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Friday, December 8, 2023

Agrahayana 17, 1945 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fourteenth Session

(Seventeenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XXVIII contains Nos. 1 to 14)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

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CONTENTS

Seventeenth Series, Vol. XXVIII, Fourteenth Session, 2023/1945 (Saka)

No. 5, Friday, December 08, 2023/ Agrahayana 17, 1945 (Saka)

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>PAGES</u>
RESIGNATION BY MEMBERS	9
PANEL OF CHAIRPERSONS	10-12
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	13
Starred Question Nos. 81 to 100	
Unstarred Question Nos. 921 to 956, 958 to 1147, 1149 and 1150	

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE 14-31**COMMITTEE ON ETHICS**1st Report 31**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS**20th Report 32**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORT, TOURISM AND
CULTURE**360th to 363rd Reports 33-35**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE** 36-39**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377** 39-44(i) Need to compensate the martyrs of
democracy**Shri Abdul Khaleque** 39

- (ii) Regarding stoppage of trains at Kasargod Railway Station in Kerala

Shri Rajmohan Unnithan

40-41

- (iii) Need to regulate the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the Country

Shri P. V. Midhun Reddy

41-42

- (iv) Need for compilation and publication of data pertaining to tribal people on the official website of Ministry of Tribal Affairs

Shri Rajendra Dhedya Gavit

43

- (v) Need to run a passenger train between Bagaha and Patna in Bihar

Shri Sunil Kumar

44

MOTION RE: 1st REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

45-90

**MOTION RE: CONCURRENCE WITH 91-93
RECOMMENDATIONS IN FIRST REPORT OF
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS**

**MOTION RE: EXPULSION OF SHRIMATI 93-97
MAHUA MOITRA, MP BASED ON FIRST
REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ETHICS**

OFFICERS OF LOK SABHA

THE SPEAKER

Shri Om Birla

PANEL OF CHAIRPERSONS

Shrimati Rama Devi

Dr. (Prof.) Kirit Premjibhai Solanki

Shri Rajendra Agrawal

Shri Kodikunnil Suresh

Shri A. Raja

Shri P. V. Midhun Reddy

Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab

Shri N. K. Premachandran

Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar

Shri Shrirang Appa Barne

SECRETARY GENERAL

Shri Utpal Kumar Singh

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, December 08, 2023/ Agrahayana 17, 1945 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[**HON. SPEAKER** *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Please wait for a moment. First, let me mention two things.

... *(Interruptions)*

11. 0½ hrs

RESIGNATION BY MEMBERS

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House that the following elected Members of the Lok Sabha have resigned from the membership of Lok Sabha:-

- 1) Shrimati Renuka Singh Saruta elected from Surguja Parliamentary Constituency, Chhattisgarh,
- 2) Shri Balak Nath elected from Alwar Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan.

I have accepted their resignations with effect from 7 December, 2023.

11. 01 hrs

PANEL OF CHAIRPERSONS

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House that under Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I have nominated Shri Shrirang Appa Barne as a Member of the Panel of Chairpersons.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Question Hour.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR):

Sir, kindly allow me to raise a brief point. *... (Interruptions)*

DR. MOHAMMAD JAVED (KISHANGANJ): Sir, this is injustice.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: No injustice is taking place during the Question Hour. Is there a specific issue that needs to be addressed?

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: No such issue has come up as of yet. Let's proceed with the Question Hour for now.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: Sir, a female Member is being treated in such a way in the House. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: We have not taken any topic yet. What topic do you like to discuss? Is there any issue for the Question Hour?

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: Sir, a female Member in the House should be provided the opportunity to express her views. What is happening here? ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the time of Question Hour is yours. During Question Hour, you all can ask questions. I will allow everyone to ask questions. You can speak on this matter when it will be taken up. The matter hasn't been taken up yet. What matter are you speaking about?

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: Sir, let me speak for a moment. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: No, it is not in accordance with the rules and procedures of Parliament. It is in the List of Business, but you can

make your point when the matter of List of Business is taken up. I will give you ample time and adequate opportunity to speak on that matter as well.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Don't you want the House to function?

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: Sir, we want it to function. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Don't you want the House to function?

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Don't you want the Question Hour to take place?

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: I am requesting you to let the Question Hour take place as it is important.

... *(Interruptions)*

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS*(Starred Question Nos. 81 to 100****Unstarred Question Nos. 921 to 956, 958 to 1147,
1149 and 1150)**

HON. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 12. 00 Noon today.

... (Interruptions)

11. 04 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Twelve of the Clock.

* For Questions, please refer to Master copy of Original version of Debates, placed in the Library.

you can also visit <https://sansad.in/ls/questions/questions-and-answers> for more information.

12. 00 hrs

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twelve of the Clock.

(Shri Rajendra Agrawal in the Chair)

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, I have received notices of Adjournment Motion on certain matters. Hon. Speaker has not allowed any notice of Adjournment Motion.

... (Interruptions)

12. 01 hrs**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Now, the papers will be laid on the Table.

Item No. -2, Shri Shripad Yesso Naik ji.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS, AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section 1(b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Kamarajar Port Limited, Chennai, for the year 2022-2023.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Kamarajar Port Limited, Chennai, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10184/17/23]

- (2)
- (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Authority, Kolkata, for the year 2022-2023.
 - (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port

Authority, Kolkata, for the year 2022-2023, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Authority, Kolkata, for the year 2022-2023.
- (iv) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) on the Audited Accounts of the Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Authority, Kolkata, for the year 2022-2023.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10185/17/23]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cochin Port Authority, Kochi, for the year 2022-2023.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Cochin Port Authority, Kochi, for the year 2022-2023, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Cochin Port Authority, Kochi, for the year 2022-2023.

- (iv) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) on the Audited Accounts of the Cochin Port Authority, Kochi, for the year 2022-2023.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10186/17/23]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mormugao Port Authority, Mormugao, for the year 2022-2023.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Mormugao Port Authority, Mormugao, for the year 2022-2023, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mormugao Port Authority, Mormugao, for the year 2022-2023.
- (iv) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) on the Audited Accounts of the Mormugao Port Authority, Mormugao, for the year 2022-2023.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10187/17/23]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mumbai Port Authority, Mumbai, for the year 2022-2023.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Mumbai Port Authority, Mumbai, for the year 2022-2023, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mumbai Port Authority, Mumbai, for the year 2022-2023.
- (iv) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) on the Audited Accounts of the Mumbai Port Authority, Mumbai, for the year 2022-2023.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10188/17/23]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mumbai Port Authority Pension Fund Trust, Mumbai, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mumbai Port Authority Pension Fund Trust, Mumbai, for the year 2022-2023.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10189/17/23]

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: What has happened? All of you may take your seats. Please take your seats.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. -3, Prof. Shri S. P. Singh Baghel.

... *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. S. P. SINGH BAGHEL): Hon. Chairperson Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 52 of the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021 and Section 44 of the Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Act, 2021:-

- (1) S. O. 3859(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st September, 2023 notifying members, mentioned therein, as members in respective categories in the UT Board for the UT of Chandigarh.
- (2) S. O. 4079(E) published in Gazette of India dated 15th September, 2023 notifying revised composition of National Assisted Reproductive Technology and Surrogacy Board for the purposes of the Assisted

Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Act, 2021 and the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021 by modifying Para (f) of the notification of even no. dated 4th May, 2022.

