इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सुबोध हंसदा): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) सरकार के पास ऐसी कोई जानकारी नहीं है।

Visit to India by a Mongolian delegation

9826. SHRI BANAMALI BABU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Mongolian delegation visited India in April and had discussions with Indian officials; and

(b) if so, the nature of discussions held and the out-come thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Matters of bilateral importance and issues of common interest in international relations were discussed. The talks revealed identity or close similarity of views on the various matters discussed.

Cost of transport of finished products of H.L.L.

9827. SHRI G. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether cost of transport of finished product of Latex Ltd. is ten times the cost of transport of raw latex.

(b) if so, whether two members of Board of Directors of the Company had recommended dispersal of future Nirodh factories and opposed shifting its Head Office from Delhi; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government and the action taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI KONDAJI BASAPPA): (a) The cost of transport of finished product of Hindustan Latex Ltd. is about 5 to 6 times the cost of transport of raw latex.

(b) and (c). Government themselves had taken a decision on the dispersal of Nirodh factories. Though two of the Directors in the course of discussion in the meeting of the Board did not favour the shifting of the Head Office of the Hindustan Latex Limited to Trivandrum, finally the Board unanimously decided to shift the Head Office to Trivandrum from Delhi.

12 hrs.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGES

ALLEGED ASPERSIONS ON PARLIAMENTIN A LETTER TO LT. GOVERNOR DELHI BY THE CHAIRMAN OF NEW FRIENDS HOUSE BUILDING SOCIETY, DELHI.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee to raise question of privilege.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (ग्वालियर): अध्यक्ष जी मैं नियम 222 के अन्तर्गत सदन की मानहानि का एक मामला उठाने की इजाजत चाहता हूं। यह मानहानि का मामला न्यू फ्रेन्डस कोआपरेटिव हाउस बिल्डिंग सोसाइटी के चेयरमैन, श्री जगजीत सिंह के खिलाफ है।

इस सोसाइटी के कार्यकलापों पर सदन में कई बार चर्चा हो चुकी है। इस के चेयरमैन तथा मैनेजिंग कमेटी के सदस्य लेफ्टीनेंट गवर्नर द्वारा नियुक्त हैं। अध्यक्ष महोदय, 7 मई 1974 को श्री जगजीत सिंह ने लेफ्टीनेंट गवर्नर, श्री बालेश्वर प्रसाद को एक पत्र लिखा, उसकी फोटो स्टेट कापी मेरे पास हैं। मैं उस को पढ़ कर सदन को सुनना चाहता हूं।

"Respected Sir,

As desired, I have succeeded in passing a resolution in the Committee meeting on 29th April, 1974. Luckily only one, out of three from other side attended. He raised certain objections which were overruled by me. His main objection was that the Lt. Governor and Managing Committee have no moral authority to have any further hold on the Society.

I have assessed the situation and feel it will not be possible for me and committee to stand the opposition in view of the Court's attitude and its further exploitation in Parliament and Paper unless full support from Police and Registrar Societies is afforded much more than ever. The new 60 members can remain in if I am there.

Since you are busy due to riots in the City, I will give the notice in Newspapers only when I get green signal. It is good that Parliament closes on or before 13th May, 1974.

I am trying to get the original letter of Mrs. Masani and hope to succeed. I am on the job.

with kind regards.

Yours respectfully,
(Sd.) JAGJIT SINGH,

अध्यक्ष महोदय, न्यूफ्रेन्डस कोआपरेटिव हाउस बिल्डिंग सोसाइटी के सदन में जो भी मामले उठे वह जनहित की भावना से उठाये गए हैं। किसी भी मामले का शोषण करना, उसका दुरुपयोग करना इस सदन का उद्देश्य नहीं रहा है, इस सदन में बैठे हुए सदस्यों का उद्देश्य नहीं रहा है। लेकिन हमारी जिम्मेदारी है कि हम राजधानी में केन्द्र सरकार की नाक के नीचे बड़े बड़े अफ़सरों द्वारा भूमि हड़प के जो मामले हो रहे हैं उन का भंडा फोड करें, तथ्यों को सदन के सामने लायें, देश की जनता के सामने लायें।

श्री शशि भूषण (दक्षिण दिल्ली): श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त ने जो किया उस को सामने नहीं लायेंगे?

