

[Shri Niren Ghosh]

has been set up there ultimately but the project for a petro-chemical complex there has been scuttled. Mr. D. K. Barooah told me personally that those projects will be allotted to kerosene and petrol and not for setting up any petro-chemical complex. So I make the charge against the Government of India that they have an animus against the State of West Bengal and against the Eastern region as a whole. This is not good to the country or for the unity of the country. I think it is high time they reversed their policy in this respect and came forward to set up a petrochemical complex in the Eastern region which is oil-rich. Even deep drilling was abandoned, though an assurance was given by Dr. Triguna Sen on the floor of the House . . .

DR. TRIGUNA SEN (Tripura) : My name should not be dragged in.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : . . . that deep drilling would be done. It is not being done. The Soviet experts said that the Bay of Bengal is simply floating on oil, but no offshore drilling is being undertaken there. So, in all manner the entire Eastern region, i.e., West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Assam, Manipur and Tripura, is being neglected in this fashion continuously over a number of years. I think it is a dangerous development for the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Sakhlecha.

SHRI N. G. GORAY (Maharashtra) : May I ask something, Sir ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no. I have called Mr. Sakhlecha.

#### REFERENCE TO THE RESOLUTION IN LOK SABHA FOR ABOLITION OF RAJYA SABHA

श्री बीरेन्द्र कुमार सखलेचा (मध्य प्रदेश) : माननीय सभापति जी, आज के 'हिन्दुस्तान' के अन्दर माननीय सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा कि इस प्रकार का समाचार प्रकाशित हुआ है। "राज्य सभा राजनीतिक भ्रष्टाचार का केन्द्र—श्री विभूति मिश्र"। यह राज्य सभा के बारे में इस प्रकार का समाचार प्रकाशित हुआ है। श्री विभूति मिश्र ने

लोक सभा में इस प्रकार का स्टेटमेंट दिया है। वे लोक सभा में कांग्रेस के एक वरिष्ठ सदस्य हैं। श्री विभूति मिश्र ने राज्य सभा को खत्म करने के लिए एक निजी प्रस्ताव पेश किया है जिसमें उन्होंने कहा है कि राज्य सभा भ्रष्टाचार का केन्द्र है। सभापति महोदय, मेरा यह निवेदन है कि यह क्लियर ब्रीच आफ प्रिविलेज है और इस सदन के ऊपर इस प्रकार का ऐम्पर्शन डालना कि यह राजनीतिक भ्रष्टाचार का केन्द्र है, इस सदन की मानहानि और इस सदन को अपमानित करना है तथा इस सदन के सभी सदस्यों को अपमानित करना है इस प्रकार से यह क्लियर ब्रीच का मामला बनता है। मेरा कहना यह है कि श्री विभूति मिश्र ने कल जो प्रस्ताव लोक सभा के अन्दर प्रस्तुत किया, राज्य सभा को समाप्त करने की बात की, वे खुशी से कर सकते हैं। कांस्टीट्यूशन में राज्य सभा को कांस्टीट्यूट किया गया है, वह कांसिल आफ स्टेट है। और यहां पर प्रतिनिधि चुन कर, विधान सभाओं द्वारा निर्वाचित होकर, आते हैं और उनके बारे में वहां पर इस तरह की बात कहना कि ये सारे चुनाव में हार कर लोग वहां पर आते हैं, जिन्होंने कभी चुनाव का सामना नहीं किया, चुनाव में कभी जनता के सामने नहीं गये, ऐसे लोग राज्य सभा के अन्दर पहुंचते हैं, इस तरह से ये सारी बातें कह कर सारे सदन के सदस्यों की एक प्रकार से मानहानि करना है।

इस सदन के अनेक माननीय सदस्य, अनेक बार विधान सभाओं के अन्दर और लोक सभा के अन्दर निर्वाचित होकर आये हैं, उनके लिए यह कहना कि उन्होंने कभी चुनाव का सामना नहीं किया, कभी निर्वाचन के सामने नहीं गये, यह क्लियरली सभी सदस्यों का जो विशेषाधिकार है, उसको भंग करना है और इस सदन के विशेषाधिकारों को भी भंग करना है।

