

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You need not go on but the point is this. It was understood . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : Of all the controls I think the control of time and of speech are very important, Mr. Gupta.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You control the Government, Sir.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : On a point of order, Sir. The Minister gave some assurance to this House and he now says that the other House does not agree to this and hence he did not appoint the Committee. But why does not the hon. Minister set up a Committee of this House?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Because the assurance was that it would be a Committee of both the Houses.

Now that is the end of it.

REFERENCE TO BROADCAST ON THE AIR ABOUT HAPPENINGS IN THE HOUSE ON THE 25TH JULY 1966

MR. CHAIRMAN : I would now request Mr. Raj Bahadur to make a statement about the matter that was raised yesterday here as he happens to be in the House now.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : Sir, I have carefully gone through the record of yesterday's debate on this subject raised by my friend, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta. I place on the Table of the House the script of Shri Ramachandran's talk on the night of 26th July. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7105/66]

I can assure the House that in inviting him to speak, I was acting in all good faith. The events on the opening day of this session in the House were unprecedented. They must have caused concern and distress to all our countrymen as they did to us. Your fervent appeal on 26th July for the supreme need to respect democratic forms and proprieties of parliamentary behaviour found an extremely encouraging response from practically all corners of the House. Shri Ramachandran's observations appeared to me to

reflect the mood of the House by the universal acclaim that his observations received. I thought it was a part of my duty to reflect this mood of the House, its determination to preserve the sanctity of democratic and parliamentary proprieties, the dignity of the House and the respect of the Chair. To my mind, the compliments that Shri Ramachandran paid to the leaders of the various Opposition groups in the House deserved the fullest publicity and in all good faith I thought the AIR owed it to this House and to the country as a part of its duty to put the entire sequence of events in the proper perspective with a view as much to informing our people and alleviating their feelings of concern and anxiety as to minimising the opportunities for distortion of the image of our parliamentary democracy across our frontiers. It was for this reason I thought it my duty to request Shri Ramachandran by virtue of his record, integrity and independence, to give a talk on the subject over the radio. The sole purpose was that, despite those events, all sections of this House and the country stood solidly dedicated to the principles of parliamentary democracy. I would request my friends to take this assurance from me that no propaganda in favour of the Government or against any Opposition party or group was ever intended, nor any discourtesy to the ruling of the Chair.

Thank you.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : Sir, unfortunately you were not here. I wanted to raise it in the morning but the Deputy Chairman was good enough to allow me to raise it in the afternoon.

Sir, the statement has been made now. Now, this broadcast was made after you had spoken in the House in the morning. And Mr. Ramachandran gave this talk in the evening after the 9 O'Clock news. You said that the matter should be closed and I think the Government knew that you had said that the matter should be closed. After that we all spoke and we spoke as we felt about it; maybe we were right, maybe we were wrong; none the less we spoke. It is quite clear from the Minister's statement that he asked a Member of this House to go to the All India Radio and give his version. May I ask, Sir? Did he consult you, as Chairman of

the House, as to whether such a move would help to maintain the dignity of the House? The Government is a one-party Government and a one-party approach was made and all the other parties were ignored.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh): He did not belong to any party.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Please, let me go on.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Gupta does not want to be disturbed.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I know that democracy with its decadence in the hands of the ruling party goes out smiling a synical smile. History has shown it. Smile as much as you can.

Now, Sir, if the hon. Minister had consulted you, perhaps you would have said, 'Broadcast my speech'. And we would have been satisfied with the reproduction of your entire speech. It is tape recorded here and it could have been put over the Radio, and I would not have come up with any complaint. What he did was to pick up one Member allegedly independent in order that he could be used. I am very sorry. I am not bringing in any privilege motion. Mr. Mani was also approached. See how they pick and choose. None of us were thought of. We are not parliamentarians. We are the charity boys of the ruling Party. We do not know parliamentary procedure. They do not believe us, although some of us get ten million votes. They think of Mr. Ramachandran, who is a nominated Member.

1 P.M.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He did not select from the Congress Party either.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: If they had done it, it would have been daylight robbery. Even that is most dangerous. I would have understood it if they had taken a man from the Congress Party. Perhaps it would have been straightforward and not hypocritical. Of course, the Congress Party controls the Radio and they can do whatever they like, but they choose a nominated Member, a representative of the whole world and humanity, to go there and speak and you will see that he had said all kinds of things. You will see what

a praise was showered on the Congress Party Members. A wonderful thing. Now, did you shower any praise on the Congress Party Members in your speech? You did not. Why did he do so? Why did the All India Radio use this thing? They did not deliberately use your speech because you did not shower any praise on the ruling Party. Therefore, you were ignored, which should not have been done, and Mr. Ramachandran was chosen, so that he could be used. That is number one. This is very important. Mr. Mani, well, I do not know whom he represents, but none the less * * * he is here. Now, he was approached, a great parliamentarian no doubt and we do not understand anything about Parliament. The country looks upon us as parliamentarians, but the All India Radio has ignored us. Will he deny it?