- (3) S. O. 4554(E) published in Gazette of India dated 17th October, 2023 notifying revised composition of National Assisted Reproductive Technology and Surrogacy Board for the purposes of the Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Act, 2021 and the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021 by modifying Para (d) (ii) of the notification of even no. dated 4th May, 2022.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10190/17/23]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. -4, Shri Ajay Bhatt ji.

... (Interruptions)

Shri Arjun Lal Meghwal ji.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): Hon. Chairperson Sir, on behalf of Hon. Minister of State for Defence, Shri Ajay Bhatt, I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, Pune, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, Pune, for the year 2022-2023.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10191/17/23]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi, for the year 2022-2023.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10192/17/23]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Air Power Studies, New Delhi, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Air Power Studies, New Delhi, for the year 2022-2023.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10193/17/23]

(4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section 1(b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:-

(a) (i) Review by Government of the working of the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2022-2023.

(ii) Annual Report of the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10194/17/23]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the BEML Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2022-2023.

(ii) Annual Report of the BEML Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10195/17/23]

(c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bengaluru, for the year 2022-2023.

(ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bengaluru, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10196/17/23]

(d) (i) Review by Government of the working of the Goa Shipyard Limited, Vasco-Da-Gama, for the year 2022-2023.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Goa Shipyard Limited, Vasco-Da-Gama, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10197/17/23]
- (e)
 - (i) Review by Government of the working of the Bharat Electronics Limited, Bengaluru, for the year 2022-2023.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Electronics Limited, Bengaluru, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10198/17/23]
- (f)
 - (i) Review by Government of the working of the Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam, for the year 2022-2023.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts and

comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10199/17/23]

(g) (i) Review by Government of the working of the Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 2022-2023.

(ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10200/17/23]

(h) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited, Chennai, for the year 2022-2023.

(ii) Annual Report of the Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited, Chennai, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10201/17/23]

- (i) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Troop Comforts Limited, Kanpur, for the year 2022-2023.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Troop Comforts Limited, Kanpur, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10202/17/23]
 - (j) (i) Review by Government of the working of the Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2022-2023.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10203/17/23]
- (5) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):-

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between Bharat Electronics Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence for the year 2023-2024.
- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence for the year 2023-2024.
- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence for the year 2023-2024.
- (iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the Goa Shipyard Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence for the year 2023-2024.
- (v) Memorandum of Understanding between the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited and the

Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence for the year 2023-2024.

- (vi) Memorandum of Understanding between the Hindustan Shipyard Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence for the year 2023-2024. . . .
(Interruptions)

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10204/17/23]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (DR. R. K. RANJAN SINGH):

Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Campus Development Project, South Asian University, New Delhi, for the year ended 31st December, 2022, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (2) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Campus Development Project, South Asian University, New Delhi, for the year ended 31st December, 2022. ... (Interruptions)

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10205/17/23]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 38 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940:-

- (i) The Drugs (Eighth Amendment) Rules, 2022 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 823(E) in Gazette of India dated 17th November, 2022.
- (ii) The New Drugs and Clinical Trials (Amendment) Rules, 2023 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 175(E) in Gazette of India dated 13th March, 2023.
- (iii) The Medical Devices (Amendment) Rules, 2023 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 409(E) in Gazette of India dated 2nd June, 2023.
- (iv) The Drugs (Amendment) Rules, 2023 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 410(E) in Gazette of India dated 2nd June, 2023.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10206/17/23]

(2) A copy of the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions 6th (Removal of Difficulties) Order, 2023 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S. O. 4773(E) in Gazette of India dated 3rd November, 2023, under sub-section (2) of Section 69 of the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions Act, 2021. ... (*Interruptions*)

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 10207/17/23]

12. 04 hrs

At this stage, Shri Kalyan Banerjee and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

... (Interruptions)

12. 04¼ hrs**COMMITTEE ON ETHICS****1st Report**

[Translation]

SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR (KAUSHAMBI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the First Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Ethics. . . . *(Interruptions)*

12. 04½ hrs

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN
AFFAIRS**

20th Report

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ‘LALAN’ (MUNGER): Sir, I beg to present the Twentieth Report (Hindi and English versions) (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Seventeenth Report of the Standing Committee on Housing and Urban Affairs (2022-23) on the subject, 'Evaluation of Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban)'.

... (*Interruptions*)

12. 05 hrs

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT, TOURISM
AND CULTURE**

360th to 363rd Reports

[English]

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN (VADAKARA): Sir, I rise to lay on the Table the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture:-

(1) Three Hundred Sixtieth Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations of the Committee contained in its Three Hundred Forty First Report on Demands for Grants (2023-24) of Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways;

(2) Three Hundred Sixty First Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations of the Committee contained in its Three Hundred Twenty Fifth Report on 'Issues relating to Road Sector';

(3) Three Hundred Sixty Second Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations of the Committee contained in its Three Hundred Forty Second Report on

Demands for Grants (2023-24) of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways; and

(4) Three Hundred Sixty Third Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations of the Committee contained in its Three Hundred Twenty Fourth Report on 'Issues relating to Untraceable Monuments and Protection of Monuments in India'.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please take your seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The report has just been presented on the Table of the House. The House will take a decision on that.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please, listen.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please listen to the Hon. Minister. He is reading the statement.

... (*Interruptions*)

12. 06 hrs

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, with your permission, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing Monday, the 11th of December, 2023 will consist of:-

1. Consideration of any items of Government Business carried over from today's order paper [it contains: - (i) Discussion and voting on First Batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2023-24 and introduction, consideration and passing of the Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2023; (ii) Discussion and voting on the Demands for Excess Grants for the year 2020-21 and introduction, consideration and passing of the related Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2023; and (iii) Consideration and passing of the Post Office Bill, 2023].
2. Consideration and passing of the following Bills:-
 - (i) The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023;

- (ii) The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023;
- (iii) The Bhartiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023;
- (iv) The Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Castes Order (Amendment) Bill, 2023; and
- (v) The Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Bill, 2023.

3. Consideration and passing of the Press and Registration of Periodicals Bill, 2023, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

4. Consideration and passing of the following Bills, after their introduction:-

- (i) The Central Goods and Services Tax (Second) Amendment Bill, 2023; and

- (ii) The Provisional Collection of Taxes Bill, 2023.

5. Consideration and passing of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Bill, 2023, after it is passed by Rajya Sabha.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please sit down.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The House now stands adjourned to meet again at 2.00 p.m.

12. 07 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.

14. 02 hrs

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Two Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(Hon. Speaker in the Chair)

14. 02½ hrs**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377***

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Those hon. Members who have been permitted to raise matters under Rule 377 today may personally lay the approved text of their matters on the table of the House.

(i) Need to compensate the martyrs of democracy

[English]

SHRI ABDUL KHALEQUE (BARPETA): The nation is debating over the issue of saving democracy and compulsory voting. But as a nation, what have we done to safeguard the voters who go to polling stations to keep the flag of democracy flying? There have been umpteen number of cases where voters have lost their lives while upholding democracy would like to remind the House that thousands of lives were lost at Nellie and other places of Assam in 1983 while upholding democracy, but nothing has been

*Treated as laid on the Table.

done so far to honour the martyrs of democracy. No compensation is given to the families of those who lost their lives or any kind of assurances from the government. However, the feeling is that it is only for the electorate to uphold democracy. The government too needs to act in this regard. There is a need to safeguard those who vote. All democratic institutions must be strengthened and no organisation should stand as a hurdle in the democratic process. Therefore, I urge upon the Union Minister of Home Affairs to compensate the martyrs of democracy adequately and set up a system by which martyrs and if any, in future, are honoured and their families taken care of.