माननीय सभापति जी, यह कहना कि यहां पर सारे लोग राजनीतिक भ्रष्टाचार के जरिये चुनकर आते हैं, यह तो बिल्कुल अनुचित

होगा और इस तरह से लोकसभा और राज्य सभा के सम्बन्धों को समाप्त करने की बात होगी ।

भारत के राष्ट्रपति सभी विधान सभाओं के सदस्यों के मतों से चुने जाते हैं । क्या हम यह कहें कि भारत के राष्ट्रपति राजनीतिक भ्रष्टाचार से चुनकर आते हैं ? अगर कोई इन्डाइरेक्ट पद्धति से चुनकर आता है, उसको यह कहना कि राजनीतिक भ्रष्टाचार है, इस सदन की मानहानि करना है और सदन के विशेषाधिकार की मानहानि करना है तथा लोक सभा और राज्य सभा के सम्बन्धों को खराब करना होगा ।

इसलिये मेरा निवेदन यह है कि दोनों स्थिति के अन्दर, जहां संविधान की धारा 105 के अन्तर्गत सदस्यों को वाणी की स्वतन्त्रता है इस रूप में है कि उनके खिलाफ कोर्ट में कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की जा सकती है, लेकिन किसी सदन की मानहानि करे, तो क्या सदन उसको किसी प्रकार से नहीं रोक सकेगा और उसके खिलाफ कोई कार्यवाही नहीं कर सकेगा ? आर्टिकल 105 में स्पष्ट कहा गया है :—

"No member of Parliament shall be liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in Parliament or any committee thereof, and no person shall be so liable in respect of the publication by or under the authority of either House of Parliament of any report, paper, votes or proceedings."

तो जो प्रोटेक्शन है सदन के सदस्यों को उसके कारण कोर्ट में उनको चेलेंज नहीं किया जा सकता, कोर्ट उनका प्रोसीक्यूशन नहीं कर सकता, लेकिन जहां तक इस सदन के अधिकार का सवाल है, अगर इस सदन को कन्डेम किया जाता है, तो वैसे लोगों के खिलाफ कार्यवाही की जानी चाहिये । मेरा निवेदन है कि अगर विभूति मिश्र जी ने नहीं कहा कि राज्यसभा

राजनीतिक भ्रष्टाचार का केन्द्र है तो इस अखबार ने इस सदन की मानहानि की है प्रोसीडिंग्स को इस रूप में छाप कर और इस नाते से मैं निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि आप मुझे अनुमति दें नियम 187 के अन्तर्गत ब्रीच आफ प्रिविलेज का प्रश्न उठाने के लिए । अगर उन्होंने प्रोसीडिंग्स में कहा है, इस सदन के प्रति मानहानि की बात कही तो आप उस सदन के अध्यक्ष को लिख कर इस प्रकार के शब्दों को वापस करने के लिए कहिए । उनको कहना चाहिए कि सदन की या सदस्यों की मानहानि का उनका कतई इरादा नहीं था । तब तो ठीक सम्बन्ध बने रहेंगे । जब तक खेद व्यक्त नहीं किया जाता, उन शब्दों को विदड़ा नहीं करते तो मेरा आपसे अनुरोध है कि मुझे इस विशेषाधिकार के मामले को उठाने की अनुमति प्रदान करें । सारी जनता अखबारों को पढ़ती है, प्रोसीडिंग्स में क्या है उसको नहीं देखती । अखबारों में छपा है कि राज्यसभा राजनीतिक भ्रष्टाचार का केन्द्र और इस प्रकार सदन और उसके सदस्यों की मानहानि हुई है । मुझे आशा है कि आप सदन और सदस्यों के सम्मान की रक्षा करेंगे ।

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR (Delhi) : Sir, are you referring this to the Privileges Committee ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Goray.

