

undertaken so far have revealed that the entire Shillong Plateau has risen to the present height through 100 million years. However, there is no definite evidence to show that the altitude of Shillong has been increasing every year. The question of any danger to the Shillong city and its surroundings does not arise.]

#### FLONG-TERM FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS OF TEXTILE MILLS

1345. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the long-term financial requirements of the textile mills for modernisation purposes and if so, what steps Government propose to take in this respect?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFT QURESHI) : The Hon'ble Member's attention is invited to part (d) of the statement attached to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 221 answered on the 23rd November, 1967. As was stated therein, the financial requirements for the rehabilitation of the Textile industry during the Fourth Plan had been variously estimated but that the Planning Sub-Group on Textile Machinery had estimated the requirements of machinery and equipment for rehabilitation and modernisation at about Rs. 160 crores based on 1963-64 f.o.b./ex works prices.

To assist the rehabilitation and modernisation of the textile industry, the following steps have been taken :—

- (i) The Industrial Development Bank of India has evolved a scheme of giving deferred payment guarantee for the supply of indigenous textile machinery to the cotton textile industry for rehabilitation and modernisation purposes;
- (ii) Banks have been asked not to charge more than 8 per cent to their customers;
- (iii) Deferred payment schemes have been extended to 7 years in deserving cases;
- (iv) The limit on credits for availing of rediscounting facilities by the Industrial Development Bank of India has been increased from Rs. 25 lakhs to Rs. 50 lakhs per unit per year; and

- (v) The Industrial Development Bank of India, etc., have been advised to consider applications from the textile industry for loans required for modernisation.

Besides, the proposed Textile Development Corporation, which is likely to be set up shortly, would supplement the efforts of the industry and the specialised financial institutions, towards rehabilitation and modernisation of the industry.

#### TDEVALUATION OF THE CEYLONESE RUPEE

1381. SHRI K. P. MALLIKAR-JbNDU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the repercussions of the devaluation of the Ceylonese Rupee on our exports and imports; and

(b) what measures Government have taken or propose to take to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) and (b) In consequence of the devaluation of the Ceylonese Rupee certain qualities of Indian tea may face increase competition. A reduction in export duty is however not considered to be necessary to meet the situation.

12 NOON

#### RE A POINT OF PRIVILEGE

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : Sir, I rise on a question of privilege which should be taken up first. The question of privilege is taken up first immediately after question Hour and I have taken your permission and written also.

MR. CHAIRMAN : After the Prime Minister has made a statement about the Australian Prime Minister.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : The Prime Minister is very important, so is privilege. Sir, she can wait a little.

श्री राजनारायण (उत्तर प्रदेश) : प्रिविलेज मोशन पहले आना चाहिये चाहे प्राइम मिनिस्टर हो या कोई मिनिस्टर हो ।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, as we know, the Prime Minister is very important, but so is privilege. Sir, Members have certain rights under the Constitution and I would refer to article 105 of the Constitution which provides for freedom of speech.^ Kindly refer to it. I shall refer to May's Parliamentary Practice, chapters HI and IV where it is stated :

"Parliamentary privilege is the sum of the peculiar rights enjoyed by each House collectively as a constituent part of the High Court of Parliament and by members of each House individually,"

Please mark the words "and by members of each House".

"without which they could not discharge their functions, and which exceed those possessed by other bodies or individuals."

And please mark the words "exceed those possessed by other bodies or individuals." This matter is elaborated in the next chapter, Chapter IV of May's Parliamentary Practice. In this matter we are guided by the British conventions.

Last week Shri M. P. Bhargava made a speech in connection with the B. I. C. in which he made certain allegations about the connection of Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed with the Birlas and also of Shri Dinesh Singh and so on. What he said might have been right or wrong. That is not the issue now. Another hon. Member of this House, Kumari Shanta Vasisht, also made certain references to certain things and she mentioned that in 1963, the hon. Prime Minister—she was not then the Prime Minister—was entertaining the wives of certain foreigners who were engaged in C.I.A. and other activities and in trying to throw out a Minister, Shri K. D. Malaviya from the Government. We are not concerned with the details of it. These speeches were made. And today's newspapers carry the report that two MPs. were rapped for...

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Orissa) : Mr. Malaviya was outsted because the leftists...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I am not concerned with that. The issue is not K. D. Malaviya. The issue now is that of privilege. Let K. D. Malaviya go to hell. Let Bhupesh Gupta go to hell before K. D. Malaviya. Now, Sir, the position is this. Kindly consider...