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : सब को लायेंगे।

अध्यक्ष जी, हम यह आरोप करते रहे हैं कि न्यू फ्रेन्डस कोआपरेटिव हाउस बिल्डिंग सोसाइटी के चेयरमैन और लेफ्टीनेंट गवर्नर के बीच में एक अपवित्र गठबन्धन है, दोनों में मिली भगत है, और इस पत्र से इस की पुष्टि हो गई है। यह भी साफ हो गया है कि सोसाइटी के चेयरमैन अपनी काली करतूतों पर परदा डालने के लिए अब पुलिस की मदद चाहते हैं। इतना ही नहीं वह पार्लियामेंट पर आक्षेप कर रहे हैं। वह इस बात की राह देख रहे हैं कि पार्लियामेंट की बैठक कब खत्म होती है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा निवेदन यह है कि उन के दो वाक्य नितांत आपत्तिजनक हैं। पहला जिस में यह कहा गया है कि यह

"exploitation in Parliament" and it is good that Parliament Closes on or before 13th May, 1974"

यह पार्लियामेंट लोकतन्त्र की सर्वोच्च संस्था है, जनता की सर्व प्रभुता इस में निवास करती है। यहां मामले उठाये जाते हैं इस दृष्टि से कि उनको उठाने से सार्वजनिक भला होगा और गलत काम करने वाले अपनी गतियों से बाज आयेंगे। लेकिन पार्लियामेंट की नीयत पर आक्षेप किया गया है। यह आक्षेप ऐसे आदमी ने किया है जो लेफ्टीनेंट गवर्नर द्वारा किसी सोसायटी का चेयरमैन नामजद है, और आरोप भी लेफ्टीनेंट गवर्नर को लिखे गये पत्र में किया गया है। इस से यह पता लगता है कि संसद की गरिमा की, संसद के अधिकारियों की और संसद के सदस्य के नाते हम यहां जिस दायित्व का पालन कर रहे हैं उस दायित्व के बारे में, श्री जगजीत सिंह के मन में खुली अवहेलना की भावनायें हैं। उस अवहेलना को उन्हों ने इस पत्र के द्वारा प्रकट किया है।

दूसरी बात यह है कि वह पार्लियामेंट कब खत्म होती है इस का इंतजार कर रहे हैं। जिससे कि गोल माल के काम आगे चला सकें। अध्यक्ष जी, हम अभी प्रस्ताव लाने वाले हैं कि पार्लियामेंट की बैठक सात दिन और चले। वह एक अलग मामला है श्री मधु लिमये उस प्रस्ताव को ला रहे हैं। उस पर आप विचार कीजिएगा। लेकिन यह गंभीर प्रश्न है। सदन अपने अधिकारों पर इस तरह का अतिक्रमण बर्दाश्त नहीं कर सकता, न जिन लोगों ने इस सदन में यह मामला उठाया था वे इसे सहन कर सकते हैं। जिन माननीय सदस्यों ने न्यू फ्रेंड्स कोआपरेटिव हाउस बिल्डिंग सोसाइटी का यह मामला उठाया उन की नीयत पर शक किया गया है। मेरा निवेदन है कि आप सारे मामले को प्रिवलेजेज कमेटी को सौंप दें।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): There is another very important aspect. It has been addressed to His Excellency, Shri Baleshwar Prasad, the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi. It says:

> "As desired, I have succeeded in passing a resolution in the Committee meeting on 29th April, 1974. Luckily only one, out of three from other side attended. He raised certain objections which were overruled by me. His main objection was that the Lt. Governor and Managing Committee have no moral authority to have any further hold on the Society.
>
> I have assessed the situation and feel it will not be possible for me and committee to stand the opposition in view of Court's attitude and its further exploitation in Parliament and Paper unless full support from Police and Registrar Societies is afforded much more than ever. The new 60 members can remain in if I am there."

I will lay it on the Table of the House. The most important thing is this.

MR. SPEAKER: What is the date of this letter?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: 7th May, 1974.

Then, he says:

> "Since you are busy due to riots...."—thanks to the riot-mongers for at least a change for the convenience of the Lt. Governor—
>
> "....in the city, I will give the notice in newspapers only when I get green signal...."

—obviously from him. We want to know what this green signal is. Then, he says:

> "It is good that Parliament closes...."

Then, he says:

> "I will try to get the original letter of Mrs. Masani and hope to succeed. I am on the job.".

Now, Mrs. Masani's letter reads as follows:

> "No. 6967/605/73
>
> Private Secretary to Lt. Governor, Raj Niwas, Delhi, Dated 19-6-73
>
> Dr. Jagjit Singh,
> President, New Friends Co-op. House Building Society Limited,
> 124, Bansi House,
> Asaf Ali Road,
> New Delhi.
>
> Dear Sir,
>
> I am enclosing herewith an application dated 13-6-73 from Mrs. Shakuntala Masani..."