SHRI N. G. GORAY (Maharashtra) : Obviously, we are living in abnormal times. Just now one such case was cited by my friend, Shri Bhu-pesh Gupta, and also by Shri Niren Ghosh. I wanted to refer to that. But now that you have said that I should not, I would only say this that this looks like a delusion between the Attorney-General and the judiciary for whom we have the highest respect.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Goray, I would request you not to cast any reflection on the judiciary. If you say there is collusion . . .

AN HON. MEMBER : We are not.

SHRI N. G. GORAY : It is an argument put forward by the Attorney-

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General. And we find that he says, you should withhold the judgment because unless, it is withheld, 5,000 detenues will have to be released and persons who ought to be detained will come out, and therefore the court agrees.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The court might have acceded to the request.

SHRI N. G. GORAY : I am not going to dwell on that subject at all. My friend has referred to some other matter. So far as I recollect, we always observe this rule that whenever we refer to the other House, it is with respect and decorum, we never take an opportunity of turning down the other House or of criticising the decisions that they have taken. Sir, the expectation is that this sentiment will be reciprocated by the other House also. But what do we find ? We find that they have asked for the abolition of this Upper House, and they have said that (those who come here come by the back door and therefore it has become a centre of political sort of patronage or malpractice. I would like to know—after all, this House is here because the Constitution has provided for this House. If the Constitution had not provided for this House, then there would be an end of this and there would have been no argument at all. But when the Constitution provides for the Upper House and we come here, to charge that those people who come here come by the back door or that their coming is due to some sort of political collusion or some sort of political patronage, I think, Sir, that a person like Shri Bibhuti Mishra for whom I have the highest respect should not have made such remarks. Now, he has made those remarks. Now, what is given in the paper ? The papers come out with headlines that this . is a centre of conspiracy and therefore the Lower House has expressed this sort of no-confidence in this House.

As the Chairman of the House, I would appeal to you to take up this matter and see to it that both the two Houses behave within the limits that are set for them and that they do not tres-

pass; otherwise, the relation between these two Houses will not embittered and criticism from this House of the other House and also the other House indulging in this sort of unrestrained criticism, will detract from the dignity of both the Houses.

SHRI A. P. JAIN (Uttar Pradesh) : Sir I have no objection to the proposal of Mr. Bibhuti Mishra that this House should be abolished. He was perfectly within his right to say so.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think you have no objection to his suggestion.

SHRI A. P. JAIN: Yes, that this House should be abolished.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think you have no objection to his right to say that this House should be abolished.

SHRI A. P. JAIN : Yes, Sir. He has a perfect right to say so. But the point is should he levy these grave charges against the Members of this House ? I think, Sir, it is most undignified to have done it and I think the Presiding Officer there should have pulled him up or taken up the question of removing these remarks from the proceedings of the House. This is an important question and a difficult question. For instance, I have not seen the report of Mr. Bibhuti Mishra's speech. Before I can make up my mind I must see the papers.

SHRI N. G. GORAY: We have seen it.

SHRI A. P. JAIN : If what has been repeated by my friends over there is a fact then it requires the serious consideration and I will request you that as the Custodian of the honour of this House it is your duty not to sleep over this matter but to take action.

SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA (Orissa) : Sir, you preside over the destinies of this House and what Mr. Bibhuti Mishra has said in the other House is, if the proceedings are looked into, not only an insult to us it is also an insult to the high office you hold because primarily you are to preside over the destinies of the Rajya Sabha. As

Mr. Goray has pointed out and as the Constitution has also given, there should be both the Houses. But for the Rajya Sabha there may be a dictatorship some time in the country. So, Sir, this House is meant only as a second balance against the Lok Sabha or those provisional politicians there who come there and may do anything that may hamper our democracy.

