

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Saturday, July 16, 1977/*Anandha*
25, 1899 (*Saha*)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER CENTRAL
EXCISE RULES, 1944, CENTRAL
EXCISE AND SALT ACT, 1944 AND
CUSTOMS ACT, 1962, ETC.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
AND REVENUE AND BANKING
(SHRI H. M. PATEL) :

I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy each of Notification Nos. 216/77-C.E. to 218/77-C.E., 223/77-C.E., 226/77-C.E., 227/77-C.E., 233/77-C.E., 235/77-C.E., 237/77-C.E. to 242/77-C.E. and 246/77-C.E. (Hindi version) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th July, 1977, issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944. [Placed in Library See No. LT-722/77].

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi version) under section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 :-

(i) The Central Excise (Fifteenth Amendment) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. 232/77-C.E. in Gazette of India dated the 15th July, 1977.

(ii) The Central Excises (Sixteenth Amendment) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. 234/77-C.E. in Gazette of India dated the 15th July, 1977. [Placed in Library See No. LT-723/77].

(3) An explanatory memorandum (Hindi version) in respect of Notification Nos. 215/77-C.E. to 246/77-C.E.

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and 249/77-C.E. published in Gazette of India dated the 15th July, 1977. [Placed in Library See No. LT-724/77].

(4) A copy of Notification No. 152/77-Customs (Hindi version) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th July, 1977, under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962. [Placed in Library See No. LT-725/77].

(5) An explanatory memorandum (Hindi version) in respect of Notification Nos. 148/77-Customs to 155/77-Customs published in Gazette of India dated the 15th July, 1977. [Placed in Library See No. LT-726/77].

I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 :-

(i) Notification Nos. 156/77-Customs and 157/77-Customs published in Gazette of India dated the 16th July, 1977 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(ii) Notification No. 158/77-Customs published in Gazette of India dated the 15th July, 1977 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(iii) Notification No. 159/77-Customs published in Gazette of India dated the 15th July, 1977 together with an explanatory memorandum. [Placed in Library See No. LT-727/77].

QUESTIONS OF PRIVILEGE

(i) SHRI MATI INDIRA GANDHI'S PRESS STATEMENT RE: CERTAIN STATEMENT MADE BY THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS ON 13-7-77

SHRI GAURI -SHANKER RAI (Ghaziपुर) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I wish to raise the following question of breach of privilege and contempt of the House. I hope you will give your consent.

Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Ex-Prime Minister in a statement to the Press which is published today has commented on the speech of the hon. Home Minister

[Shri Gauri Shanker Rai]

inside the House in a most contemptuous manner and has insinuated the House. She has imputed motives also. It is a clear breach of privilege and contempt of the House because contempt of a member of the House is contempt of the House itself.

In her statement she has said :

"However, I find that some leaders of the Janata party government are determined to pursue their smear campaign of character assassination inside and outside parliament so as to denigrate not only me but the Congress party as a whole. The Home Minister's recent statement about an alleged plan (or thinking) in my government to shoot down leader of the opposition in jail is shocking and preposterous and has no basis whatsoever. This is the very limit to malicious propaganda deliberately carried on by some leaders of the Janata party".

another place she says :

"The whole idea is outrageous and could occur only to one who himself is thinking along these lines. It is one more instance of the type of misrepresentation and insinuation which are current these days."

Now.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No explanation is given. I had just received this notice, before I entered the House. I will have to go through it and after going through it I shall decide about it.

SHRI GAURI SHANKER RAI : I should like to be heard before you reach your decision.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I shall give the ruling on Monday. I have gone through the statement.

श्री जनेश्वर बिष्व (इलाहाबाद) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आप इनकी पूरी बात सुन लीजिए। ही सकता है कि इस सदन के कुछ और सदस्य भी इस पर कुछ कहना चाहें।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have to go through the motion. If there is any prima facie question of privilege involved, then only the question will arise.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY (Bombay-North-East). May I mention something now ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please do not say anything now.

(ii) ALLEGED MISLEADING INFORMATION RE. BELCHI INCIDENT GIVEN BY THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS ON 13-7-77

SHRI B. RACHAIAH (Chamarajanagar) : Sir, I have given a notice of privilege motion against the incorrect statement made by the hon. Home Minister about the incident that took place in Belchi village on 13th June, 1977. A Parliamentary Committee consisting of Scheduled Caste Members have visited the spot and they have made on-the-spot study. There has been a lot of discrimination in the statement made by the Home Minister. The statement is misleading.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have gone through that also. Let me make my observation on that later. I received three notices of question of privilege from Shri K. Chandrappan, Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan, Shri K. A. Rajan, Shri B. Rachaiah and Shri B. P. Kadam regarding alleged misleading information given to the House on 13th June, 1977 in the statement made by the Minister of Home Affairs on the calling attention matter about the atrocities on hijackers in Belchi village in Bihar. In accordance with the practice of the House in such matters, I have sent copies of the notices to the Minister of Home Affairs for his factual comments. I will take a decision in the matter after I receive a reply from the Home Minister.

MATTER UNDER RULE 377

NEWS ITEM ABOUT ROLE OF SHRI SANJAY GANDHI IN AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR OFF-SHORE DRILLING

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY (Bombay-North-East) : I wish to bring to the notice of the House the iceberg of corruption in which the former Prime Minister's son, Mr. Sanjay Gandhi has been involved, and in which account our country's reputation in the entire world has been very greatly spoiled. I read first the record a news item in the latest News week of July, 1977 which says :

"Indira Gandhi's son, Sanjay, is the target of yet another inquiry by Indian authorities. The Indian Government is investigating his role in negotiations—conducted while Mrs. Gandhi was still in power that ultimately led to a Government contract to pay the compagnie Francaise des Petroles, (a French company)...."

(Interruption)