SHRI G. RAMACHANDRAN (Nominated) : Are you eligible to consign anybody to hell ?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : As long as I am in his company, Sir, I shall be comfortable even in hell.

SHRI ABID ALI (Maharashtra) : Moscow is hell.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : But come there single. No, Sir, I would request all hon. Members not to treat this as a party matter at all. I would beseech every Member of this House to consider this matter on merit and I shall be entirely in your hands, Sir. In today's papers we find it reported that two Congress M.Ps have been taken to task in the Congress Parliamentary Party Executive meeting for attacking the Government. The Statesman says the same thing. It seems according to the reports, that Shri Bhargava and Kumari Shanta Vasisht were taken to task and intimidated for having made a speech in the House, Sir. (*Interruptions*) Sir, it is a serious matter. I would request hon. Members to meet arguments with arguments, intelligence with intelligence.

SHRI AKBARALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh) : Sir, I submit it is out of order because how is the hon. Member interested in what happened in a party meeting ?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I am not interested in what happened in their party meeting. But the moment it comes out in the newspapers it becomes public property and therefore we also have to come into the picture. The difficulty is this. Suppose I make a speech and some newspapers make aspersions against me and want to influence me one way or the other. Then it is a clear case of privilege and the ruling of this House and of the other House has been that in such matters the newspapers are guilty.

SHRI ABID ALI : On a point of order, Sir. You kindly give your ruling on my point of order. This is a family affair, between brothers, in our own home. Why should it be mentioned in Parliament.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Everything has come in the newspapers.

SHRI ABID ALI : Sir, you should kindly consider my point of order, and give your ruling. It is no business of the

hon. Member to mention it here. Consider it from this point of view and please give your ruling on my point of order.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :** Please hear me. I am on the question of privilege of the Members of Parliament. You please hear me and then I will be bound by your ruling. You cannot expect me to be bound by his ruling. I concede that internal party matters, should not come up here. But the point here is that this is no longer internal. It is external.

**SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS :** No, no.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :** Please read the reports. Evidently somebody had briefed the Press. Identical reports have appeared in all the papers. It is quite clear that the Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai and Shri Dinesh Singh and even Shrimati Tarakeshwari Sinha a lady—were trying to intimidate Members of Parliament and...

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** I have understood your point.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :** You will see, Sir...

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** Here one point of order has been raised...

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :** Shrimati Tarakeshwari Sinha...

**SHRI ABID ALI :** Sir, the hon. Member should allow you to give your ruling on the point of order raised by me.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :** When the matter has been published in the newspapers.... *(Interruptions)* Please listen.

**SHRI ABID ALI :** Matters were published in newspapers about Communist Members of Parliament being intimidated by their party. Then the hon. Member did not raise any question of privilege. It is not right of every family to discuss its own internal family matters.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :** Sir, I will not take much time. I will finish very quickly. I will be very brief. All that I say is that this is a clear case of

breach of privilege and I have read out from May's Parliamentary Practice. *(Interruptions)* Sir, when I get up you ask me to sit down. But there I find they are getting up again and again.

**SHRI C. D. PANDE (Uttar Pradesh) :** What is the...

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :** May I proceed ?

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** You finish up.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :** Sir, the position is this. My hon. friend should have sufficient intelligence and...

**SHRI ABID ALI :** How much patience should we have ?

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :** First listen to my arguments and then defeat me in arguments. See the effect of it all. It is not a question of what happened in the Party meeting. The point is that two honourable colleagues of ours have been subjected to pressure, to intimidation and...

**SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS :** No, no.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :** You read the reports published in the newspapers. You will find that malice is there. Shrimati Tarakeshwari Sinha, a Member of another House, tried to chastise a Member of this House, although she writes in the 'Current'. Therefore, I say here is an attempt on the part of Shri Morarji Desai, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and others to intimidate Members of this House and as such I say they have committed a breach of privilege.

*(Interruptions)*

**THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI) :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member...

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** I have heard the point you have raised about privilege.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :** It is serious.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** I have heard your point.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You are not protecting us.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, order. When I get up you should sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, this is a serious matter and I say that you consider it. Otherwise the House cannot get on.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have heard sufficiently and I know exactly what has been urged.

**श्री राजनारायण :** श्रीमन्, आपने भूपेश जी को सुना अब हम को भी सुनिये ।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Rajnarain, you sit down first.

SHRI C. D. PANDE : Sir, we also have a case against them.