Sir, when we refer to that House we always refer with due respect because they come directly from the people. We never say that Members like Mr. Bibhuti Mishra are a disgrace to Parliament. We never say so. Therefore, first of all it should be the duty of the Speaker not to allow such a motion. Anyway we are happy that Members from all the sections of the Lok Sabha have criticised the mad idea of that man. Sir, when I say so I represent all sections of this House. Therefore, you must ask for the proceedings of the other House and give a ruling this time so that there are no such references in future, so that they do not use such words that this is a centre of intrigues, centre for corruption and other things because such remarks are aspersions on the dignity of the House and directly the dignity of the Vice-President of India and the Chairman of this House.

SHRI TRILOKI SINGH (Uttar Pradesh) : Obviously the complaint of the breach of privilege is based upon a speech made by an honourable Member of the other House. It is a practice, Sir, and a long-established practice that in such matters the document upon which the complaint is based should be brought on the Table of the House. As far as I have learnt the report of the speech made by the hon'ble Shri Bibhuti Mishra has appeared in the Press. So, Sir, before you give a ruling that a *prima facie* case has been made out that document or the speech of the honourable Member in the other House should be before you.

The other thing is, as far as I know, the practice is, and the law also is this, that in such matters the breach of this House, in this case the matter would

be referred to the Speaker in the other House and whether a breach of privilege has been committed or not will be decided by a Committee of the Privileges of the Lok Sabha and not by the Committee of Privileges of this August House. Therefore, whatever the Speaker might have done, I do not think the Speaker has done anything wrong in not objecting to any such remarks made by any honourable Member. The Speaker has nothing to do with it. Then, Sir, it is up to us to safeguard our privileges and this is a matter in which *prima facie*, to a man like me, it appears that a breach of privilege has been committed. But to be sure, before you give your ruling, you must go through the proceedings of the Press also.

SHRI N. G. GORAY: The proceedings are here. If you want, I can lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI TRILOKI SINGH : It should be brought on the Table of the House because the complaint is based on the proceedings of other House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : Sir, we have read about it only in the newspapers. I cannot read Hindi, but Mr. Goray has read it. . .

SHRI N. G. GORAY : Shall I read out the relevant portion ?

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Let him read out.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, read out.

SHRI

एक बात मैं

यह भी बतलाना चाहता हूँ . . .

N. G. GORAY :

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Goray, it is proceedings of the Lok Sabha ?

SHRI N. G. GORAY : Yes.

एक बात

मैं यह भी बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि वह जो दूसरा हाउस है उसमें ऐसे लोग आ जाते हैं जो कि चुनाव में हार गये । हमारी ही पार्टी की तरफ से अगर किसी को ओब्लाइज करना होता है तो वह आ जाते हैं । इसलिए वह नहीं आते हैं कि उनकी कोई उपयोगिता है बल्कि इसलिए

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कि उनको जगह देनी है। केवल हमारी पार्टी ही नहीं, बल्कि और भी जो दूसरी पार्टीज हैं वह भी यही काम कर रही हैं। ऐसे भी लोग आ जाते हैं जोकि कभी भी जीवन में चुनाव का सामना नहीं करते, जो कभी भी जनता का मुकाबला नहीं करते, दूसरी तरफ हम लोग हैं जो चुनाव लड़ कर आते हैं-। हम को अपने क्षेत्र में घुमना पड़ता है। . . . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, as far as the first part that has been read out is concerned, as a fact it is correct. You cannot challenge that fact. Let us be fair. Surely I entirely agree with the hon. Members who say that this House as such should not be spoken of in a disparaging manner; I entirely agree. But by reading the speech, I did not get the impression that Mr. Bibhuti Misra was attacking the House as such. He was saying that some people get elected here after defeat in the elections. This, Sir, is God's own truth. Many are there. Whether that is good or bad is a different matter. Therefore, Sir, let us not be too sensitive. I think this House one day should discuss self-critically its character, composition, history, its bearing and its career of 20 years since the Constitution came into force. I think we can do that. Sir, in the Lok Sabha people have to be elected. In this House you may get defeated ten times in the elections and yet you can adorn the treasury benches; why here, you can sit on those benches also. We know how defeated people sit in the treasury benches. Therefore, let us not be too touchy. As far as "centre of intrigue" and all that is concerned, if it has been said, it is wrong. If it is so, then this "centre of intrigue" is led by the Congress Party. Mr. Bhi-buti Misra knows very well that Mr. Uma Shankar Dikshit is the arch-mtri-guer here. I do not want to go into that. Sir, you know it very well. Therefore, Sir. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Bhupesh Gupta...

