

[Translation]

SHRI ABDUL HANNAN ANSARI
(Madhubani) : Kala-azar has broken out in Bihar.

MR. SPEAKER : For how many times you will repeat it.

[English]

I have already said. You could have come to me. There is no fun in raising it here again and again.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN
(Rosera) : Kindly allow it under rule 193.

12.07 hrs.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION BY
MEMBER

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE
(Rajapur) : I am thankful to you for allowing me under Rule 357 to give a personal explanation.

Sir, the day before yesterday, the Prime Minister while replying to some question that was posed by an hon. member said, "Unfortunately, some of the members of the Opposition have written a letter to me asking and seeking to support even those who are involved in secessionist activities." I demanded that the letter should not be quoted merely, but it should be laid on the Table of the House. I am thankful to the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs for placing our letter and also the reply given by the Prime Minister on the Table of the House. Since this is an issue in which our patriotism is questioned, I would like to clarify the issue by way of a personal explanation not only on my behalf but on behalf of those also who sided with me.

I may clarify that *Ajit* is a journal known for its anti-secessionist and anti-Khalistan attitude. As far as this journal is concerned, it is run by 'Ajit Trust'.

These people are nationalists. Sardar Dilbaksh Singh, Ex-MLA and Vice president of the Punjab Pradesh Congress (I) is the Chairman of this Trust. The issue is only this. I also want to tell you something which has not appeared here. Some terrorists entered the office of the Journal and told them that the 'Bhog Ceremony' advertisement had to be published. That commercial advertisement was published. After that, a sedition case has been filed against the editor of this Journal. All parties, including the Left Parties in the Punjab and we here actually demanded that though we did not agree with the contents of that advertisement published by a Journal which is nationalist, published by a Trust which is headed by a Congressman, action should not be taken against that Journal. Again, a member of the Rajya Sabha who is also a Congress (I) member also demanded that such stern action should not be taken. The Punjab Government has registered a sedition case against the editor whose nationalist bona fides are acceptable. Dr. Dhillon is a member of this House. You can find out from him whether the nationalist bona fides of this editor are in doubt at all. Because we wrote this letter, we have been told that we have no sense of responsibility.

Sir, it is thoroughly wrong. I want to place . . . (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(S. BUTA SINGH) : He is discussing the issue. Is this a personal explanation ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I am doing it with the permission of the Speaker.

S. BUTA SINGH : I am also addressing the Speaker. I am asking the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER : No debate is allowed.

S. BUTA SINGH : He is discussing the merits of the case.

MR. SPEAKER : He is right. The objection is upheld.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE : So my personal assurance to this House is that we stand against terrorism, we stand against Khalistan, we stand for unity of India and our letter should not be misinterpreted in the manner in which the Prime Minister has done. It is most irresponsible.

S. BUTA SINGH : Kindly give me a chance. In the name of personal explanation Shri Madhu Dandavateji has discussed the merits. Nobody doubts their patriotism. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No debate.

(Interruptions)

S. BUTA SINGH : Nobody doubts the patriotism either of the Leaders of the Opposition of the Managing Editor of the paper. But Sir, he must say something about the contents of the advertisement. Why does not he say that ? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : What about the discussion on Railway accident ?

MR. SPEAKER : It is coming up before the Business Advisory Committee on Monday morning.

12.12 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[*English*]

Spices Cess Rules, 1988

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : I beg to lay on the Table : A copy of the Spices Cess Rules, 1988 (Hindi and English Versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 696 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th June, 1988 Under sub-section (3) of section 5 of the Spices Cess Act, 1986. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-635/88]

Notification under Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 630 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1988 containing Order directing that commodities specified in the Schedule shall be packed in jute packaging material, for supply or distribution, in such minimum percentage as specified in the said schedule, under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in the Packing Commodities) Act, 1987.
- (2) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 631 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1988 containing Order that from 1st July, 1988 the tiny and mini cement plants having installed capacity upto 100 Metric Tonnes per day shall be exempted from the operation of the order and the cement plant located beyond 1200 Kilometers from Calcutta shall pack 65 per cent of their production of cement in jute packaging material instead of 70 per cent as envisaged in the order under Sub-section (2) of section 16 of the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in packing Commodities) Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6351/88]

Notifications under Gold (Control) Act, 1968
Income Tax Act, 1961 and Customs Act,
1962 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 550 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th