12.24 hrs.

RE: WATER POLLUTION PROBLEM IN GOA

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA: (Marmagoa): Sir, I have a problem to bring to your notice. That is the problem of water pollution This has created a health hazard in Goa.

MR. SPEAKER. This is a problem all over the world my dear friend.

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA: Over one lakh of people have been affected. Fish are dying. This Government is sitting tight on it.

MR. SPEAKER. I shall pass it on to the Pollution Committee.

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA. That factory should be closed down It creates a health hazard. To-day the population of Goa is not much. At least health is the basic minimum to be attended to. I want the Government to make a statement on this.

12.25 hrs. ,

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE AGAINST ALL INDIA RADIO

SHRI R. N. GOENKA (Vidisha): Sir, I rise to move my motion of privilege issue, of which I have given due notice, against the All India Radro. Mr. Speaker, you will remember the discussion that took place in the House, not a very edifying one, on 4th December, 1974, when the Patriot came out with a front page story. I have dealt with this at length yesterday when the motion of privilege against me was discussed and you were good enough to let me have a chance to reply to various untenable and motivated allegations some Hon'ble Members made against me. My main concern yesterday, as when I wanted to make a personal statement on 4th December, was to save myself from becoming an object of calumny and my pending case prejudiced. Anyhow,

although I was not allowed to make a personal statement then, you were good enough, to order that all the discussion, irresponsible statements made by some Members against me should all be expunged. In the offirecord of the proceedings no doubt all these were omitted, yet various newspapers had published what happened in the House, some briefly, others at great length for their own reasons I did not invite you to take formal notice of them, as I felt that there may have been a genuine misunderstanding in that the Press Gallery may not have heard your ruling and I wanted them to have the benefit of doubt. All India Radio, which is an official organ, a Department of Government, cannot have the same excuse. In their coverage of the news regarding what happened in Parliament, they said:

"Immediately after the question hours, pandementum prevailed in the House as Mr. Priya Ranjan Das Munshi (Congress) sought to ascertain from the chair whether a newspaper report about Mr. R. N. Goenka had anything to do with the Member of the same name in the House.

At this stage Mr. Goenka and another Congress member were seen angrily shouting at each other. Some members separated them and the Speaker said he cannot allow the matter to be raised since he was not given any prior notice of it."

It was repeated even in their bulletin at 8.10 A.M. on the next day. The All India Radio not only broadcast the expunged matter, but in the commentary "Today in Parliament" on 4th December night, all that was expunged was broadcast at great length. In the said commentary, they said in the second paragraph of the broadcast: