

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Madam, you know points of order are always raised immediately after the Question Hour on points relating to the Question Hour. The hon. Minister should have anticipated. But he has now left and he is not even here to hear what you may say now. The Ministers think they can come and go just as they like, flinging insinuations.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The insinuation part the Chair decides; but the Chair cannot compel any Minister to answer questions in any particular manner.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: On this point, Madam, the rules are very clear. The hon. Minister can seek the protection of the Chair, if it is not in the public interest to give the information.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Yes, only in public interest. The rules are definite that in such a case they can seek your protection and under the rules, the Minister can withhold certain answers or information. But here the Minister did not seek your protection under the rules. He said there were insinuation and then he made a philosophical speech.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh): On a point of order, Madam. To suggestions there is no necessity to answer. If it is not a question . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It was not a suggestion.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Suggestions and recommendations are entirely different from questions. They can ask and get information, but they cannot ask that their suggestions should be accepted.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It was not a suggestion for action at all. What Mr. Vajpayee asked, as the records will show, was not a suggestion for action. It related to certain things which the Government should have done. There was no suggestion for action. He wanted to know what were the reasons for the inaction on the part of the Government.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Moreover, Madam, I did not make any suggestion for action. Even if the Minister thought that it was a suggestion for action that was being made, he should have said that as it was a suggestion for action, he was not prepared to reply. But he only said that I had insinuated something.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He made some remarks and while answering he did give some kind of an answer. What the answer was I cannot recall, but an answer was given to your question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The fact that you could not follow the answer shows that he did not answer it properly. Even the Chair could not understand the answer.

RE. NOTICES OF CALLING ATTENTION MOTIONS

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Regarding the two call attention notices, I may inform the House that the hon. Minister of External Affairs is otherwise busy in the other House and he would like to give the answers himself to these two matters. So, if the House is good enough to give him that indulgence, we could take them up later when after finishing in the other House, the Minister comes here.

SHRI D. L. SEN GUPTA (West Bengal): At 2-30 this afternoon, Madam, there is another scheduled business today. So at what time will this be taken up?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): Madam, today is the last day of this session and there is a report in the newspapers that a certain US. diplomat was behind the canard regarding the U.S. fleet being in the vicinity.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I would request you and say that you may raise that also when the Minister of External Affairs is in the House. Now we pass on to the next item.