(ii) Regarding stoppage of trains at Kasargod Railway Station in Kerala

SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN (KASARAGOD): Kasargod is suffering mostly by due to the step-motherly attitude of the Railways towards the North Malabar. Most of the trains coming from South Kerala terminates at Kannur and thereby Kasaragod is isolated from the rest of Kerala. Most of the Konkan trains have no stoppage at Kasargod district. When the railway passengers of Kasargod ventilate their grievances and demand more trains, reinstating the suspended stops and to solve the train travel woes

experienced in the district during evening and night time, the Railway rejects them citing poor patronage in the stations in Kasaragod. It is illogical to look at Kasargod district through the prism of revenue, since Mangalore is a central destination station, after Kannur in this region. Stops have been sanctioned at many other places where the income is less than the stations in Kasaragod where the stoppages have been refused. The stoppages were suspended during the Covid epidemic at many stations like Kanhangad, Payyannur, Payangadi, Kannapuram etc. Kumbala have 30 Acres unutilised land. These stoppages have not been reinstated despite many requests. Hence, I request the Hon'ble Minister of Railways to reinstate the suspended stoppages and to sanction the long-demanded stoppages at many stations having high passengers and good revenue.

(iii) Need to regulate the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the country

SHRI P. V. MIDHUN REDDY (RAJAMPET): India benefits from the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) practices and initiatives to meet societal demands in sectors like healthcare, education, agriculture, smart cities, and Infrastructure, including smart mobility and transportation, using such dynamic data. In order to

hold developers and users responsible for any damage caused by AI technology, measures must be put in place as AI gets more complicated and autonomous. An important concern is the potential for AI to propagate biases or discriminate against specific populations. If passed, the Personal Data Protection Bill would be a great benefit. Additional clauses could be added to deal with particular problems such as data anonymization, permission procedures, and cross-border data flows. The rising cases of misuse of AI such as ChatGpt in academia, hinder innovation and block creativity. India should collaborate closely with countries that have enacted legislation, such as the United States, the European Union (the AI Act categorises AI into four severity levels), Canada (the Artificial Intelligence Data Act, which lays the groundwork for the design, development, and deployment of AI), Spain, the Philippines, and others. Thus, I request that the Government consider the need for AI regulation laws in the country for the well-being of citizens.

(iv) Need for compilation and publication of data pertaining to tribal people on the official website of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA DHEDYA GAVIT (PALGHAR): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a serious matter which requires urgent attention. There is lack of comprehensive data on tribal population in our country. As per the 2011 Census report, tribes constitute 8.6% of the population of India. However, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs is dependent on other Ministries and State Governments for data at present. It is imperative to set up a database involving various indicators, which will serve as a basis for informed policy making, development initiatives and protection of rights. Further, it will act as an important tool for monitoring the progress and effectiveness of development programmes. I request the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to consider upon compilation of data and creation of a comprehensive database which can be made available on its official website. This initiative will undoubtedly contribute significantly in addressing the current data shortage and facilitating more effective and appropriate governance for tribal communities.

**(v) Need to run a passenger train between Bagaha and Patna
in Bihar**

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR (VALMIKI NAGAR): I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Railways regarding an important matter. Located on the India-Nepal border, Valmiki Nagar is more than 250 kilometers away from the State capital, Patna. The residents of the Lok Sabha constituency have to commute to Patna in order to receive better treatment, conducting business, and for other works. They have to pay additional travel charges for this purpose, and it also takes a long time. I am constantly striving to ensure the passenger train operates from Bagaha to Patna and in this regard, I have met with the Minister of Railways and the Railway Chairman to apprise them of the situation on the ground and I was also assured that the operations of the passenger train will commence soon. No meaningful step has been taken in this regard, even after more than two years have passed. Therefore, I would once again urge the Minister of Railways to operationalize the passenger train service from Bagaha to Patna in the interest of the public as soon as possible.

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister.

14. 03 hrs

MOTION RE: 1st REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

[English]

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS,
MINISTER OF COAL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI
PRALHAD JOSHI):** Sir, I beg to move:

“That this House do take up for the consideration the First Report of the Committee on Ethics on complaint dated 15 October, 2023 given by Dr. Nishikant Dubey, MP against Shrimati Mahua Moitra, MP for alleged direct involvement in the cash for query in the Parliament with reference to the examination/investigation of unethical conduct of Shrimati Mahua Moitra, MP laid on the Table of the House on 08 December, 2023.” ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (KOLKATA UTTAR):
Hon. Speaker, Sir, please allow Sushri Mahua ji to speak. ...
(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: One Minute please.

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, the copy of the Motion is not with us. We do not have the copy of the Motion. ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): The copy has been uploaded. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the matter that is being taken for discussion today as well as the motion has been moved by the Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is unfortunate for all of us also. But on several occasions, we come across such a situation that obligates this House to take appropriate decision towards itself in discharge of its duties in the national interest.

Hon. Members, parliamentary democracy is driven by rules and high decorum. This House is the supreme institution of the country. During the last 75 years of our democratic journey, a higher noble decorum of our democracy has been established. The entire country looks to us for high parliamentary conventions. It is

by virtue of these very traditions that our democracy holds a unique identity across the world.

Hon. Members, during the glorious journey of the last 75 years, our democracy has continuously evolved into vibrant and matured. Our credibility among the people has increased continuously. People have elected us to this House so that we can make endeavours for their development and welfare and fulfill their hopes and aspirations by sitting in this House. However, in this glorious journey of our democracy, from time to time, we have come across such occasions when we have taken appropriate decisions to maintain the dignity, prestige and high standards of the House. The high dignity and democratic values of this House are the basic principles which cannot be compromised in any way. In this backdrop, it is our responsibility to discharge our responsibilities to protect these principles with pure conscience, honesty and devotion to duty. We should maintain purity in our high conduct and our conduct should not hurt anyone in any way. Our conduct should not be such that may potentially create a room of doubt; our conduct should not be such that it undermines the high dignity and prestige of democracy. It is the collective and supreme responsibility of all of us as Members of this House to maintain and enhance the uniqueness and high standards of this House.

Hon. Members, I am aware that the topic we will be discussing here is one that we are all talking about collectively, sympathetically, and sensitively. I always strive that I neither suspend any Member from the House nor take any action against them. I always try to ensure that all the Members get adequate opportunities and time. From time to time, I also tried to maintain the decorum of the House and if some tough decisions had to be taken, it was embarked upon just for the sake of upholding that dignity which is why even today we are discussing it taking the decorum of the House above all other considerations. In such circumstances, it is the collective responsibility of all of us to uphold the glory, honour, ethics and identity of this House intact.

I hope that when we discuss this issue, the high dignity of the House will be maintained in such a way that may foster the faith and trust of the people in this House throughout the country. Even personally, our conduct towards the people who have elected us to this House should be such that we can maintain the high dignity of democracy. I allow a maximum of a half an hour discussion on this matter under Rule 316E (2).

[English]

Motion moved:

“That this House do take up for the consideration the First Report of the Committee on Ethics on complaint dated 15 October, 2023 given by Dr. Nishikant Dubey, MP against Shrimati Mahua Moitra, MP for alleged direct involvement in the cash for query in the Parliament with reference to the examination/investigation of unethical conduct of Shrimati Mahua Moitra, MP laid on the Table of the House on 08 December, 2023.”

