

which breaches of privilege can be founded.

There have been several instances in the past when such matters were sought to be raised in the House as questions of privilege. It was held by successive Speakers that no question of privilege was involved in such matters.

In 1959, when a question of privilege was sought to be raised against the Minister of Defence for making an important policy statement regarding the expansion of NCC, Speaker Ayyangar observed as follows:-

"I am clear in my mind that there is no breach of privilege in this matter.

Even if a matter of policy were to be announced outside the House while the House is in session, it was ruled in the House of Commons that there was no breach of privilege: it may be a breach of courtesy. When the House is in session all matters of policy ought to be announced first to the House. That is the rule that has been adopted for several years in this House also'.

Similarly in 1985, my predecessor, Dr. Bal Ram Jakhar, had held that:-

'It is well established that no privilege of the House is involved if statements on matters of public interest are not first made in the House. It is, however, a matter of propriety that when the House is in session, so far as possible, important decisions should first be announced in the House. If for some reasons, like the House not being sitting on that date and important development taking place between the sittings of the House and necessitating a public announcement, earliest opportunity should be taken to bring the whole matter to the notice of the House.

I therefore, withhold my consent to the raising of the matter on the floor of the House as a question of privilege.

I would, however, like to reiterate that it is a matter of propriety that when the House is in session, so far as possible, important decisions should first be announced in the House

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#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

12.45 hrs.

[English]

**Annual report and review on the working and National Institute Hydrology, Roorkee, for 1988-89 and Statement for delay in laying these papers.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): I beg to lay on the Table

- (1) A copy of the annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (2) A Statement (Hindi and English versions) (i) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee, for the year 1988-89 and (ii) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in library. See No. L.T. 751/90]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Jodhpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, before you call upon the hon. Minister for External Affairs to make the statement, I have to make a request to you and to crave the indulgence of the House.

Items listed at serials 4, 5 and 6 are important items. A large number of my party colleagues are not present. Indeed, hon. Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra, in whose name the calling attention stands, is himself not present on account of a rally that the party is holding about which the House is also aware. While seeking your permission, I am requesting you to postpone discussion on items 4, 5 and 6 so that we go straight on to item 7 which is the Demands for Grants for the Ministry of Water Resources. I would make this request to you and to crave the indulgence of the House. ....(Interruptions).....I can only request. ....(Interruptions).....It is up to you. the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is also present. ....(Interruptions).....

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to take the consensus of the House.

....(Interruptions).....

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Yes, Prof. Kurien.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): Such cases are always there. There were many occasions when Members, who give notices, were not present. We have never adopted such a procedure. So, we cannot agree to this. ....(Interruptions).....

MR. SPEAKER: If it is the opinion of the House, item 4 would be postponed.

SHRI YADVENDRA DATT (Jaunpur): Sir, item 4 may be postponed and taken up at 4 o'clock in the evening so that when all our colleagues are free from the meeting which they are having, it will be convenient to all of us. May I hope, the House and the Minister will agree with it?

MR. SPEAKER: Let us hear the Minister.

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): There is no objection to postpone

item No. 4.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): I have one difficulty I have no objection to postponement. My difficulty is that at 5 O'clock, I have to make a statement in the other House. Therefore, if the time is such that it is taken up at 4 o'clock and finishes by 5, then it is all right. But if it is likely to continue, then it may be postponed for tomorrow.....(Interruptions).....

MR. SPEAKER: If you all agree, the calling attention can be taken up tomorrow. ....(Interruptions)..... Let us agree.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Tomorrow, something else can come up.....(Interruptions).....

[*Translation*]

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Hon. Members are yet to agree on three items. At present only one item is being discussed.

[*English*]

..... are discussing item 4.  
We are -

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think, this is going to be a precedent.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Then, how can you do that?

MR. SPEAKER: It will not be a precedent.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): Let us not cancel anybody else's calling attention. If tomorrow or day after there is no other calling attention, this can be taken up, but not at the cost of somebody else's calling attention. Just only see that. If there is no calling attention, this can be taken up tomorrow.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Two calling attentions can be taken up in one day.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): Not two calling attention on one day.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHARAO (Ramtek): Sir, this spirit of accomodation is to be reciprocated. In a spirit of cooperation, we will also have to be accommodated whenever we ask for.

MR. SPEAKER: It goes without saying that we will accomodate each other.

Item 4 on the Agenda is postponed.

12.51 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

**Bilateral Talks with the Foreign Minister of Pakistan at New York**

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): Honourable members are aware that I visited New York from the 22nd to the 26th April, 1990 to participate in the Special Session of the UN General Assembly devoted to International Economic cooperation and in the Non-aligned Foreign Ministers' meeting connected with this Special Session. I had extensive discussions with my counterparts from a large number of countries during my stay in New York.

The background to the meeting with Pakistan Foreign Minister was the tensions and aberrations created in Indo-Pak relations due to Pakistan's involvement generat-

ing extremism and violence in Jammu and Kashmir. Despite Pakistan's obdurate attitude on this issue, the Government of India had kept lines of communication open with authorities in Pakistan to avoid confrontation and to resuscitate the process of normalisation and stability in Indo-Pak relations.

In conformity with India's commitment to conduct relations with Pakistan in the spirit of bilateralism inherent in the Simla Agreement, I took advantage of my visit to New York to have a detailed exchange of views with the Foreign Minister of Pakistan Sahabzada Yakub Khan on the 25th April, 1990.

During the course of this meeting I reiterated that Pakistan's continued intervention in Jammu and Kashmir and its support and encouragement to terrorism there was not conducive to maintenance of peace in our region and that such an approach would be detrimental to Indo-Pak relations. I stressed that adventurist brinkmanship on the part of Pakistan in relation to Jammu and Kashmir might generate unpredictable events which might become uncontrollable.

I told him that since our last meeting, in January of this year, instead of listening to my advice for restraint, Pakistan had stepped up interventionist actions in the Punjab and Kashmir through training and supply of arms to subversives and incitement to violence. Belligerent and inflammatory hetic exhorting people to resort to arms was being indulged at very responsible political levels. Calls for a 'Thousand Years War' and for 'Jehad' were being issued from the same quarters. Special Kashmir Funds for supporting insurgency had been created. Government-sponsored media campaign had increased manifold. Advertisements were appearing in the press asking for recruits for 'Jehad' Fatehas were being read in Mosques and in the Parliament for the terrorists. A Pakistani citizen sitting in USA was owning up responsibilities for kidnappings and killings, and also openly asking his so-called followers to assassinate the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition of India.