

MR. SPEAKER: I receive so many Calling Attention Notices every day.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: But why did you allow the *suo motu* statement of the Minister?

MR. SPEAKER: I select only one Calling Attention Notice for each day. If no Calling Attention Notice is admitted, that does not debar a Minister from making a statement. Out of the 50 notices which I receive, I select only one. In the other cases the Minister may make statements. There is no question of procedure involved in this.

Now Shri Shyamnandan Mishra. By the way, who is the stranger sitting behind you?

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (भारतीय) :
अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह श्री ईश्वर चौधरी हैं।
इनका मामला हम लोग कल उठाते वाले हैं।
आप जग इन की क्या सुनिये। जेल में इन
की शकल ही बदल गई है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : हमारी तो जेल में
बाहर ही ऐसी शकल है।

श्री जय तिमय बसु : इन को हैडक्वार्टर
लगा कर औरकमर में रस्स बांध कर जेल
में दिखाया गया कि वह पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बर
हैं।

13.06 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) TWENTY 5-RUPEE CURRENCY NOTES
REPORTED TO BE BEARING THE SAME
NUMBER

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA
(Begusarai): Sir, I have sought your permission to draw the attention of the House and of the Government to an intriguing and disturbing report that appeared in the newspapers day before yesterday. A news item dated Rajkot August 10, stated that 20 consecutive 5-Rupee notes bearing the same number had been received by the Gujarat State Transport Corporation from the State Bank of Saura-

shtra. The notes No. T/77 218978 were collected from the Bank for payment of salaries to the staff. It is remarkable that these notes were not found in the market place or in private hands; they were issued by and obtained from the State Bank of India. The receiving agency also happened to be a government agency.

The House will recall that as far back as 26th July, 1971 a news agency had reported from the same place that is, Rajkot that four apparently genuine 10-Rupee notes bearing identical numbers G/77 876344 had come in the possession of Shri Balubhai Jadeja, a social worker of Morvi. According to Shri Jadeja, the local bankers were unable to find any difference between these notes and others. Shri Jadeja had come across such currency notes—all of ten-rupee denomination—during the campaign in the mid-term elections to the Lok Sabha in 1971 from Surendranagar constituency. Shri Jadeja had sent photostat copies of the notes to Acharya Kripalani. During the discussion on the subject later in the Lok Sabha, Shri K. R. Ganesh, Minister of State for Finance, had stated that in all cases where the notes were available for examination it was found that the numbers had been forged on genuine notes. But Shri Jadeja had maintained that he had contacted some bankers in Morvi who scrutinised the four notes with the aid of the ultra violet device used by the banks and found nothing wrong with any of those notes.

The fact that these notes were found in the same place must have some mysterious significance on which Government should throw some light.

Acharya Kripalani had also made an allegation, as far back as July 1971, in a reputed journal that fake currency notes of various denominations "worth several hundred crores of rupees, bearing duplicate numbers of official notes" have been clandestinely put into circulation in the coun-

try. According to him, the volume of fake currency in circulation could be assumed to be of the same order as the genuine ones. One cannot say that a person of the standing of Acharya Kripalani was making this allegation light-heartedly.

So it is clear that such a disturbing piece of information has been reaching us from time to time for the last so many years and that it cannot be lightly brushed aside. Earlier, printing presses or mini mints were unearthed and seized by police in various places—Coimbatore, Salem, Thana and so on.

As far back as in December, 1961 a report in the *Statesman* had stated that an international gang forging Indian currency in Lahore had been unearthed.

There had also been reports that fake notes from China had been in circulation.

The question of old and soiled notes had also been raised and it was stated that some elements had been using them. In November, 1972, allegations had been made that Rs. 16 crores old notes had been rotting in the State Bank of India, U.P. Branch. The Minister had, however, stated that destruction of soiled notes was fool-proof.

As such disturbing reports have been frequently confronting us and causing us grave concern, it is necessary that the Government makes a full and comprehensive statement on various facets of the problem of counterfeit currency.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) rose—

MR. SPEAKER: I think, you want to make a statement....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Sir, I have been told by your Assistant that my name is second.

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever be the number of names, only the first name is called. You know the ruling that I gave. Even when two names are mentioned, only the first one is allowed.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I do not mind. But I was given to understand that my name was second. You don't like my face. That is all right.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not that. It is a question of practice that we follow.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I will show you a dozen cases.

SHRI K. R. GANESH: Sir, since the matter concerns the currency of the country....

MR. SPEAKER: There are so many points raised in it. If you want time, you make a statement later on. Don't make an off-hand statement because everybody is concerned about it.

SHRI K. R. GANESH: Yes, Sir.

(1) PROPRIETY OF REPORTED DECISION OF GOVERNMENT TO GIVE PRESIDENT'S AWARD TO A DECEASED SUB-INSPECTOR OF POLICE.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Dhote, I think, so far as this award is concerned it could be relevant only to that. So far as what happened in Vidarbha is concerned, I am sorry you are not allowed on it. You confine yourself only to that part of it.

श्री जादुवंत घोटे (नागपुर) : विदर्भ आन्दोलन के सिलसिले में मई 1973 में तुमसर में गोलीबारी हुई जिस गोलीबारी में 3 मृत्यु बचने गोलियों से जगह की जगह भूमि दिए गए और 7 आदमी बुरी तरह से घायल हुए। उत्तेजित श्री ने जब खून से लथपथ लाशों को देखा उस समय उस उत्तेजित श्री के बीच में एक वहां के पुलिस सब-इंस्पेक्टर