

[Mr. Chairman.]

Shri Jagan Nath Kaushal
Shrimati Bedavati Buragohain
Shri Shyam Dhar Misra
Shri D. Y. Pawar
Shaik Galib
Shri N. C. Sekhar
Shri Devendra Prasad Singh.

I nominate Shri Jagan Nath Kaushal to be the Chairman of the Committee.

NOMINATION OF GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

MR. CHAIRMAN: I hereby constitute a new General Purposes Committee consisting of the following Members:—

Shri S. V. Krishnamoorthy Rao
Shri Govind Ballabh Pant
Shri P. N. Saprú
Shri Mohamed Valiulla
Shrimati Maya Devi Chettry
Dr. R. B. Gour
Shri Jagan Nath Kaushal
Dr. W. S. Barlingay
Shri Bhupesh Gupta
Shri V. K. Dhage
Shri Ganga Sharan Sinha
Shri H. D. Rajah
Shri M. Govinda Reddy
Shri Mahesh Saran
Captain Awadhesh Pratap Singh
Shri R. S. Doogar.

I appoint Shri S. V. Krishnamoorthy Rao to be the Chairman of the Committee.

RESULT OF ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES

MR. CHAIRMAN: The following Members being the only candidates

nominated for election to the Committees respectively shown against each, I hereby declare them to be duly elected to be Members of the said Committees:—

Shri Amar Nath Agrawal—The Board of Governor of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur.

Dr. Nihar Ranjan Ray—The Central Advisory Board of Education.

Shri B. P. Basappa Shetty—The Coffee Board.

Dr. P. J. Thomas—The Rubber Board.

ALLOTMENT OF TIME FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTION RE REPORT OF THE U.P.S.C. FOR THE YEAR 1956-57

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that under Rule 153 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I have allotted two hours for the consideration of Dr. Nihar Ranjan Ray's motion in respect of the Report of the Union Public Service Commission.

REFERENCE TO THE POWERS OF HOUSE COMMITTEE

SHRI V. K. DHAGE (Bombay): With your permission, Sir, I would make a submission to you. I have been a member of the House Committee for the last year. I find that the powers of the House Committee are usurped by another Committee which has no constitutional existence and this Committee has been acting in a very autocratic and undemocratic manner.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): Which Committee is that?

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: That was a Joint Committee of the Chairmen. That has no existence. In this regard, I submit that your authority also in this respect has been by-passed. * * * * We have raised questions in this regard. I request you to see that the powers of the House Committee of the Rajya Sabha are maintained strictly and no violation of it takes place hereafter. I submit that you should look into the matter and pass necessary orders.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have sufficient confidence in the House Committee of this Rajya Sabha and when it includes Members like Mr. Dhage in it, I have no doubt . . .

SHRI R. S. DOOGAR (West Bengal): For the last six years.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has been there. And if it has acted autocratically, undemocratically and violated the privileges of the Chair and by-passed other people, you have as much responsibility for it as anybody else.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: No, no, that is not the point. It is not the House Committee of the Rajya Sabha. * * * * Therefore, I have given notice for this to be put on the agenda but it has not been included. Meetings had to be held but no meetings have been held. It is the Joint Committee of the Chairmen that I am referring to.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are the Chairman of the House Committee?

SHRI R. S. DOOGAR: I am the caretaker Chairman. A new Chairman is taking office from the 22nd. As regards the points raised by Mr. Dhage, I have only this much to say. Mr. Dhage has been on the Committee for the last six years.

***Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: I have not been there for the last six years. I have been there only for the last year.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He means you not individually.

DR. R. B. GOUR (Andhra Pradesh): The Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of the two Chairmen.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: If you read the minutes of the meetings of the House Committee, you will find that there has been a Committee of the Chairmen . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is standing and you are talking.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: We have to see whether there is a Joint Committee of the Chairmen, whether the Joint Committee of the Chairmen has any existence or any authority.

SHRI R. S. DOOGAR: There has been a properly constituted Joint Committee of the Chairmen.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: On what basis was it constituted?

MR. CHAIRMAN: This question also?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I hope your great confidence will be matched by greater vigilance. How has it been constituted? Under what rules and under what authority and in what manner that Joint Committee came into existence? We are interested to know under what rules or in what manner this particular Committee came into existence, this Committee within a Committee?

DR. R. B. GOUR: A supper Committee?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: That is precisely the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have appointed Mr. Kaushal as the Chairman. I will wait until he takes charge and gives a report.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: But you should hear our side of the case also, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You must give notice of a motion. Can't discuss it in the air.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: It is entirely in your discretionary power. This Committee has been appointed—this House Committee—now and I would like to make an observation. I would like you to hear our side of the case, if not here and now, at any other time.

REFERENCE TO NON-INCLUSION IN THE LIST OF BUSINESS OF THE ITEM RELATING TO DISCUSSION ON FOOD SITUATION

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): I want to raise a question of privilege.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your own point? Nothing to do with the House Committee?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: No, Sir, nothing to do with the House Committee, but wherever privilege is violated I shall seek your indulgence to speak.

Sir, it will be for you to consider first, whether this constitutes a matter of privilege; secondly whether in this particular case there has been a breach of privilege.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Or not.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: When I am making this statement, I want to make it clear at the very beginning that I make no reflection on even the Secretariat of this House, let alone the Chair. The question does not arise. Well, certain facts are before me and I have to deal with them as objectively and impartially as possible.

You are, no doubt, aware, Sir, that on last Tuesday, we had a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee of this House and you were good enough, in the absence of our party Member on the Committee, to allow me to participate in that meeting.

That meeting was attended among others by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs as well as the Leader of this House. Therefore, it was a very competent meeting to take decisions on certain matters with regard to the business of this House, in view of the fact that our session was coming to a close. Sir, I had given notice for a discussion on the food situation, and I must tell the House that I received very sympathetic consideration from you over that motion, and I got the impression that you too were interested in having a discussion on that motion. The Leader of the House was present and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs was also present and the business for the rest of the session was fixed and time allotted for each item. Our esteemed Deputy Chairman was good enough to announce in this House about the items that would be taken up in this session and the time allotted for each. And here in the Rajya Sabha Parliamentary Bulletin Nos. 4595—4602 there is a heading "Allocation of time for Government and other Business", and it is stated here as follows:

"The Deputy Chairman made the following announcement in the House today:—

'I have to inform Members that the Business Advisory Committee at its sitting held today has recommended allotment of time as follows for Government and other business during the remaining part of the current session of the Rajya Sabha.' "

Mark the words 'during the remaining part of the current session'. And then certain items are included and time for each item is also indicated. And the 10th item is "Discussion on Food Situation—2 hrs.". Sir, when this was