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

—she is the author of the Prime Minister's biography or something like that—

"....for necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

I have also got the photostat copy of the cheque that was given as subscription. I would like to lay* both the documents on the Table of the House. With your permission, I would like the Home Minister to go into it; I would like that the Home Minister should make a clear and categorical statement stating that the Lt. Governor and the official or all the officials concerned who had conspired to do this heinous job should be suspended and till then nothing further will be done.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: May I seek the leave of the House that the matter be referred to the Privileges Committee? You have given me consent to raise the question. Now I seek the leave of the House to raise the question,....

MR. SPEAKER: If there is no objection.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: How can they object? It is a scandalous affair.

MR. SPEAKER: So far as this reference to the Parliament and the question of exploitation is concerned, that makes it a little different case from the one where copies are produced and which relate to individuals and where normally we try to know how far it is authentic or not.

SHRI JOTIRMOY BOSU: I will authenticate it.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I have already done so.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta-North-East): May I ask of you a preliminary clarification?

MR. SPEAKER: May I request him to keep sitting so long as I am standing? In my view, so far as the reference to Parliament in this letter is concerned,—the hon. Members met me earlier also,— I have no objection if he seeks the leave of the House.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE: It is exactly on this, if you do not mind, that I wish to ask for a preliminary clarification, because I do find certain misgivings. Obviously, this is a case where some blackguardly operations have taken place, and I am more concerned than anybody else in so far as the punishment of these miserable criminals is concerned. But what I want to find out is this. You are going to refer the matter to the Privileges Committee. As far as I can find out....

MR. SPEAKER: It depends on the House.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE....this is a communication sent by one person to another which somehow has become public and the fact of publication is a matter which in a court of law would require all kinds of complications. Do you wish the Privileges Committee of all organisations in the House to go into this matter, or would you rather not have a parliamentary investigation by an *ad hoc* committee which can go into this matter? The Privileges Committee, after all, is not a body which should be bothered with the job of finding out the fact of publication of the personal letter written by one person to another. The fact of the matter is this. The Prime Minister is here, and she can

*The documents were not laid on the Table.

say something about substantially doing something in regard to these blackguardly operations. How can the Privileges Committee come in? I do not understand how Parliament can function in this manner.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : इस सवाल के दो पहलू हैं। एक तो जमीन हड़पने के गोलमाल का बड़ा मामला है। वह अलग है। लेकिन डा० जगजीत सिंह द्वारा लेफ्टिनेन्ट गवर्नर को लिखे गए पत्र में पार्लियामेंट के बारे में जो कुछ कहा गया है वह एक सीमित सवाल है और प्रिविलेज कमेटी इस सवाल में जा सकती है। और देख सकती है कि विशेषाधिकार का उल्लंघन हुआ है या नहीं। जहां तक यह मामला है कि लेफ्टिनेन्ट गवर्नर को हटाया जाए या जिन अफसरों ने जमीन प्राप्त की है उन पर कार्यवाही करने का सवाल है, उन पर प्रधान मंत्री कार्यवाही कर सकती हैं, या पार्लियामेंट कमेटी जांच कर सकती है।

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE: If I write a letter to Mr. X maligning Parliament, Parliament has no business to come into the picture. I can write to the Prime Minister saying some very nasty things about Parliament and its working. But that does not mean that it would become a matter of privilege, certainly not. But the blackguardly operations involved require investigation. Privilege is a sort of involved matter. After all, this is a private communication. Let the facts of the matter be ascertained and the miscreants punished.

MR. SPEAKER: So far as investigation is concerned, it is already before the court. It is already a *sub judice* case. But he has brought in this letter from somewhere, I do not know. Previously also his letter was quoted. Now again this letter is quoted. I do not know how he is so indiscriminate in writing letters, with good sensible men all around him.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: We are after him.

MR. SPEAKER: Around him. He should have been more cautious.

Now in the letter he has mentioned about exploitation by Parliament. I have applied my mind to it. 'Exploitation' has many meanings in the English language. 'Exploitation' in the normal, accepted sense of the word has a meaning. We had a discussion on this already. I see that whatever be the meaning attributed to it, so far as that particular part where Parliament is referred to in these terms is concerned, I have no objection to your seeking leave.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: (Begusarai): Before that, let me say this.

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM (Srinagar): Let me say this....

MR. SPEAKER: He has already moved for leave.

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM: Once leave is granted, what I have to say becomes irrelevant. I want a clarification from you also.

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Shri Vajpayee.

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM: What I would say will help you and Shri Jagjit Singh, both.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: If he wants to help Jagjit Singh, then I do not want it.

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM: This letter has been written by Jagjit Singh. But is that a fact established? Because once you refer it to the Privileges Committee and suppose it turns out that this is a fake letter, that Jagjit Singh never wrote the letter, the whole inquiry will come to nothing. Therefore, let us ascertain

[Shri S. A. Shamim]
the fact as to whether it was written by Jagjit Singh or not.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: What about the cheque and Mrs. Mansani's letter?

