

[Mr Speaker]

the advocates deny it. So, I expressly told him to get this information from the Chairman of the Commission. The Commission has informed us that they do not keep detailed regular records or reports of the proceedings.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : It is very strange.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not always that verbatim records are kept. You know the working of commissions. Verbatim records are seldom kept except by courts.

I have been very seriously considering the matter. This is a unique case in which three important parts of society are concerned—ourselves that is, this House—we claim certain freedoms and also privileges—the press—they too claim certain freedoms and privileges—and the legal profession.

I happen to belong to all the three. I have been a journalist ; I have been an advocate and also a Member, and, now, Speaker giving the ruling.

I have been seriously thinking over it. The Minister said that the advocates did not say what they are alleged to have said. Even if he had just said, he did say it, we were bound to review the matter in its proper perspective. The field of advocacy is very wide with a lot of latitude and freedom. Even when we go in appeal from a lower court to a High Court or from a High Court to the Supreme Court, we say, the judgement is irrefutable, fallacious, and very often, we say the judgement is perverse. In respect of these law courts against whom an appeal goes to higher courts, they have their own privileges and protections also. The field of advocacy is so wide that they too have full protection.

So, I think, considering all these various aspects of the question, the best thing is that the Privileges Committee should examine all these issues, not with a set view that we have to disturb the freedoms and privileges claimed by all these three parts but with a view to finding out facts. It is not essential that they must give their findings. They can consult the Speaker

also, if they think that I can be helpful to them—of course, I do not bind them by saying this—and they can examine various aspects of the matter as they think proper.

The Minister said that the advocates had not said it. Even if they had said it they were advocates—it is the profession of advocates to interpret before a court or a commission. Of course they act with freedom in the field of their own profession.

I think, the Committee will keep this in view and not encroach upon the liberties which their profession claims. So, I entrust it to the Privileges Committee for examination.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begusarai) : Sir, after your observations we find ourselves completely at sea as to what is to be examined by the Privileges Committee.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not a ruling. The matter is for examination by the Committee. This is what we discussed together and I have put it before the House. The matter is referred to the Privileges Committee.

12.09 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER INDUSTRIES  
(DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATION)  
ACT, 1951

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI  
A. C. GEORGE) : I beg to lay on the  
Table :—

(1) A copy each of the following  
Notifications (Hindi and English versions)  
under sub-section (2) of section 18A of the  
Industries (Development and Regulation)  
Act, 1951 :

- (i) S.O.248 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th March, 1972 regarding management of the Bengal Nagpur Cotton Mills Limited, Rajnandgaon [*Placed in Library See No. LT-1786/72*]

(ii) S.O. 251(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 1972 regarding management of the Bengal Nagpur Cotton Mills Limited, Rajnandgaon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1787/72]

(2) A copy of the Certified Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Coffee Board for the year 1970-71 and the Audit Report thereon [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1788/72]

12.10 hrs.

\*DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—Contd.

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS—CONTD.

MR. SPEAKER : We will now take up further discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Communications. Time allotted—4 hrs ; time taken—1 hour and 15 minutes ; balance—2 hours and 45 minutes. Shri Phool Chand Verma was on his legs. Where is he ? He is not here ; he is not continuing his speech. Then, Shri Stephen.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Muvattupuzha): I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Department of Communications. I want to make a few points. The first one is about the form and content of the Report. The Report that is before us is for the year 1971-72. In the Report presented for the year 1970-71...

श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा (उज्जैन) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं लाबी में था।

MR. SPEAKER : Already a member is on his legs.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN : In the Report for 1970-71, the claim has been made that the form and overall get-up of the Report have been changed to make it more readable. I perfectly agree...

श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा : मैं लाबी में बैठा हुआ था—

श्री ईश्वर चौधरी (गया) : बाद में समय दे दिया जाए।

MR. SPEAKER : You should have been here. I have already called the next Member. I do not want to set up a precedent that the Member who is already on his legs would be stopped and the discussion would be resumed by the Member who was not here when his name was called. It cannot be done according to rules.

श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा : मैं लाबी में बैठा हुआ था।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अपनी गलती का खमियाजा कुछ तो उठाओ।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (ग्वालियर) : हमारा समय बचा हुआ है। उसका तो हम उपयोग कर सकेंगे।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जो समय होगा, दूसरे को दे दिया जायेगा। मैं इसको वाजपेयी जी पर छोड़ता हूँ। उनका फेमला क्या है ? क्या यह प्रापर है।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : मुझे संकट में मत डालिये। अगर आप उनको मौका नहीं देंगे तो जो बचा हुआ समय है वह किसी और मैनबर को दे दें। अगर कोई और तैयार न हो तो उन्हीं से बुलवा लीजिये।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यही तो बड़े लीडर होने की बात है।

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN : I was attempting to make an appeal to the hon. Minister that, in preparing the Report, full information with respect to the working of the Department be given. I am compelled to say this because, in comparison, between the Report for 1970-71 and the Report for 1971-72, the information given in the Report for 1971-72 is rather too scrappy. There is nothing in this Report whereas the Report for 1970-71 is a very impressive document. I would, therefore, suggest that, from next