MR., BHUPESH GUPTA : All right, I am passing on to the next point.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not involve me in all these things.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Then whether we come from the front-door or from the back-door, all doors have been thrown wide open. What is the difference ? Sir, you enter Parliament through the back-door and we enter through the front-door. Does it mean that you are less important than we are ? We come through Gate No. 4 and you somehow enter Parliament; nobody knows where the door is. Therefore, that also is not a very important point. One can take it in one's stride. With regard to this House, it is also a fact that it is not a centre of intrigue, but the operation outside to get some people elected and so on, surely gives rise to public questioning. You know very well that some multimillionaires who have no party, no followers, nothing, get elected simply because they can carry a basketload of money. That has been mentioned here in this House. We have expressed indignation about it. The matter has been discussed here. Let us not repudiate what we have said in our good moments. In our angry moments we should not forget it. So everything is basically correct. But we are honourable Members and we shall continue as such. Nobody should make any disparaging remarks. There is no danger. Mr. Bibhuti Misra is a Congressman. Do you think that the Congress Party will ever abolish this House ? If you start doing this kind of a thing. I do not know how many forums will come up. So they will never do it. As far as we are concerned, let us not quarrel with the concept. A unicameral legislature was the concept of the freedom fighters and national leaders in the old days. We had also felt that way. Nehru, Gandhiji and others also felt that way. It is well known. And unfortunately we have a bicameral legislature. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not discuss the merits now.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Therefore, it is a valid thing and I am also in favour of one House, one bigger House, the Lok Sabha. I have been

saying it all these years without reflecting on the *bona fides* or the character of honourable Members here. There is a point we can discuss and debate now that we have all been here on the scene. But all the same, one House is good enough. Second Chambers are being abolished in many countries. They have been abolished in some of the States. So it can be abolished here. But my fear here is Mr. Pant's party will never do it. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN ; That is enough. Please sit down. Now Mr. Niren Ghosh.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (West Ben gal) : Sir, unfortunately it has become a fashion with some Members of the other House to speak disparagingly about this House. I think, perhaps, with all the respect to the Speaker, he should have pulled up the particular honourable Member if he had said that, this House is a centre of intrigues and all that. Now I should like to ask : Is it possible to abolish this House ? It represents the States of India. It represents the linguistic groups of India, that means, the nationalities of India. Wouldn't there be a House representing the nationalities of India ? I would rather think that there should be direct election from the States to this House and this House should have equal powers in regard to Money Bills also. This should be an elected House directly by the people representing the nationalities of India. That is how it should be.. This House cannot be abolished; otherwise, there will be many things happening, not in this fashion, but, completely in another fashion. Therefore, Sir, I think this matter should be taken up and discussed.

SHRI T. N. SINGH (Uttar Pradesh) : Sir, the issue is a serious one, and we should apply our mind seriously to it. There are two aspects. One is what has appeared in the newspapers and the other is what was actually stated in the Lower House by a particular Member. But whatever it has been stated that this House is the centre of corruption, is certainly very objectionable. And I think it actionable by this House to protect its rights and privileges. I am very clear on that matter.

And there should be no encouragement to any press or any publicity media. They cannot say derogatory things about this House and get away with it. And if the press has attributed to Mr. Bibhuti Misra without his having said it, it is still more serious. That is one aspect. I think there is a full case for taking action against this newspapers once you have looked into the proceedings. Even before looking into the proceedings, irrespective of anything, this statement is objectionable and action should be taken.