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. So far as you are concerned, I consider that your view is also quite weighty; I understand. Something happens and ultimately we find that it is not this Jagjit Singh, but if it were an individual on the one side, and I do sometimes believe you when you say it.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: But you believe me.

MR. SPEAKER: After all, what he says is that about this letter, we must try to find out whether it is authentic or not. And whose function it is to find out? Either I send it to the Home Minister to find out—

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Not the Home Minister. Home Secretary is involved.

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra): Or give it to the CBI.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: You appoint a Committee of the House to go into them.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: That is the most appropriate thing to do. Kindly appoint a Parliamentary Committee. Let the truth come out.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: I was also having the same doubt as was the hon. Member, Shri Mukherjee. The main point for you to consider is whether it technically conforms to the definition of breach of privilege. There might be a more sinister thing than a breach of privilege; probably there are some conspiratorial things in this, because the Chairman of the society wants, in collusion with the Lt.-Governor, to do something about the grant of land and speaks of green signal and so on. It may be much more serious than breach of privilege. It is also wholly undesirable for the person to write like this. About that there can be no doubt. But the main point for you to consider is whether any communication passing between two persons which was not meant to be a public document can constitute the basis for a breach of privilege. That is the main point.

MR. SPEAKER: That is very important for the future also.

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM: For example, letter between husband and wife.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: The only point that could be urged was that it is an official communication. Even so, I repeat even if it is an official communication, can you make it the basis for a breach of privilege? That is the second point which we have to consider.

MR. SPEAKER: I quite agree with what Prof. H. N. Mukherjee and Shri Shyamnandan Mishra have said. Previously, in the case of individuals, when they were given, they were referred to the Speaker, and the Speaker would refer them to the proper persons to judge the authenticity of the letter or any record. In this case, since this morning I have been consulting the Secretary-General and others, and I have been thinking over it.

You brought in the name of Parliament also, and the word 'exploitation'. So, I explained to Mr. Vajpayee that let us examine it before I allow it as a matter of privilege. Then, he says, "No, it is clearly mentioned as 'exploitation.'" If you will allow me, then I will devise some machinery to judge the authenticity and appoint one or two Members on it; or, leave it to me; I will consult, and I will call you all. This is the posi-

tion. Shri Vajpayee also said yesterday that he does not mind if such a step is taken.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : आप अपने ऊपर यह जिम्मेदारी लें इससे क्या यह अच्छा नहीं होगा आप इस मामले को प्रिवेलेज कमेटी को भज दें ? सरकार की तरफ से कोई आपत्ति नहीं उठाई जा रही है। प्रिवेलेज कमेटी इस मामले को देख सकती है।

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): We have no objection.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं इसको प्रैसीडेंट ट्रीट नहीं करूंगा। एज ए स्पेशल केस इसको ट्रीट कर रहा था। प्रिवेलेज कमेटी तो आलरेडी है। इस में आपको एलेज करते हैं प्रिवेलेज अगेंस्ट दी पार्लियामेंट।

Let them judge it. And you ask for leave.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : मैं सदन की अनुमति चाहता हूं कि मुझे यह मामला उठाने दिया जाए।

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to move the motion."

Those who are in favour may rise in their seats.

मुझे देखना पड़ता है कितने खड़े होते हैं। आपको खड़ा होना पड़ेगा क्योंकि उन्होंने कह दिया है नियमों के अनुसार आपको खड़ा होना पड़ेगा।

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS *rose.*

MR. SPEAKER: So many hon. Members have risen I have rarely seen such a sight. Leave is granted. There is no opposition to it.

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM: There is opposition to it.

MR. SPEAKER: Leave is granted. He may move his motion. We must go according to the procedure.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : मैं नियम 226 के अन्तर्गत न्यू फ्रेंड्ज कोआप्रेटिव हाउस बिल्डिंग सोसाइटी के चेयरमैन श्री जगजीत सिंह के विरुद्ध इस सदन की मानहानी का मामला विशेषाधिकार समिति को भेजने का प्रस्ताव करता हुं और यह चाहता हूं कि विशेषाधिकार समिति में कहा जाए कि वह इस मामले की जांच करे और अपनी रिपोर्ट आगामी सत्र के पहले दिन तक सदन में प्रस्तुत करे।

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the question of privilege against Shri Jagjit Singh, Chairman of the New Friends Cooperative House Building Society, be referred to the Committee of Privileges for investigation, with instructions to report by the first day of the next session."

The motion was adopted.

12.29 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

REVIEW AND ANNUAL REPORT OF SALEM STEEL LTD. FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1973.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Salem Steel Limited, Salem, for the period ended 31st March, 1973.