[Translation]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Hon. Speaker, Sir, there are so many parties represented in this House and the discussion cannot be completed within thirty minutes. I, therefore, request that the allotted time be increased. How will all the parties be able to put forth their views if only half an hour is given?

HON. SPEAKER: Alright.

Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury.

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR): Sir, you expressed your anguish and after listening to that, we are sure that whether somebody stays with us or not, Hon. Speaker will

definitely take the right decision in the right direction as our Custodian.

Sir, I will share two or three minor points since Manish Tewari ji would be speaking on this issue on behalf of our party. Today, the report of the Committee on Ethics has been laid on the Table of the House after 12 o'clock. Alongwith this, the discussion on the issue started at 2 pm. I will try to show you the report that we have got. It is 106 pages long. Furthermore, with all of the annexures and other materials, it comprises of 495 pages.

I am intrigued to know that whether it's a Member or someone else who is in such a haste. We have got the time period of only two hours, and in fact, it's not even two hours. It took me thirty to forty-five minutes to download it after leaving this House after twelve o'clock. It has 406 pages. Is there any person who has such a capability to be able to read all of the papers in such haste and if it has got any errors, can he still pick up on the smallest details?

I would like to ask a question only by common sense. Therefore, I on my behalf and on behalf of my party would like to request that we should be given the time of three to four days so that we may go through it properly and then discuss it in details following the decorum of the House in the manner as you wish. Since this is a serious matter, we should have a thorough discussion

in the House while upholding the decorum and high standards of dignity of the House. It will serve as a precedent. This new House is going to set a precedent. Therefore, let there be no flows in this precedent.

I would like to share a small thing. Imagine that a person who has been given the death penalty in court is asked by the judge if he has anything to say. We refer to it as natural justice. The word "Audi alteram partem" has been mentioned in the books of law. It means that as per the principles of natural justice, the person, against whom a complaint has been filed, should be provided an opportunity to express his side.

Mahua Moitra ji should at least be given an opportunity to respond since her name has been mentioned and referred to, and there are complaints against her. Sir, you tell us yourself. I am leaving it on your decision.

This new House should not open a new. . . *chapter. . . .
(Interruptions)

I have a doubt about this. . . . (Interruptions) The House in which women are glorified, . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Sir, this has to be expunged. ...

(Interruptions). That has to be expunged. ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation] What is happening, sir? ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: We will expunge the . . . * word.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Sir, the discussion should be on merit.

The discussion should be centred around the matter which is in the report. . . . *(Interruptions)* When ten Members were suspended in

2005, the report was presented on the same day and even at that time, those 10 Members were not given an opportunity to present

their case. ... *(Interruptions)* It is on record. ... *(Interruptions)* As

far as I know, Hon. Somnath Chatterjee ji had given the ruling over it. ... *(Interruptions)* What are they talking about? ...

(Interruptions) And. . . saying * etc. ... *(Interruptions)* what has happened. Our nation has the largest and most vibrant democracy

in the world. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: Sir, hon. Minister does not have the courage to listen. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Right now, . . . * of our democracy, let us talk about. . . * . . . *(Interruptions)*

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: What more have I asked for?... *(Interruptions)* Here, we have the hon. Defence Minister sitting here. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Manish Tewari ji.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANISH TEWARI (ANANDPUR SAHIB): Hon. Speaker Sir, it has been thirty-one years since I started practice as an advocate. Often, there have been such situations where one has to argue the case without any time for preparation. Perhaps, for the first time today, I stand here to participate in a discussion without going through any paper. It is a big irony that a report is laid on the Table at 12 p. m. and it is taken for discussion at 2 p. m.

As Shri Adhir Ranjan ji said, if we were given two-three days to go through this report, the Heavens would not have fallen. We would have gone through this report taking cognizance of the matter therein and presented our views in an informed way, as this House is going to take decision on a very sensitive matter.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would want to talk about four or five very basic points that are related to natural justice and the fundamental rights.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, my first question is this. *[English]* Can the procedure of the Ethics Committee override the fundamental principle of natural justice which is the organizing principle of every justice system in the world? *[Translation]* I am saying this because it became quite evident from what we have read in the newspapers that people who were implicated and accused were not even given the opportunity to completely voice their opinions. What

kind of procedure is this? ... (*Interruptions*) What sort of judicial process is this? ... (*Interruptions*) Therefore, as per the fundamental principle of natural justice, the person against whom charges are leveled, or the person accused should get a fair chance to represent his/her case; he/she should get a chance to cross-examine the person who had made the allegation. To the best of my knowledge, neither Sushri Mahua Moitra nor any of her lawyers got a chance to cross-examine the complainant.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, my second question is related to the fact that I read the Rule 316(D) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha carefully. It is written there that, [*English*] "The recommendations of the Committee shall be presented to the House in the form of a report." [*Translation*] Now I want to ask a basic question that there are difference between two things in the criminal law. "Conviction" and "sentencing" are two different things. The Ethics Committee can suggest that a person is guilty or innocent, but it cannot recommend what punishment should be given? [*English*] There is a fundamental distinction. That power lies with this House. The Ethics Committee at best can make a recommendation whether a person is guilty or a person is innocent. It is this House sitting as a jury which has the powers to decide the quantum of punishment, Mr. Speaker. Therefore, the

recommendation of the Ethics Committee is fundamentally flawed in my respectful submission.

[Translation]

Hon. Speaker Sir, my third question is that today all the parties have issued 'Three Line Whip'. I want to ask a basic question.

[English] Today, this House is sitting as a judge and a jury. In an impeachment proceeding or when you are considering the report of the Privileges Committee or you are considering the report of the Ethics Committee, can a party direct its Members to vote in a particular way? Can a Whip even be issued because this is like directing a Judge to decide a matter in a particular manner? This is a complete travesty of justice.

First of all, Hon. Speaker, Sir, this House should be adjourned. All the Whips should be withdrawn from all the sides because we are not sitting as ordinary Members of this House. We are sitting as Judges in a Jury in order to decide the fate of one of our hon. colleagues, and I am afraid that cannot be done through whip-driven terror. ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

Hon. Speaker Sir, I have not concluded yet. At the moment I am on the basic questions, and I have not even come to the report.

Please listen, because these are very basic questions. The next question I want to ask you is that ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Are you debating in Parliament or in the court?

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Hon. Speaker, Sir, this is a Court. . . . *(Interruptions)* *[English]* Today we are sitting as a court. We are not sitting as a Parliament. ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, this is not a court.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, this is Parliament, not the Court.

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Today we are sitting as Judges to decide the fate of one of our colleagues. ... *(Interruptions)*

We are not sitting as a Parliament today. We are sitting as a Judge and a jury. There is a fundamental distinction between the two. ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, please wait a minute.

Hon. Members, this is the Parliament, not the court. You are a senior Member. You yourself and the leader of your party ought to see what you are saying.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: No. This is not a court.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Sir, I want to express this with all my humility. . . . *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: I am not a judge. I am the Chair.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Sir, over the past four to almost five years, I have never disagreed with your point. I have complied with all of your rulings, but today it is unfortunate. Since we are not sitting as a Parliament today, I shall have to disagree with you. *[English]* Today, we are sitting as a jury, we are sitting as Judges to decide the fate of one of our colleagues. My next question is this. . . . *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, please wait a minute.