As regards whatever a fellow colleague of ours in the other House might have, said I must say that I have known Mr. Bibhuti Misra since his student days. He was a student of Kashi Vidyapith and I have the highest regard for him. He is a good man. I think he may not have said what has been reported. But if he said this that this House is the centre of corruption, then it is something which, I think, goes against his entire career and life and tradition. He should not have said it. So, the best thing is to verify from the proceedings of the Lok Sabha whether this statement was made by him or not. Such questions may arise in future also. Member of a particular House may attack another Member of the other House. I think it is not desirable and it should not be done. It is against all decency of political democracy. Therefore, I would suggest that we should try to set up healthy traditions in this regard. You can do something in this regard. May I suggest that you and the Speaker of the other House may have a joint discussion on this issue so that whenever such matter occur in either House you or the Speaker should be able to regulate the proceedings accordingly ? I think this is very important. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing has happened in my House.

SHRI T. N. SINGH : I know you have been very, very careful in conducting the proceedings, and in controlling and regulating them. You have been doing it in a manner which would redound to the credit of any House. All credit to you for that.

SHRI B. K. KAUL (Rajasthan) : Give some credit to the Members also.

SHRI T. N. SINGH : If the Speaker of the lower House is told about it, I am sure he will also uphold this very good tradition. I, for my part, would not like to say anything about any Member of the other House for the simple reason that he is not here to defend himself. Secondly, he is a fellow member of an equally respectable House as this House or even more— whatever it is. I have nothing against that House. Such should be the practice which we all should follow in our political and democratic life.

Shri Bhupesh Gupta in his usual way tried to import some hilarity into this matter. But this is not a matter to be discussed lightly. I would suggest in all humility to him that we should treat this matter rather seriously because we are setting up traditions in this country. Whatever he may have said..

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA • I agree with you. He should not have said disparagingly about this House.

SHRI T. N. SINGH : I would urge you Sir, to treat this matter with all Speaker of the other House. I am sure you will take us into confidence so that we may know what transpired in your talks.

श्री श्याम लाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मान्यवर, जो बात “हिन्दुस्तान” सामाचारपत्र में छपी है वह बात अवश्य ही आपत्तिजनक है और मैं समझता हूँ कि यह सही रिपोर्टिंग नहीं हुई है। मैंने पूरी स्पीच तो पढ़ी नहीं लेकिन जिस प्रकार से स्पीच मिश्र जी की शुरू होती है उसमें प्रारम्भ में ही उन्होंने कहा, जो मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर सदन के सम्मुख रखा जाय तो शायद इस स्थिति का स्पष्टीकरण हो सके। “इस प्रस्ताव को पेश करने के पीछे मेरी बिल्कुल विशुद्ध भावना है, इस हाउस के या उस हाउस के किसी भी सदस्य के प्रति कोई ईर्ष्या की भावना नहीं है।” इससे मुझे लगता कि है समाचारपत्र में बात प्रकाशित हुई है वह कुछ अतिशयोक्ति के रूप में है और दूसरे प्रकार.....

श्री एन० जी० गोरे : बैकडोर की तो बात कही।

श्री श्याम लाल यादव : जो उन्होंने हेडिंग लगाई है वह शब्द जरा बहुत आपत्तिजनक है लेकिन बैकडोर जरूर कहा है। वह तो है। लेकिन इस प्रकार की जो रिपोर्टिंग हुई है वह आपत्ति जनक है। और, मान्यवर, जैसा और सदस्यों ने कहा, इस बात को देखें।

एक बात जरूर मैं कहूंगा कि हमेशा आप हमको रोकते हैं जब कोई बात दूसरे सदन के बारे में या जुडीशियरी के बारे में या किसी सम्मानित सदस्य के बारे में आती है, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि जो भी उस समय उस हाउस में सभापति के स्थान पर रहे हों उनका यह कर्तव्य जरूर मेरी समझ में आता है कि उनको सदस्य महोदय को रोकना चाहिये था ताकि वह इस प्रकार की बात न करते।

वस इतना ही कहना है।

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Orissa) : I joint with the rest of the Members in the indignation shown against what has been said elsewhere about this House.

