(ii) Central Agriculture Minister's statement in Parliament on 12th March, 1970.

(iii) Home Minister's announcement in Rajya Sabha on 8th September, 1976.

The matter is of urgent public importance. I would request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to ban the cow slaughter in India.

(iv) REPORTED DISSATISFACTION AMONG THE STAFF OF SHIPPING CORPORATION OF INDIA.

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT (Rajgarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I want to make a mention under Rule 377 of the following matter of public importance.

I request that the Government do take into consideration for immediate action the situation of growing discontent, strong feelings of frustration and total dissatisfaction among the officials and the administrative staff of the Shipping Corporation of India; the problems created by the reconstitution of the Executive Wing, the total disregard to seniority and experience of the officials of the SCI; the acts of favouritism and nepotism which has sent in a trend of demoralisation at senior levels on the background of a downfall in the shipping business of the Corporation and the need to take immediate steps to retrieve the situation by utilising experienced and senior officials and staff in the proper perspective to put the SCI on a sound and viable footing.

May I request the Minister of Shipping to apprise the House on the action taken on this situation.

(v) REPORTED PEN DOWN STRIKE BY NON-GAZETTED POSTAL AUDIT ASSOCIATION, NAGPUR.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is reported that the non-gazetted postal audit association, Nagpur, is carrying out pen-dawn strike since 7th November, 1978. The officials involved in inspection duty have also stopped their work and are at headquarters. The issues connected with the agitation are:

1. Repatriation of five Section Officers at Resident Audit Offices at Bombay, Ahmedabad and Pune.

2. Promotion of the staff as per orders already issued.

3. Equitable distribution of inspection duty for the entire staff.

Agreement reached in December, 1970 and thereafter have been unilaterally withdrawn by the authorities and they are planning to open a new branch audit office at Bombay in violation of these agreements. The authorities have withheld pay and allowances for the period of strike. They have seized all attedance registers. On 9th November, 1978, police were called by lodging false complaint against the employees. On 27th November, 1978, the S.D.C.A. refused to meet Shri—I do not want to name a Member of the Parliament, belonging to the Janata Party. The C.A.P.T: visited the office on 1st December, 1978, but refused to settle the issue through negotiations. The matter is serious enough to call for the attention of the House.

(vi) KISAN RALLY IN DELHI ON 23RD DECEMRER, 1978.

श्री मनी राम बागड़ी: (मथुरा) : 23 दिसम्बर को चौधरी चरण सिंह के जन्म दिवस पर किसान सम्मेलन की तरफ से दिल्ली में आयोजित किसान रैली, जिस में एक करोड़ के लगभग किसान भारत के कोने कोने से चल कर आएंगे और गांधी, लोहिया तथा इस देश के तमाम शान्तिमय किसान आन्दोलनों को चाहने वाले नेताओं की आशा की पूर्ति के वास्ते किसान की समस्या को लेकर अपनी मांगों के वास्ते इकट्ठे हो रहे हैं, चौधरी चरण सिंह के जन्म दिवस पर उनको देखना किसानों के लिए बहुत महत्व की बात है। क्लोज सर्किट के लिए किसान सम्मेलन के अध्यक्ष श्री राज नारायण ने प्रधान मंत्री जी से अनुमति मांगी थी जिसकी अनुमति प्रधान मंत्री जी ने नहीं दी। इससे किसानों की आशाएं बहुत धूमिल होती हैं और किसानों का मन टूट रहा है कि अगर हम इकट्ठे हों, हमारे नेता के जन्म दिवस पर अगर उसकी शक्ल भी न देख सकेंगे यह उनके अधिकार

[श्री मनीराम बागड़ी]

का हनन है। यह रैली बिल्कुल शान्तमय होगी। इसके संयोजक गांधी और लोहिया के अनुयायी हैं। उन से कोई गलत उम्मीद रखना निरर्थक है। चार सड़कों पर डा० राजेन्द्र प्रसाद मार्ग, रायसीना रोड, गुरुद्वारा रकाबगंज मार्ग और चर्च रोड इत्यादि दिल्ली के अन्य मार्गों पर दफा 144 का लगा देना किसानों के साथ घोर अन्याय होगा, क्योंकि किसान इतनी भारी तादाद में तो आएंगे ही और वे वोट क्लब पर कैसे पहुंच सकेंगे। मैं चाहूंगा कि प्रधान मंत्री जी अपने फैसले पर दोबारा विचार करें और पुलिस कमिश्नर किसानों को उकसाने और उनसे उलझने की बजाय सौहार्दपूर्ण रुख अपनाएं तथा किसान रैली के प्रबन्धक जो इस रैली को पूर्णतः शान्तमय रखना चाहते हैं उस में उनकी मदद करें।

आशा है प्रधान मंत्री जी अपना स्पष्टीकरण सदन को देंगे। समस्त हिन्दुस्तान के किसानों की यह एक ऐतिहासिक रैली होगी।

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up further consideration of the motion regarding breach of privilege.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU (Chittoor): On a point of clarification, Sir.

14.12 hrs.

RE. QUESTIONS OF PRIVILEGE—*Contd.*

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola): Sir, before you proceed further, I want to raise the question which I raised the other day. (*Interruptions*) I have pointed out that a very blantant and clear breach of privilege has been committed by the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai in having the news of his notice given advance publicity. I pointed out to you in the House that this was in clear violation, not of the convention, but of the rule *viz.* 334A incorporated in our rules; and the rule says--I have read it; but I again wanted to remind you; it is a mandatory requirement:

> "A notice shall not be given publicity by any member or other person until it has been admitted by the Speaker and circulated to the members."

Sir, I had pointed out that this notice which was given on 14th, was published in the "Evening News" of the same day, and further that it had come to us only in the dak of 15th, but it was published in the morning newspapers which come to us roundabout 5.30 or 6 a.m. You were kind enough to clearify that it had not leaked from you, or the Secretary who alone knew of the notice, as far as your end was concerned. The only third person was the person from who the notice came *viz.* the Prime Minister Shri Morarjibhai himself. He had given the notice. The presumption is that the person who gives notice must be responsible for the notice and also for its confidentiality. He cannot get away by saying that he has enquired from his office and that it has not leaked from his staff. I was pained and surprised that a great Gandhian like Shri Morarjibhai should have come down to this untruth, of saying that he does not know. On the basis of my enquiries I say it in this House with a full sense of responsibility. ... (*Interruptions*) that an intimation went from the office of the Prime Minister to the Pressmen telling them not to say that this notice or the copy of it had come from his office.

Sir, the obvious thing is that it is so clear. If he disputes that he did not give it and that news was sent by the UNI for that notice, it is not that there is a guess by the Press. So, obviously, a copy of the notice in advance was made available to the UNI and PTI.

All that is required to be done is to ask the UNI from where did they get it and you will find the culprit. It is not for me to tell you. I cannot produce the UNI before you.

Suo-motu when a rule is violated in such a blatant manner and there are precedents of this very House which considered such premature publicity as clear violation of the rules and contempt of the House, I would request you that this could have been taken notice of straightway by you.