There is a difference between judiciary and this House. You are a senior advocate. The House is making the decision here, not me.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: No, please don't put the wrong arguments here. These things go on record.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You should not argue in a wrong manner. I'm not a judge. I am the Chair and this House will take the decision.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: All parties have issued a whip. . . .
(Interruptions) We have not instructed you to vote in this manner only. We have issued a whip to be present. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: I told you because you said so. I told you as you mentioned me.

Please take your seat for a minute. This House is making decisions, and it makes the final decision.

Now you speak.

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: With all due respect and humility, I would like to know if this can be said to a judge or justice. *[English]* Can he be directed to decide in a particular manner? When you issue

whip under tenth schedule, you are virtually directing your Members to decide in a particular manner. It is the complete antithesis of natural justice. ... (*Interruptions*) The fundamental principles of natural justice have been thrown to the winds in this House. I would urge you that the whip needs to be withdrawn because we are sitting as a jury. ... (*Interruptions*) The whip needs to be withdrawn. ... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

Sir, in my life, I have never witnessed a House sitting to take a decision and being instructed through a whip that it must make a decision in specific way. It must make a decision in a particular manner, not by using its wisdom, consciousness, and sense of justice.

HON. SPEAKER: Dr. Heena Vijaykumar Gavitji.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Sir, I get to the next point. . . .
(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: One minute, you please conclude.

[*English*]

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Sir, Article 105 of the Constitution gives powers, privileges and immunities to the Members of

Parliament. I want to read out Article 105 (2). Article 105 (2) says: “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. ”

Article 105 (2) was inserted into the Constitution in order to give complete immunity – I stress the words ‘complete immunity’ – to a Member for anything said or done in the House. He cannot even be, his conduct cannot even be called into question in a court of law. So, the question is when your conduct cannot be called into question in a court of law, can your conduct be called into question in this august Chamber? ... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

HON. SPEAKER: Dr. Heena Gavit Ji.

... (*Interruptions*)

DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT (NANDURBAR): Hon.

Speaker Sir, it is very sad that we have to hold this discussion on this matter in the Parliament today. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Gavit ji, please wait for a minute. Manish Tewari ji, please conclude your speech.

[English]

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Hon. Speaker, Sir, my humble submission is, can this august House override the founding Document of India which has brought this House into existence? The answer is 'no'. Article 105 (2) gives absolute immunity for anything done in the House.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, my last point is this. When the hon. Supreme Court of India interpreted Article 105 (2) in P. V. Narasimha Rao's case, they clearly and absolutely said that anything, anything done in this House even if it is allegedly actuated by bribery, cannot be called into question in any court of law.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, Sir, these proceedings should not have been held. And I would urge you to withdraw ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT: Hon. Speaker Sir, colleagues from the Opposition have stated that the report has been laid today itself and that it has been taken up for the discussions the same day. I wish to remind them that in the year 2005, when they were in power, the report was indeed laid and ten Members were expelled on that very day.

HON. SPEAKER: Article 105 of the Constitution did not exist at that time.

DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT: Hon. Speaker Sir, this incident has not happened for the first time in the country. Hon. Speaker Sir, during the year 1951-52, Shri Mudgal Ji, who was then an Hon. Member of Parliament, was expelled by this House on the allegation of accepting money. Thirteen Members were expelled in a similar manner in the incident that is being referred. However, there is a significant difference between those earlier cases and the present matter concerning hon. Member, Mahua Moitra Ji.

In the present case, a company and a businessman are directly involved, and the name of Shri Hiranandani has been mentioned in the report. I have gone through the entire report in two hours, and I fail to understand how so many scholars here claim that they could not finish reading it in the same duration.

Shri Hiranandani is a businessman whose company has substantial interests and holdings in five major sectors, telecom, shipping, real estate, petroleum, and pipelines. The Hon. Member, whose conduct is under discussion today, has raised 61 questions since becoming a Member of this House. Out of these, 50 questions directly pertain to the business concerns of Shri Hiranandani in the aforementioned sectors. Not only this, but her account was accessed 47 times from Dubai, a fact clearly recorded in the report. Questions were also uploaded from log-ins made for six times in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Nepal. The Hon. Member has admitted before the Ethics Committee that she shared her ID and password with Shri Hiranandani and his associates. Those who are invoking the principle of natural justice in this debate must recall that the Hon. Member in question was given full opportunity to present her defence before the Ethics Committee. Furthermore, Shri Hiranandani, the head of the company accused of extending gifts and monetary favours, has himself submitted an affidavit to the Ethics Committee in this regard. This affidavit which has been submitted was sworn before the Deputy Consulate General at the Indian Embassy in Dubai. Hon. Speaker Sir, as much emphasis has been laid here on the principle of natural justice, I would like to draw the attention of the House to an important rule. Upon becoming the Members of

Parliament, we are provided access credentials to the Members' Portal, which include an ID and password. Each Member, whether from the Lok Sabha or the Rajya Sabha, is required to sign a declaration stating that such credentials must not be shared with anyone. The Hon. Member herself has admitted that she violated this rule by sharing her ID and password. Moreover, her account was logged into from four different locations, Delhi, Dubai, Bengaluru, and the United States within a single day. Therefore, those who are invoking the principle of natural justice must recognise that the rules were openly violated by the Hon. Member herself. You are an hon. Member of Parliament and you yourself has signed the form in which it has been mentioned that these credentials are confidential. You are sharing it with four different people despite signing a document. This has been proved. It has to do with the dignity of the Parliament, not with the Ruling and Opposition parties. Respecting the parliamentary procedure is our responsibility.

Today, we are having discussions on this matter here or the arguments are being put forth on her behalf, but I am pained to say that because of this one incident, the image of our Members is tarnished all over the world. This implies a message that the hon. Members don't ask the questions themselves; instead, someone else

asks them to raise the question on certain subjects. They don't write their own letters instead someone else writes on their behalf. They don't write their speeches instead they hire someone else to do it; they don't do it themselves. Moreover, they will ask questions emphatically in the House if someone pays them money. ... *(Interruptions)* This way, the image of all the Members is being tarnished due to this one incident. I would like to let you know here that the unethical behavior of Hon. Member's has tarnished the reputation of all Members nationwide as of right now. The image has been tarnished not just domestically but globally as well. Just now, someone was mentioning Draupadi's *Cheer-Haran*, and the names of several goddesses is being pronounced here as well. We all represent our parliamentary constituencies here as Members, regardless of gender. We come and sit here because we are responsible people. We come here as representatives of the people of our parliamentary constituencies, not as agents or representatives of any private entity, and we take the oath of the Constitution promising to uphold the dignity of this parliament and to ask questions of the people in our parliamentary constituencies.

Sir, through you, I would request you very humbly here that the Ethics Committee here has heard the respondent and the complainant, carefully examined the affidavits well and the

Committee has also asked the questions to those who have been accused of it, so the matter of Natural Justice is irrelevant. Those people who repeatedly talk about humiliation here, I would like to say to them here that when I was reading the report, only questions related to the content were asked from hon. Member. She was not asked any personal questions, which would have made her feel offended.

Sir, I would request you to accept the recommendations of the Committee and the significant issues covered thereunder. We have to give this message to the country and to the whole world, that if any Member of this Parliament conducts unethically, and works outside the rules and procedures, then this House may expel that Member from the House and *[English]* nobody is above the law of the land.

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (KOLKATA UTTAR): Sir, allegations against Ms. Mahua Moitra have been placed by the Hon. Member. Just now, I heard them. Then, who can be the best person to reply to these allegations? It is the Parliament. That speech will be on record. If Ms. Mahua Moitra is not allowed to give her explanation, the Parliament's idea would not be fulfilled. So, I

would request you that as a speaker from our Party, Ms. Mahua Moitra be allowed to speak.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Let Shri Kalyan Banerjee ji speak first.