**श्री राजनारायण :** श्रीमन्, मैं इसके लिये तैयार हूँ कि अगर माननीय सिन्हा जी कहना चाहते हैं तो वे कह लें, हम बाद में कहेंगे । अगर कांग्रेस बेंच के लोग बहुत उत्सुक हैं और वे पहले कहना चाहें तो आप उनको सुन लें । हम सिन्हा जी के लिये ईल्ड करने को तैयार हैं लेकिन नेता सदन के लिये नहीं ।

SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI : Why not ? I have a right to say.

**श्री राजनारायण :** श्रीमन्, आपने मुझे बुलाया . . .

(Interruptions)

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI (Maharashtra) : Can Mr. Rajnarain say that he will speak after Mr. Sinha ? It is you who have to decide and have the full authority to decide who will speak when.

SHRI C. D. PANDE : If these gentlemen are allowed to speak, I also must be allowed because there is a sufficient case with us.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have heard Mr. Bhupesh Gupta. Unless I gave

permission for the privilege motion to be discussed no others can discuss it. And my ruling is, I do not think that normal happenings in a party meeting can be made the subject matter of a question of breach of privilege. In any case I am satisfied that there is no breach of privilege involved in this.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, you have given your ruling. But...

SHRI RAJNARAIN : Sir, on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have given my ruling.

**श्री राजनारायण :** माननीय सभापति जी महोदय, मैं एक व्यवस्था का प्रश्न उठाने के लिये खड़ा हुआ हूँ, आपने मुझे अनुमति दी, अब आप हमारे व्यवस्था के प्रश्न को सुनें ।

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have given my ruling.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Your ruling is all right, but you hear us.

**श्री राजनारायण :** श्रीमन्, मैं आपकी रूलिंग को क्वेश्चन नहीं कर रहा हूँ ।

**श्री सी० डी० पांडे :** तो क्या कर रहे हैं आप ।

**श्री राजनारायण :** पहले सुनिये । इस समय यहां सीतलवाड सत्र बैठे हुये हैं । मैं यह चाहता था . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : I would like you to sit down. The Prime Minister would like to make a statement. After that I shall allow you to say what you want to say.

**श्री राजनारायण :** देखिये, मैं आपकी आज्ञा को मानने के लिये तैयार हूँ, अगर मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि आप इतने बड़े पार्लियामेंटेरियन हैं, आप इस चेयर पर सुशोभित हैं, अगर पाइन्ट ऑफ ऑर्डर के पहले प्राइम मिनिस्टर या कोई अधिकार प्राप्त विशेष व्यक्ति आ जाय तो आप कहें कि हम बैठ जायें, आप हम को बाद में अलाऊ करें, इसका मतलब क्या हुआ एक परम्परा को तोड़ कर . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am stating that j I shall allow you. The Prime Minister has to go to the other House. And certainly j an exception should be made.

*{Interruptions}*

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : But, Sir, the point is...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. I shall allow you also.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : It was decided that when a Minister is in our House the other House cannot have a certain attraction and pull. This is a matter of privilege. We are in possession of her now and we do not want to part with her.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : No, no

*{Interruptions}*

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Then why should she go ?

SHRI RAJNARAIN : This is also a matter of privilege.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You can say whatever you like. But the people reading the papers would feel that the other House has precedence over our House. You know possession is nine points in law. We are in possession now and we have nine points. Only one point is there.

MR. CHAIRMAN : In some of these matters...

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (West Bengal): Sir, I have also a point of order.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, I request that the Marshal be asked to guard the gate so that the Prime Minister cannot leave.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, यह मेरा दूसरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है। यह सदन अपना मालिक है। इस सदन के कार्य से बढ़ कर कोई दूसरा कार्य नहीं हो सकता। इस लिये प्राइम मिनिस्टर की तरफ से आप को यह समाचार भेजना कि यहां के काम से बड़ा दूसरा कोई काम है, यह स्वतः सदन का अपमान है।

श्री आबिद अली : तो फिर आप उस दिन हापड़ क्यों गये थे। अगर इस सदन का काम सब

से ज्यादा अहमियत रखता है तो आप यह कह कर क्यों चले गये थे कि मैं हापड़ जा रहा हूं।