Sir, I thought the duty of the Members of each House is to treat the other House as part of the entire Parliament. If he has said against a part of the Parliament, then he has decried himself also. He has not only decried himself, but he has decried also the system, he has insulted the Constitution and he has insulted the State Legislatures which are the constituencies through which the Members of the Rajya Sabha get elected. Therefore, Sir, it was not expected of such an experienced veteran parliamentarian and I am extremely sorry for what he has said. He has said that it is a centre of corruption and that has appeared in the papers.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : It is in Hindi, I think.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Neither Mr. Bhupesh Gupta can read Hindi fluently nor can I. Therefore, let us depend upon what has been reported in the newspapers rather than on the

sketchy statement which was read out to us from the Hindi speech of Shri ; Bibhuti Misra. Therefore, Sir, I would request you to kindly take up the matter with the Presiding Officer of the other House where the statement was made and I would also request you to take up the matter with the leader of the ruling party. Sir, the Member who made these disparaging remarks in the other House belongs to the ruling party and, therefore, the party has also some responsibility and it is the ruling party here. Therefore, I also request you to take up the matter with the leader of the ruling party so that in future a tradition is built up and nowhere, neither in this House nor in the other House, any disparaging remarks are made with reference to the House as a whole. When he refers to this House as a centre of corruption, we also may think that the centre of corruption lies elsewhere. But we do not say that, if Members get elected to this House through bundles of money, it also happens elsewhere and it is not that the Members get elected to the other place only within the prescribed limit of money laid down in the Representation of the People Act or laid down by the Election Commission. Therefore, Sir, each man has to behave either in this House or elsewhere in a responsible manner and I would request that in future the ruling party and other parties in the country should help in setting up a good tradition so that nowhere any disparaging remarks are made against any other Legislatures which have the same dignity as this House has.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, Dr. Bhai Mahavir. I think we have taken sufficient time.

डा० भाई महावीर : श्रीमन्, इस सवाल पर माननीय सदस्यों ने चिंता व्यक्त की है। मैं समझता हूँ, यह इस सदन की मर्यादा के साथ बड़ा गहरा संबंध रखता है। मुझे थोड़ी सी आपत्ति इस बात पर है कि श्री भूपेश गुप्ता ने, जो हमारे एक बड़े माननीय सदस्य हैं, कहा कि यह तथ्य है कि यहां पर बहुत सारे सदस्य अपनी उपयोगिता के कारण नहीं बल्कि

इस वास्ते कि उनको जगह दी जानी चाहिए, भेज दिए जाते हैं। साथ में उन्होंने, पैसे का भी जो इस्तेमाल होता है, उसका जिक्र किया। मेरे मित्र श्री लोकनाथ मिश्र ने कहा है और मैं भी यह समझता हूँ इस तरह की बात कहने में भी, जिन विधान सभाओं की तरफ से वह चुने जाकर आते हैं, उनके लिए कोई बड़ा प्लेटफॉर्म या कोई बड़े सम्मान-वर्द्धक से उल्लेख श्री भूपेश गुप्ता ने नहीं किया।

जहां तक पैसे का सवाल है, हमारी इस राजनीति के अंदर कहां कहां पैसा कितना भ्रष्टाचार और गंदगी फैला रहा है, इसकी चर्चा करने के बहुत मौके हमको मिलते हैं। कल भी एक मौका था जिस पर चर्चा हुई...

श्री सभापति : अब उसकी चर्चा न कीजिये।

डा० भाई महावीर : मैं केवल निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि किसी एक मेम्बर के चुने जाने के पीछे केवल पैसा था या ब्लफ था या धोका था या जातिवाद था या जिसे लट्ठमार कहते हैं वह था—ये सारे प्रश्न उठा कर अगर हमारे सदन की मर्यादा का उल्लंघन किया जाने लगा तो यहां पर किसी प्रकार की संसदीय प्रणाली नहीं चल सकेगी और हम हर किसी सदस्य के त्रियाकलाप के ऊपर कीचड़ उछालते नजर आयेगे।

मैं समझता हूँ, यह बड़ा गम्भीर विषय है और आप इसको चाहे प्रिविलेज कमेटी के सुपुर्द करें या लोक सभा के अध्यक्ष के साथ स्वयं बातचीत करें लेकिन इस सदन की मर्यादा का ध्यान रख कर निर्णय करें।

Sir, should I refer to the other thing also?