Shri Kalyan Banerjee.

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: My party's spokesperson will be Ms. Mahua Moitra herself because allegations are against her. Wild allegations have been made.

Whether the allegations are true or not, let them be explained by her... (*Interruptions*) I think today the House will take a decision to expel her... (*Interruptions*) We know it... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Sir, the Ethics Committee has thoroughly discussed every aspect of the matter before submitting its report regarding the suspension of the Hon. Member, that is being considered today and all the points have been deliberated upon. With your permission, the Committee submitted its report to the Parliament today. I say with full accountability that ten Members were expelled from this House in the Cash for Query case,

when Hon. Somnath Chatterjee of West Bengal was the Speaker. In this instance, the ten hon. Members were present in the House, and it was requested to the Hon. Speaker to kindly allow the concerned Members to put forth their perspectives as well. Then, respected Somnath Chatterjee stated unequivocally that the Inquiry Committee, to which they were presented for questioning, had questioned them and the Committee had reached to this question after deliberating over the entire matter. ... *(Interruptions)* Therefore, they no longer have the right to speak in this House. ... *(Interruptions)* This was said at the time by Shri Somnath Chatterjee himself. ... *(Interruptions)* Permission was not granted because of this. ... *(Interruptions)* This question doesn't rise even now. ... *(Interruptions)* This unethical question should not be raised. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I also have old traditions before me, which have also been mentioned by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. Our former Speaker Hon. Somnath Chatterjee and Shri Pranab Mukherjee were present at that time in the House. The matter was discussed in front of all of them. The traditions, rules or rulings given by the Speakers are considered as our rules. At that time, Hon. Somnath Chatterjee had maintained

that the Members against whom these allegations have been made, had ample opportunities to depose before the Committee.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: I speak on the basis of precedents which I have before me. I do not speak without record. I will read out every line if you engage in discussion. I speak on the record.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: There has been a tradition in this House that all the traditions of the former Hon. Speakers are always followed by the new Hon. Speaker.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: There is a book on directions by the Speaker, try to go through it. . . . *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Kalyan ji, are you not speaking, shall I call the next Hon. Member?

Shri Sudip ji, kindly speak.

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Sir, on this issue, her speech has been recorded in the Committee ... *(Interruptions)* Now, it is

the property of the House. Whom you are going to expel today from 17th Lok Sabha now, is known to everybody ... (*Interruptions*)

Today, they have placed the Report before the Parliament. But the whole report had been exposed to the media long before. It is nothing new today ... (*Interruptions*) It is only the Ethics Committee which has done this wrong thing... (*Interruptions*). They have exposed it before the media and media exposed the Report... (*Interruptions*) It is not that they have submitted the Report today... (*Interruptions*) The Report has been placed against Sushri Mahua Moitra... (*Interruptions*)

One hon. Member has spoken about many allegations against her... (*Interruptions*) Then, what will be the harm in giving her a chance to speak for minimum ten minutes? ... (*Interruptions*) Allow her to speak before you expel her... (*Interruptions*) Why will she not be allowed to speak for a few minutes? ... (*Interruptions*) What is wrong in it? ... (*Interruptions*) Sir, I urge upon you with folded hands to allow her to speak on behalf of Trinamool Congress Party and as a speaker of our Party... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Sudip ji, you are a senior Member and you also have been a senior Member. You were also an hon. Member here at that time. There are some traditions of the House. Whatever

the previous Speakers set through their statements are called the Directions by the Speaker.

We always follow these Directives and treat it 'as a ruling'. This has been our tradition. Today, I am not establishing any new tradition, I am not presenting any new convention. If this was not the tradition and I had introduced a new tradition, then you had the right to speak. I couldn't have refused, but you have implemented traditions. You have implemented conventions.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Yes, please speak.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: Sir, I wrote you a letter a long time ago as well. The matter which is being referred to was a sting operation. The well-known news website Cobra Post has carried out this sting operation. The entire picture became evident as a result. It's better not to put chalk and cheese together. .

. . *(Interruptions)*

Sir, you do not create . . . today* . . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Sir, she will speak only for ten minutes. ... *(Interruptions)* Kindly allow her.

[Translation]

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE (SHRIRAMPUR): Sir, please allow her. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: No.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Kalyanji, please speak.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Kalyanji, if you do not speak, I will call the next Member.

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE: Hon. Speaker, Sir, kindly see that a fair trial would only be there when an affected person is being heard. If an affected is not being heard, there cannot be any fair trial. ... *(Interruptions)* There cannot be any fair trial. Sir, with great respect to you, whatever I am saying, kindly, do not take it as an exception. This is the Parliament. We are the Members. Today, we are deciding the rights of a person. When we are deciding the rights of a person, then we are all acting as a quasi-judicial body. Before

a quasi-judicial body, an affected person should be heard. ... *(Interruptions)* I would like to request you to kindly allow Sushri Mahua Moitra to be heard. That is the request that I am going to make. ... *(Interruptions)*

When we speak, there would be a privilege issue against us but they keep on disturbing us every day. ... *(Interruptions)* This is the fundamental principle of law that a person against whom the chargesheet has been brought and persons who are bringing these charges, these charges should be established in according with the procedure of law. Who is the main person? The main person is Darshan Hiranandani. Who has relied upon his statement? His name is Jai Anant Dehadrai. Who has brought it? He is one of the hon. Members, Nishikant Dubey. On what basis is it going on? It is on the basis of an affidavit of Darshan Hiranandani. His affidavit has been brought. Darshan Hiranandani has not even been brought as a witness. His statement has not been testified. This is his affidavit. No affidavit can be relied upon unless that person comes and says: "This is my affidavit. Whatever I am saying or whatever contents are there, are correct. " ... *(Interruptions)* Thereafter, Sir, in a quasi-judicial proceeding, right of cross-examination should be given. That is called a fair hearing. The right of hearing is not a fanciful thing. It has to be made a meaningful right. . . . *(Interruptions)* The

way they had made these allegations whether it is Jai Anant Dehadrai or Darshan Hiranandani or Nishikant Dubey, in the same way Mahua Moitra is having a right to cross-examine each and every person. . . . (*Interruptions*) But, that has not been allowed. What has happened earlier is not the point, the point is that the law is not made on an island, it is being made in our country on the basis of the interpretations given by the Supreme Court of India. ...(*Interruptions*) It has been clearly said in various judgements given by the Supreme Court that if an affected person has not been given an opportunity to defend himself or herself in a proper manner, then, it is a violation of the principle of natural justice.

The principles of natural justice are implicit in Article 14 of the Constitution of India. ... (*Interruptions*) Therefore, Sir, not only the right to be heard is being violated but Mahua Moitraji's right as protected under Article 14 of the Constitution of India has been violated by the Ethics Committee and also today by the House itself. There is a violation. ...(*Interruptions*) The Constitutional violation is being made. ... (*Interruptions*)

Sir, the 2005 cash-for-query case is being repeatedly referred to here. Kindly come to Page No. 18 of the Report of that Committee. Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal was appointed as the Chairman of the said Committee. At Serial No. 12, it says:

“The Committee examined Shri Anirudh Bahal, Ms. Suhasini Raj and Shri Kumar Badal, representatives of the Portal Cobrapost. com. ” ... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

Sir, please give me time. . . . (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: You please conclude.

