

Title: Introduction of the Indian Maritime University Bill, 2007.

MR. SPEAKER: Item No.11 – Shri T.R. Baalu.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Sir, we have given the notice. ...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching and affiliating University at the national level to facilitate and promote maritime studies and research and to achieve excellence in areas of marine science and technology, marine environment and other related fields, and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. ...(Interruptions)

*(At this stage, Shri Anil Basu and some other hon. Members came
and stood near the Table.)*

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet at 12.15 p.m.

12.06 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till fifteen minutes
past Twelve of the Clock.

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12.15 hrs.

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

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members may take their seats, first of all.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (PANSKURA): Sir, may I seek a clarification? ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No. At the moment, there is no business before the House, to seek a clarification.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, may I know whether the Bill has been introduced? ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The Bill will be introduced, unless the Government wishes to withdraw it or not to introduce it.

Now, Shri T.R. Baalu.

...(Interruptions)

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No. ...(Interruptions)

12.16 hrs.

*(At this stage, Shri Anil Basu and some other hon. Members came
and stood near the Table.)*

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 1 o'clock.

12.16 ½ hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Thirteen
of the Clock.

13.00 hrs.

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

(Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan in the Chair)

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned till 2.00 p.m.

13.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen
of the Clock.[\[R17\]](#)*

14.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fourteen

of the Clock.

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker *in the Chair*)

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.30 p.m.

14.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till thirty minutes past
Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.30 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at thirty minutes past
Fourteen of the Clock.*

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker *in the Chair*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 14.45 hours.

14.31 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till forty-five. minutes

past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.45 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at forty-five minutes
past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(Mr. Speaker *in the Chair*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Hon. Speaker Sir, the incident which happened when item No. 11 of the List of Business

was taken up today is unfortunate and regrettable. I, on behalf of my Party, express regret as some of the hon. Members rushed to the well of the House being emotionally exercised over the subject of the concerned Bill.

Sir, we have no intention of hurting the sentiments of the House or of the Chair and I would ask the Government to look into the whole matter.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Mr. Speaker Sir, at the very outset, I would like to express regrets for what has happened in the morning when some hon. Members from different sections of the House rushed to the well. Sir, we are sincerely sorry and we regret for it. What has happened in the morning is unfortunate.

As the hon. Members know, as regards the passage of a Bill nowadays, there is a lot of scope for discussion, making amendments and changes through the Standing Committee and through a debate and many a time, it has happened that a Bill had not taken up in its original form when it finally came up for the consideration of the House. Therefore, I do understand the sentiments of the Members and I sincerely regret and express my unhappiness over what had happened in the morning. On behalf of the Members of the House, I sincerely regret for it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (GANDHINAGAR): Mr. Speaker Sir, I was not here at that time. I was in my office and was just watching the television when this unfortunate incident happened. Shri Acharya has expressed regrets and the Leader of the House has said that it was an unhappy event. I would like to point out that in the past when situations of this kind had arisen like almost a kind of altercation, it had been invariably between the Government and the Opposition when there was a difference. The basic difference between the earlier incidents and today's incident which really makes it totally unprecedented is that it is within the ruling party that this has happened. ...*(Interruptions)* We are all sorry for what had happened.....*(Interruptions)*

Since 1998, when the Government was formed under the leadership of Shri Vajpayee in which I was also a member, a phrase that came into circulation in political parlance was 'coalition *dharma*' and it is that 'coalition *dharma*' which has been so violated in such an ugly manner today that it is really for the Government to think about it. Of course, in any happening of this kind in Parliament, every hon. Member feels concerned but today, there is a failure of management by the Government. I do not know who did it. I do not know the full facts. But I am sure that this Bill, before being introduced, must have been considered by the Cabinet. If there were differences in that regard with a major partner, they should have been tackled before being brought in this manner and leading to this kind of ugly situation. Never before has the Marshal come to the well of the House. Today if it has come, it is to protect the Minister from being manhandled by other Members belonging to the same Government.

This is what makes it a totally unprecedented event. When my colleagues sometimes function in a manner which calls for a totally strong denunciation from the Chair, we have heard it. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not blame you for that. You are justified in feeling that way. But here is something that has happened and there is only expression of regrets by the Leader of that Group and the hon. Leader of the House saying that I am very unhappy today. I think something more is needed and that is needed within the UPA. I hope that this civil war within the UPA has come to an end finally. ...*(Interruptions)*

In any way, if today's episode has been wound up, I feel happy about it. Therefore, I have nothing more to add. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let us forget the very ugly chapter.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing more will be recorded. After Shri L.K. Advani's remarks, only my statement will go on record.

*(Interruptions)** â€

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Gurudas Dasgupta, nothing is being recorded.

*(Interruptions)** â€

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded. Do not record.

*(Interruptions)** â€

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, kindly listen to me. You should learn from the leaders also. They are listening too.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, this is a very sad day. I strongly denounce what has happened in the morning. I can assure Shri Advani, the Leader of the Opposition, that there is no question of taking different attitude. I strongly denounced it then and I strongly

denounce it now. This is not the way the Members of Parliament should behave. The whole country is not happy at the way we are functioning. We should be role models for the entire country. If you can find out a better method of substituting parliamentary democracy, please do it. But so long as this House remains, and so long as the people send us to this place,

* Not recorded

they expect from us an exemplary behaviour, our conduct as Members of Parliament in dealing with matters which will solve people's problems. This is the onerous responsibility that we have undertaken. When we file our nomination papers, we promise to the people that we would try our best to look after their interests. That is the only job we have come here with.

Therefore, I hope this will never be repeated in future in this House which is the most glorious institution of our Republic. Shri Basu Deb Acharia has already tendered regrets on behalf of his Party and we have heard the observations of both the hon. Leader of the House and the hon. Leader of the Opposition. Let us forget the ugly chapter in the history of this House. [\[R19\]](#)

Let us proceed with the work. If I may say once more, I have tried in my humble way, to the best of my limited capacity, to try to run this House. I never aspired for this job. You have put me here, but so long as I am here I shall try my humble best. If you do not like, please let me know. You can get rid of me. I do not mind at all.

I earnestly appeal to all sections of the House; please try to remember one subject which I have not allowed to be discussed on the floor of this House. I have been repeatedly requesting all of you. However, there are constraints of rules and there is also constraint of time also. We have to regulate the proceedings and that is what the Chair is meant for. All of us are trying to do our humble best. I am not saying that I am the only person to do it. There is the hon. Deputy Speaker and hon. Members of the Panel of Chairman are there. All of us are trying our best without any other considerations except that this greatest institution of our Republic should run in a manner which will reinforce the faith of the people in us. Please cooperate and everybody will benefit out of it.

Shri T.R. Baalu, you have already moved the motion.

The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching and affiliating University at the national level to facilitate and promote maritime studies and research and to achieve excellence in areas of marine science and technology, marine environment and other related fields, and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, I introduce the Bill.
