Proceedings (Protection of Publication) Bill 1977, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 7th April 1977."

Sir, I lay the Bill on the Table.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : Sir, I could not hear what the Prime Minister said. I wanted to hear what he said.

(THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE) : Your request is already conceded.

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM (Andhra Pradesh) : Sir, are we sitting on the 9th ?

श्री उपसभापति : सदन की कार्यवाही 9 अप्रैल प्रातः 11 बजे के लिये स्थगित की जाती है।

The House then adjourned at forty-four minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Saturday, the 9th April, 1977.

*For the text of the Amendments *vide* cols. 137-40 in debate dated the 4th April, 1977.