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Title: Observation regarding demand for suspension of Question Hour.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have received notices of suspension of Question Hour from S/Shri Gurudas Dasgupta, Yashwant Sinha and Basu Deb Acharia regarding the reported resignation of the Union Minister of Railways. There is no provision in the Rules of Procedure under which Members may make a demand for suspension of Question Hour. I have, therefore, disallowed the notices of suspension of Question Hour.

It seems that Shri Gurudas Dasgupta, who has also given a notice of a motion to this effect, wants to move a motion to suspend the Question Hour under Rule 388 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Lok Sabha. As per Rule 388 any Member may, with the consent of the Speaker, move that any Rule may be suspended in its application to a particular motion before the House. There is no motion before the House. The question of invoking the provisions of the Rule 388 does not arise. There is, therefore, no question of suspending the Question Hour.

However, as a special case, I am allowing the Members to make brief submissions. Thereafter, we will take up the Question Hour.

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