MR. CHAIRMAN : No. I want to say something on this. I think that the tradition has been that each House and its Members show proper respect to the other House and its Members. I am sure this House and its Members will always follow this tradition. I wish, the best of relations to prevail between the two Houses and the respective Members thereof. I shall communicate the views expressed here to



[Mr. Chairman]

the Speaker. I also wish to say that newspapers should be very careful in matters like this. If Lok Sabha proceedings have not been correctly reported by any newspapers, it is for the Lok Sabha to take action. Proceedings in relation to this matter shall be sent to the Speaker.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, I brought in the question of the Maintenance of Internal Security Act.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are some Members who have still got to mention something.

#### **REFERENCE TO INCREASE IN THE FARES IN THE INDIAN AIR LINES**

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN (Kerala) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, from midnight today, the Management of the Indian Airlines has announced that the 5 per cent Bangladesh tax or levy would be withdrawn. They have also announced that from that very moment, there would be effected a 5 per cent increase in air fares in the Indian Airlines. Sir, the announcement has come at a time when the Parliament is in session. It has been the practice for all these years that when there is an increase in air fares to be announced at a time when Parliament is in session, the Ministers concerned come with the statement before each House of Parliament and make these known to the Members of Parliament first and then only the Management gives it for publication to the Press. That important and healthy procedure has been given the go-by-by the hon. Minister concerned and the Management of Indian Airlines. I submit, Sir, that the Ministers in charge of Civil Aviation and Indian Airlines are taking very light-heartedly the Houses of Parliament and by their action or inaction in this regard they have insulted and humiliated the Houses of Parliament. It is not as if the 5 per cent Bangladesh tax was available for Indian Airlines to spend. This amount was diverted by Indian Airlines to the Consolidated Fund of India and it was earmarked for expenditure for purposes of Bangladesh displaced persons. After lifting this levy,

the Indian Airlines is taking a very immoral attitude, if I may say so, by increasing their fares. They have resorted to a very dishonest and corrupt method, if I may say so, for raising funds for the Indian Airlines. When the Bangladesh tax was introduced, the hon. Finance Minister had given an assurance to the Houses of Parliament that these levies would be withdrawn when no longer necessary and that is the reason why there is no additional taxation. There is only surcharge or levy for this purpose. That assurance given by the hon. Finance Minister to the Houses of Parliament has been given the go-by-by the Indian Airlines management. I submit that in the face of inflation and rise in prices that is constantly occurring in this country, there is absolutely no reason for a fare increase in the Indian Airlines. "The usual reason that is often given by Dr. Karan Singh whenever he comes with a statement about the rise in Indian Airlines fares is that the Indian Airlines domestic fares are among the lowest in the world nations.

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I submit, Sir, that the economy of this country is one of the lowest among the nations of the world, and compared to the economy of this country, the poor traveller has got to pay out of his cash the fares in Indian Airlines. It may be that Members of Parliament are travelling, Government officers are travelling, Ministers are travelling, foreign tourists are travelling and the business executives are travelling, but still, 20 to 25 per cent of the travellers of Indian Airlines are those who do not desire to travel by air except in emergencies on account of death, on account of marriage, on account of illness or on account of such other pressing circumstances. It will be very hard for such passengers particularly to take this fare rise, and this fare rise will be unjustified from the point of view of inflation, rising prices and the economy of this country. I demand of Government and the Indian Airlines to withdraw from the midnight today the proposal to increase the air fares. I demand them not to implement this proposal.