[*English*]

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE: Sir, they were examined. ... (*Interruptions*) Here, Mr. Hiranandani has not been examined at all. ... (*Interruptions*) It is just an eyewash. ... (*Interruptions*) Hon. Minister, you always have the right to speak but kindly excuse me. ... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

HON. SPEAKER: Please conclude.

[*English*]

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE: Sir, please give me time. You are not allowing Mahua Moitra ji to speak. Kindly allow me to speak. ... (*Interruptions*)

Now, Sir, I am coming to what this Report says. At serial No. 43, whatever has been said, who has said it? ... (*Interruptions*) It has not been said by Shri Darshan Hiranandani. ... (*Interruptions*)

What Shri Jai has said, everything has been written here. ...
(*Interruptions*) Sir, I have some more points. Kindly give me a
chance to speak. ... (*Interruptions*) Today, I am just praying before
you to kindly render justice to me.

[*Translation*]

HON. SPEAKER: Please make your point in one minute.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE: Sir, it cannot be summed up in one
word. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Please make your point in one minute.

[*English*]

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE: Sir, it has relied upon Section 43
of the Information Technology Act. It has been said that it is a
violation of Section 43. Let us assume for argument's sake that the
allegations are correct. Where does Section 43 say that if password
is given to anyone, it is an offence under the Information
Technology Act? If anyone uses my computer without my consent,
then Section 43 would be applicable here. But that has not been
done here. ... (*Interruptions*) Sir, please, for God's sake, give me
some time to speak. ... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

HON. SPEAKER: Kindly conclude.

[English]

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE: Sir, kindly see the recommendation and the conclusion part. ... (*Interruptions*) According to that, it has been proved that cash has been taken. Where is that? ... (*Interruptions*) Where is this finding based on facts? How much cash has been taken? ... (*Interruptions*) It is not based on evidence. ... (*Interruptions*)

Now, I am coming to a very important question. ... (*Interruptions*) I will just conclude. ... (*Interruptions*) With great respect to the hon. Speaker and to all the hon. Members of this House, I would like to say that this House does not have the power to remove someone as a Member. The Constitution has provided a provision for disqualification. This provision of disqualification has been provided by the Constitution in Tenth Schedule under Article 102. It does not come within that. You have the power to suspend a Member under Rule 374 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha itself. Therefore, let us assume for arguments sake, there is no power with the House itself to expel or to remove Sushri Mahua Moitra. The Constitution does not permit this. The rule does not permit this. Even if any precedent has been

there, that is contrary to the rules. No precedent or no rule can stand above the Constitutional provisions.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I want to clarify two things, all of you are senior Members and are experienced ones. I am being repeatedly told that justice is not being done. There is a procedure for Parliament and rules have been formed. The Committees are constituted under the rules and procedures, discussions are held in the Committee, evidence is produced, the complainant and respondent are heard, that is the procedure of the Committee. We are not following the judicial process here. We are simply discussing the motion of that committee. These things should be in the committee. The Committee acts like a court and hears everyone's side. But the House does not function like a court, it is discussing the motion of that Committee. Is there clarity on this? Is there any confusion?

I am not as learned advocate as you are, I am speaking in accordance with the rules, not in violation of them, because you have selected me to be the Speaker. You two are renowned advocates and you three are advocates and Justice. All these discussions should be held in the Committee; shall this House be having the discussion on this matter?

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: This is the procedure, whether it is the Ethics Committee, the Privileges Committee, or any other Committee for that matter. The Committee moves a motion and the House takes it up for discussion.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You may certainly raise question, but you cannot direct this House to pronounce justice. The matter is already under discussion. To suggest otherwise is a misrepresentation, for this august House does not function in that manner. ...
(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Giridhari Yadav ji.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV (BANKA): Hon. Speaker, Sir, as I rise in this House today, I do so with a sense of deep pain. On the one hand, the expulsion of the Hon. Member is being carried out, and on the other, it is indeed unfortunate for this august House that our Hon. Member, Shri Nishikant Ji, was called for cross-examination, while Shri Darshan Hiranandani, who had submitted the affidavit, was not summoned. This diminishes the dignity of an hon. Member of this House. I wish to ask as to why Shri Nishikant

Ji was summoned at all. If the affidavit was to be relied upon entirely, then why was the same trust not extended to the words of the hon. Member, Shri Nishikant Ji?

[English]

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Hon. Speaker, Sir, he is a Member of the Committee. What is the Member of the Committee speaking? He is speaking against your decision.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV: Hon. Speaker, Sir, we had placed a demand before the Committee, and the Committee had assured us that he too would be summoned. However, he was not summoned, and no discussion took place on the matter. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Hasnain Masoodi ji, do you want to speak?

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI HASNAIN MASOODI (ANANTNAG): Hon. Speaker, there can be no disagreement with the observation made by you that it is not the hon. Speaker who has to take the decision, but it is the House that has to take the decision. That does not mean that we depart from ... *(Interruptions)*... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Giridhari ji, you please speak.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Please return to your seat and speak from there, as your microphone will not be activated here.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV: Hon. Speaker, Sir, I wish to submit that the Chairman of the Ethics Committee had stated that Shri Darshan Hiranandani would be summoned. However, he was not summoned. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: The members of the Ethics Committee are. . . *(Interruptions)* All the members of Ethics Committee should be given an opportunity. . . . *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Will you give opportunity to Aparajita Sarangi?

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV: Hon. Speaker Sir, Danish Ji, we along with our Chairman were standing, yet nothing transpired, and the meeting was concluded within two minutes. ... *(Interruptions)* They came thereafter and asked for dissent notes, but even those were not taken. ... *(Interruptions)* This is a false report; no proper

discussion was held. ... *(Interruptions)* Our dignity as Members was violated. ... *(Interruptions)* They summon Members of Parliament, but they do not summon the capitalist who has made the allegations. . . . *(Interruptions)*

Hon. Speaker, Sir, justice should be natural. ... *(Interruptions)* We are fully aware that you hold every right to the Chair in which you are seated. ... *(Interruptions)* But Sir, do you see justice in this? Kindly tell us. ... *(Interruptions)* There is no justice. ... *(Interruptions)* We were summoned, but he was not. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: I do not have the right and once again, you are speaking incorrectly.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Member. Kindly take your seat.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: I am repeatedly urging you that it is not within my right. It rests with the House. I request you to choose your words carefully. I am not a judge delivering a verdict. If it were within my authority, I would have pronounced the decision myself. But this is the prerogative of the House, and the decision lies with it.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV: Hon. Speaker, Sir, alright. . . .
(*Interruptions*)

As far as the affidavit is concerned, its veracity should be based on the eyewitness and not on the affidavit. . . .

(*Interruptions*) No one can be arbitrarily punished on the basis of an affidavit. . . . (*Interruptions*) Hon. Speaker Sir, the Hon. Member

Dr. Heena ji spoke about the matter of passwords. Regardless of where the log-in occurred, the fact is that Mahua Moitra Ji herself had the password, which was never disclosed. ... (*Interruptions*)

Many of us, Sir, do not even remember our own passwords. They are with our personal assistants. Out of concern for what might happen, I did not ask any questions in the Lok Sabha this time. ...

(*Interruptions*) My questions used to be prepared by others; I myself never prepared them, and many Members also do the same.

They might be very intelligent, and are able to read a report in two hours. Though we too are educated, we are not able to do so in that manner. ... (*Interruptions*) I never prepare my own questions; my

PA and my staff do this. ... (*Interruptions*) I have not asked a single question, as I now feel intimidated in this democracy. ...