SHRI M. R. SHERVANI (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, on a point of order . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is on some very urgent point of order.

SHRI M. R. SHERVANI: Mr. Bhupesh Gupta has made a statement that the All India Radio is controlled by the Congress Party. If he can make such wild statements, can he be permitted to do so? He has called Mr. A. D. Mani * * * He has said that the All India Radio is controlled by the Congress Party. Can he make that statement?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Literature. Big capitalists do not understand literature, idioms and similes. The capitalist class has forgotten culture. Now, I said the Congress Party because this is a Congress Government. Now, Mr. Chairman, I made one point. During fourteen years many bad incidents too have taken place in Parliament. People may not like it, but never did the Government resort to this tactics. The next day . . .

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Never during the fourteen years did such a thing happen as it happened on that day.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Do not get excited. Now, the point is this. They asked a Member of the House to speak. It has been covered by the All India Radio.

***Expunged as ordered by the Chair

[Shri Bhupesh Gupta.]
in their news on the very same day. In "Today in Parliament" it had been covered. Your speech could have been broadcast. It would have been far better compared to many of the things said here. Nothing of the kind. It was deliberately done. The All India Radio was prostituted in the service of the ruling Party.

HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: This is what I say. That is why Mr. Ramachandran was taken there. Mr. Chairman, I say your speech has been ignored. If the ruling Party ignored your speech, do you expect us . . . well, what do you expect us ?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I expect you to respect it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Then, in the news hardly anything had been said about your speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You asked me what I expected of you and I said I expected you to respect it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: All right, but the All India Radio does not respect it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not know.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Therefore, I say it. Now, Mr. Chairman, protect us against it. I should be defended. All right, Mr. Ramachandran went there, but let me also go and let me also talk to the nation . . .

HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I know about the dignity of Parliament. Mr. Chairman, this is very unfair. I am not asking for any breach of privilege motion at all. I am only saying that if this kind of thing goes on, that All India Radio is being used additionally in this manner by enticing Members of Parliament . . .

(Interruptions)

SHRI A. D. MANI (Madhya Pradesh): Your saying 'enticing' is a breach of privilege.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The Government has enticed . . . (Interruption) I said it is a political enticement.

SHRI A. D. MANI: It is a reflection on a Member of Parliament. You cannot make that reflection.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You never understand anything. I say the Government entices. Mr. Ramachandran certainly was getting himself enticed. The Government tries to entice him and seems to have succeeded from their point of view. Therefore, I say it is entirely wrong. Sir, I would request you to ask the All India Radio not to indulge in such things. Otherwise there will not be decorum in this House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Gupta, you have said enough.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Therefore, I would like to know whether we are being protected against such things.

SHRI ABID ALI (Maharashtra): Mr. Gupta should make an application to the Station Director.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not give him advice.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY (Mysore): Mr. Chairman, with the permission of the Deputy Chairman yesterday I had already raised objection to the broadcast made by Mr. Ramachandran. I had asked the Deputy Chairman to ask you whether it was proper on the part of an hon. Member, who had his own say in the House, to go to the All India Radio to make these broadcasts and whether it was proper on the part of the Minister concerned to invite him to do such a thing.

MR. CHAIRMAN: After the statement which the hon. Minister has made . . .

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Uttar Pradesh): Would you hear for one minute ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: If I give you a minute I will have to provide for some 210 minutes for the others too.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Sir . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would then allow anybody who wants to speak on this

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Sir, before you make any observation, I very humbly submit that in his statement the hon. Minister has not thought of the dignity of the House. Before you make any observation please consider one point of view and I also request the House to consider this point of view. Suppose Mr. Bhupesh Gupta is invited by Moscow Radio tomorrow and Moscow Radio gives worldwide coverage for Mr. Bhupesh Gupta to give his own point of view. May I know whether this House would like it and whether you, Mr. Chairman, would like Indian parliamentary institutions to be given glory or disgrace? You have also to consider that. What has happened should not have happened. The Minister should say that no Member of this House would be allowed to comment on the proceedings of the House. Mr. Chairman, I do not want to say anything else, but please keep in view all the possibilities that may arise. Mr. Bhupesh Gupta may go to Poland or Czechoslovakia or to any other country and Mr. Chairman, you will be criticised and this House will be criticised. It will be inflicting indignity upon this House. The All India Radio in its enthusiasm can do a thing today, but you must also, before saying anything, give some consideration to the consequences in future.

SHRI A. D. MANI : Sir, on a point of order. The hon. Member, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, for whom I have great respect, used certain expressions about me, which should not really go on parliamentary record. Mr. Bhupesh Gupta is a responsible parliamentarian of fourteen years' standing. If a Member like him uses expressions like * * * * and so on, people will have no respect for Parliament....

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You go to All India Radio.

SHRI A. D. MANI : I request that it should be struck off the record.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What portion? He has said many things complimentary.