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, मैं आपसे अपील करूंगा कि स्वस्थ संसदीय परम्परा को ध्यान में रख कर आप पहले हमारा पाइन्ट ऑफ आर्डर सुन लें और उसके बाद माननीय प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहिब से कहें कि उनको जो कुछ कहना हो वह इस सदन की खिदमत में पेश करें। मैं आप के द्वारा अपने बुजुर्ग जो यहां अटार्नी जनरल रह चुके हैं सीतलवाड साहब और जो इस सदन की क रवाई को सुन रहे हैं, उनकी भी राय जानना चाहता था प्रिविलेज पर कि यह प्रिविलेज का सवाल है या नहीं लेकिन आपने रूलिंग दे दी है, इस लिये अब इसपर कुछ नहीं कहूंगा। मेरा व्यवस्था का सवाल दूसरा है और वह यह है कि अगर अनुचित आलोचना भर्त्सना और डर घमकी दिखाई जाय तो वह प्रिविलेज का प्रश्न बनेगा या नहीं बनेगा। इस पर मैं आपकी रूलिंग चाहता हूं। आपने जो व्यवस्था दे दी है उसके लिये मैं कुछ नहीं कहता।

SHRI ABID ALI : Mr. Chairman, I request you to kindly rule it out, because you have already given the ruling. You kindly stop this discussion. Why should he wax so much about an irrelevant issue ?

श्री राजनारायण : अगर इस सदन में कोई सम्मानित सदस्य अपने अधिकार को नहीं जानता तो मैं उसका दोषी नहीं हूं। सदस्यों को अपने अधिकार जानने चाहिये। चन्द पैसे वाले यहां आ कर हल्ला मचाते हैं और बेकार की बात करते हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down.

श्री राजनारायण : इस पर आप अपनी व्यवस्था दीजिये।

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have given my ruling. I go to the next item. The Prime Minister to make a statement.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Sir, on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : You ought to allow the point of order. The point of order is this. When in this House a Minister challenges that he can face any enquiry and after that if no enquiry is made on this issue of complicity with Birlas, then it seems sure that he cannot face the enquiry. If you say the House is seized of the matter a Committee of the Members of the House should go into these allegations...

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can give another motion.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : ... and unless a probe is made how can the House go on ? Otherwise we will take it that the Minister has complicity.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can certainly give another motion.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, our colleagues are under apprehension that...

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can give another motion.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : The Prime Minister should make a statement as to what happened at the meeting. Every Member is under threat of intimidation. It means that nobody can speak against the Birlas.

SHRI R. T. PARTHASARATHY (Madras) : It is none of your business to question what happened in my party.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I am not concerned with what happens in your party but here is a matter...

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have given my ruling.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Uttar Pradesh) : Sir, may I make a submission ?

DR. B. N. ANTANI (Gujarat) : What again ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have given my ruling.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : I am not saying anything about the ruling. My point is whether any member in the Opposition is authorised to question the proceedings of the party meeting. They have quoted May's Parliamentary practice.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I have a submission to make...

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have given my ruling (Interruptions). Sit down, no more. I shall not allow any further on this. I request you to sit down.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, चन्द्र शेखर जी बताना चाहते हैं तो उनको बताने दीजिए (अन्तर्बाधा) चन्द्र शेखर जी बताना चाहते हैं तो उनको पार्लियामेंटरी प्रेक्टिस हमें बताने दीजिए।

SHRI C. D. PANDE : In view of their repeated attempt at quoting May's Parliamentary Practice, may I say to this House that there have been at least ten occasions. ..

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing more. The Prime Minister.

#### OBITUARY REFERENCE

TRAGIC DEATH OF MR. HAROLD HOLT,  
PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA

प्रधान मंत्री (श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय सदस्य जानते हैं कि आस्ट्रेलिया के प्रधान मंत्री हेरल्ड होल्ड किस शोकात्मक परिस्थिति में पोर्ट सी से लापता हो गये। ऐसा लगता है कि खोज के सभी प्रयत्न असफल रहे। आस्ट्रेलिया की सरकार और जनता और विशेष रूप से श्रीमती होल्ड और उनके परिवार की घोर चिन्ता तथा पीड़ा को हम समझ सकते हैं।

श्री होल्ड दो वर्ष आस्ट्रेलिया के प्रधान मंत्री रहे। इस थोड़े से समय में उन्होंने अपने देश की नीतियों पर अपने व्यक्तित्व, लगन और दूरदर्शिता की गहरी छाप छोड़ी।

हम भारतवासियों के लिये उनको याद करने का एक विशेष कारण भी है। वे हमारे सच्चे मित्र थे, हमारी समस्याओं को समझते थे। पिछले वर्ष जब हम एक बहुत कठिन समय से गुजर रहे थे उन्होंने हमारी सहायता की, और उनकी भावना से प्रेरित होकर आस्ट्रेलिया की संस्थाओं और संगठनों ने हमारी मदद की। हम उन्हें कृतज्ञता के साथ याद रखेंगे।