(*Interruptions*) I did not do so because I do not know how to operate a computer. I am willing to give this in writing. ... (*Interruptions*)

If I do not know how to do it, what am I to do? ... (*Interruptions*) I

have been elected four times as an MLA and three times as an MP. Can one truly learn at an advanced age? As the saying goes, “an old crow will not accept new grain.” ... *(Interruptions)* Shri Lalu Ji too used to say that such things cannot be done. ... *(Interruptions)* I did not ask questions; rather, I laid matters arduously under Rule 377. Earlier I used to ask a number of questions in this House. ... *(Interruptions)* If we do not know, it means simply that we do not know. . . . *(Interruptions)* It is coercion for no reason. . . . *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Shrimati Aparajita ji.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV: It has been said in Manusmriti that there will be separate laws for everyone. Bharatiya Janata Party wants to implement the same Manusmriti. ... *(Interruptions)* It is neither the religion of Manu, nor the time of Manu, it is democracy. ... *(Interruptions)* So in a democracy you. . . * ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, I urge all of you to prepare the questions by yourself and upload them. Our questions should not be prepared by anyone. Serious action might be taken against you in this regard.

*Not recorded as ordered by the Chair.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You are saying it on record. I will not allow the dignity of this Parliament to be diminished because I am the Speaker here, so I have a responsibility to uphold the dignity of all the hon. Members.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, do you agree with his point?

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Do the Hon. Members not prepare their questions by themselves?

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Whether someone else prepares our questions? Do you agree with this?

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Hon. Speaker, Sir, it will be good if you allow Sushri Mahua Moitra to speak for five or seven minutes instead of ten minutes. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Do you agree with his point?

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Hon. Speaker, Sir, on what matter? ... *(Interruptions)*

Hon. Speaker, Sir, every hon. Member wishes to ask questions, but many do not know how to do it. That is precisely the point. The Hon. Member himself admits that he does not know how to do it, and he has stated that he gives the password to his PA. You may verify it by asking every Member to open their portal and obtain a report on any given day. ... *(Interruptions)* Please call ten Members in batches to your residence and give it a try. . . . *(Interruptions)*

15. 00 hrs

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, he did not say this also. He even stated that he does not prepare questions.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE (SHRIRAMPUR): Sir, please you restore the old system of sending the hard copy.

HON. SPEAKER: Hardcopy can also be submitted. Both processes are there, online and hard copy also.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI (BHUBANESWAR): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I express my gratitude to you for giving me the opportunity to speak on this very important matter. ... *(Interruptions)* This matter is of critical importance because it pertains to the decorum of Parliament and constitutional procedure. We are talking about the decorum of Parliament, constitutional procedures, ethics, and principles. When a person is elected from any parliamentary constituency, he represents lakhs of people in the biggest Panchayat of the country. Certainly, I will say with great humility, but with confidence that it is a huge responsibility. When we neglect on this responsibility, then surely questions will arise. I would like to ask only one question to all my colleagues from the

Opposition that they ought to ask of themselves placing their hands on their hearts, remembering the Constitution and say whether Madam Mahua Moitra, the hon. Member of Parliament and our colleague did the right thing. ... (*Interruptions*)

I would like to state that three meetings were held and in these meetings, she had been afforded sufficient time to make her submissions, but she misbehaved, used unconstitutional words and walked out. We wanted to listen to her but she did not put forth her points. . . . (*Interruptions*) After that we also heard the Complainant and the Defendant after which we have given the report. There are some proposals given in the report. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: I request the Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Pralhad Joshi to put the motion to vote.

15. 04 hrs

At this stage, Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, Shri Kalyan Banerjee and some other hon. Members left the House

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: The question is:

“That this House do take up for the consideration the First Report of the Committee on Ethics on complaint dated 15 October, 2023 given by Dr. Nishikant Dubey, MP against

Shrimati Mahua Moitra, MP for alleged direct involvement in the cash for query in the Parliament with reference to the examination/investigation of unethical conduct of Shrimati Mahua Moitra, MP laid on the Table of the House on 08 December, 2023. ”

The motion was adopted.

15. 04½ hrs

**MOTION RE: CONCURRENCE WITH
RECOMMENDATIONS IN FIRST REPORT OF
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS**

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Sir, I beg to move:

“That this House do agree with the recommendations contained in the First Report of the Committee on Ethics on complaint dated 15 October, 2023 given by Dr. Nishikant Dubey, MP against Shrimati Mahua Moitra, MP for the direct involvement in the cash for query in Parliament with reference to examination/investigation of alleged unethical conduct of Shrimati Mahua Moitra, MP laid on the Table of the House on 08 December, 2023. ”

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Now I put the motion moved by hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Pralhad Joshi, to the vote of the House:

[English]

The question is:

“That this House do agree with the recommendations contained in the First Report of the Committee on Ethics on complaint dated 15 October, 2023 given by Dr. Nishikant Dubey, MP against Shrimati Mahua Moitra, MP for the direct involvement in the cash for query in Parliament with reference to examination/investigation of alleged unethical conduct of Shrimati Mahua Moitra, MP laid on the Table of the House on 08 December, 2023. ”

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, kindly move a motion for expulsion of Sushri Mahua Moitra.

15. 06 hrs

**MOTION RE: EXPULSION OF SHRIMATI MAHUA
MOITRA, MP BASED ON FIRST REPORT OF
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS**

[English]

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS,
MINISTER OF COAL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI
PRALHAD JOSHI):** Sir, I beg to move:

“That this House having taken note of the First Report of the Committee on Ethics on the complaint given by Dr. Nishikant Dubey, MP against Shrimati Mahua Moitra, MP; wherein she has been found to be guilty of ‘unethical conduct’ and ‘contempt of the House’ for sharing her Lok Sabha credentials, i. e. , user ID and password of Lok Sabha ‘Members Portal’ to unauthorised person and its irrepressible impact on the national security; wherein her conduct has further been found to be unbecoming of a Member of Parliament for accepting illegal gratification

through gifts and other facilities from a businessman to further his interests which is a serious misdemeanour and highly deplorable conduct on her part; accepts the above recommendation/findings of the Committee and resolves that the continuance of Shrimati Mahua Moitra as Member of Lok Sabha is untenable and she may be expelled from the Membership of the Lok Sabha. ”

HON. SPEAKER: I shall now put the motion moved by hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Pralhad Joshi, to the vote of the House:

[English]

The question is:

“That this House having taken note of the First Report of the Committee on Ethics on the complaint given by Dr. Nishikant Dubey, Member against Shrimati Mahua Moitra, MP; wherein she has been found to be guilty of ‘unethical conduct’ and ‘contempt of the House’ for sharing her Lok Sabha credentials, i. e. , user ID and password of Lok Sabha ‘Members Portal’ to unauthorized person and its irrepressible impact on the national security; wherein her conduct has further been found to be unbecoming of a Member of Parliament for accepting illegal gratification through gifts and other facilities from a businessman to further his interests which is a serious misdemeanour and highly deplorable conduct on her part; accepts the above recommendation/findings of the Committee and resolves that the continuance of Shrimati Mahua Moitra as

Member of Lok Sabha is untenable and she may be expelled from the Membership of the Lok Sabha. ”

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 11. 00 AM on Monday, 11th of December, 2023.

15. 08 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, December 11, 2023/Agrahayana 20, 1945 (Saka).

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