SHRI A. D. MANI : * * (Interruptions)* Under the rules, if a Member calls Mr. Mani * * * it is not an expression which a Member of Parliament like him should use.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That will be deleted * * That you are a good parliamentarian would stand. He has said you are a good parliamentarian. That would stand.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : It is not unparliamentary.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE (West Bengal) : Sir . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Mr. Chatterjee has something very important to say.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : Yes. Sometimes people require shock treatment. If a Member of Parliament goes out of his way and out of the normal procedure to talk over the All India Radio and comments upon the proceedings in this House, which is none of his business, then I think Mr. Bhupesh Gupta could call him * * *

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am afraid, Mr. Chatterjee, I cannot oblige you. I have expunged that.

श्री गंगाशरण सिंह (बिहार) : जनाब चेयरमैन साहब, श्री जी० रामचन्द्रन ने क्या ब्राडकास्ट किया, यह मैंने नहीं पढ़ा है और न मैंने सुना है लेकिन जो परिस्थिति है उसमें मैं समझता हूँ कि जब कोई विवादास्पद विषय हाउस के सामने हो जिस पर हाउस के लोगों में मतभेद हो और काफी सगर्मी हुई हो तो ऐसे विषय के बारे में पार्लियामेंट के किसी एक मेम्बर को, चाहे वह कितना भी स्वतंत्र क्यों न हो, बुलाकर रेडियो से ब्राडकास्ट कराना उचित नहीं है। मैं उसके टेक्स्ट में नहीं जाना चाहता, मैं उसके मैरिट में नहीं जाना चाहता, लेकिन जब कोई भी कांट्रोवर्सियल सबजेक्ट आये, विवादास्पद चीज आये, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बरों को इसके लिये नहीं बुलाना चाहिये क्योंकि वह अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से पार्लियामेंट की प्रोसीडिंग्स पर कमेंट करने की तरह होगा जो किसी भी मेम्बर के लिये उचित नहीं होगा। मैं समझता हूँ कि आइन्दा के लिये सरकार को इस बात का खयाल रखना चाहिये और पार्लियामेंट

[श्री गंगाधर सिंह ।]

के मेम्बरों को भी इस बात का खयाल रखना चाहिये । जब भी कांट्रोवर्सियल सबजेक्ट, विवादास्पद विषय आये, जिसमें पार्लियामेंट की आलाचना का प्रश्न हो, तो मेरा खयाल है कि सरकार को भी रेडियो पर बोलने के लिये मेम्बर को नहीं बुलाना चाहिये और मेम्बरों को भी अगर सरकार बुलावे भी तो भी नहीं जाना चाहिये । मेरा खयाल है कि इस पर आप गौर करेंगे, नहीं तो एक ऐसी परम्परा कायम हो जाएगी जो परम्परा आगे चल कर पार्लियामेंट को डिगनिटी के लिए बहुत ही घातक होगी ।

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : Sir, may I just say one word ? I have given an assurance that no propaganda was intended in favour of Government or against. I have already made that statement. I do take note of what the Members have expressed. I only want to make it clear that in the case of at least one big democracy I know that Members of Parliament are invited to comment upon the proceedings of the House, and there is nothing wrong in that. The reason why I was impelled to take this step was that after all whatever we say in this House is not confined to this House but it goes to the whole country and it goes abroad. I thought that the image of our country and our democratic functioning must be properly projected not only in our country to alleviate the anxieties of the people but across the frontiers as otherwise they are bound to exploit the situation against us. That was the only intention and it was done in good faith. That assurance must be taken.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I thoroughly understand the motive that you have just mentioned and you were naturally actuated by the best of motives. But the thing that has happened is one which probably should make you more careful in future. If there is any controversy, a Member who has taken part in this controversy or who is part of Parliament should not be asked to comment on it unless you allow other groups also to do so.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Bharat Heavy Plate and Vessels (P) Ltd., New Delhi.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers :—

- (i) Memorandum of Association of the Bharat Heavy Plate and Vessels Private Limited, New Delhi. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6545/66.]
- (ii) Articles of Association of the Bharat Heavy Plate and Vessels Private Limited, New Delhi. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6544/66.]

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE NOTIFICATIONS

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY, TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT AND MATERIALS PLANNING (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Manubhai Shah, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (a) a copy each of five Notifications of the Ministry of Commerce, under sub-section (2) of section 4-A of the Indian Tariff Act, 1934. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6546/66.]
- (b) a copy each of five Notifications of the Ministry of Commerce under sub-section (3) of section 17 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6546/66.]
- (c) a copy each of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Commerce, issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 :—

(i) Notification S.O. No. 1837, dated the 14th June, 1966.

(ii) Notification S.O. No. 1844, dated the 18th June, 1966.

(iii) Notification S.O. No. 1931, dated the 21st June, 1966.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6556/66 for (i) to (ii) and LT-6557/66 for (iii).]