

DR. KAILAS (Bombay South): All the three points which you have rightly mentioned are going to be inter-connected. (*Interruption*).

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: Sir,—

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Dr. Kailas and Mr. Pandey, do not take it that if something comes from the Opposition, it must be opposed. It is a question of right of all the Members.

DR. KAILAS: I was only trying to support their point.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is of a very wide range. If something may happen to you tomorrow or something may happen to others, it is a matter that affects very much the rights and privileges of Members. Please see that such matters are decided as above-party issue.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN (Madurai): Sir, why can't you decide the matter? Why do you wait? You can decide it. You have advised us that we should not oppose everything that comes from the Opposition. We take your advice. This is a matter which you yourself can decide.

MR. SPEAKER: I am going to examine it. It is a question concerning the privileges of the Members. Tomorrow, something may happen this side also. (*Interruption*).

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: Just one minute. I do appreciate, and I agree with you. I do appreciate the sentiments expressed by the Opposition. It is not a question of Treasury Benches *versus* the opposition. The question is, how to protect the rights of and privileges of Members. If any misbehaviour takes place on the part of the authority concerned, you being the custodian have to safeguard the interests of the Members. If there is something wrong, the authority should report it to you. You are the supreme person so far as the interests of the Members are concerned. What is a judicial enquiry? When a judicial enquiry starts, the matter becomes *sub judice*. So long as you are the custodian of the House, we have got every right to come to you and nobody else.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Swaminathan, what did you say? I did not quite catch you.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: My point is, we take your advice. You have given us a very sane advice. I want that you should decide on this matter. After all, it is a very simple one. You can refer it to the Privileges Committee. Nothing stands against such a procedure.

SHRI DINESH SINGH (Pratapgarh): This is really not a matter for the House

to consider. It has been brought to your notice and you can *sou motu* send it to the Privileges Committee. The opinion of the House, as I could see, is quite clear, that it should go the Privileges Committee. Even if there is some question involved about another committee looking into it, I am sure the Privileges Committee will see that they do not trespass into any other matter.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): Let us move a motion. (*Interruption*).

MR. SPEAKER: Kindly sit down. You are always ready for moving a motion. Now, I want to examine how to separate that part which has already gone under another jurisdiction or is *sub judice*, and the other part, so that there may be no clash between the two. We will try to put it in such a way. Let me examine it. I do not commit myself, but I will examine it.

11.49 hrs.

PETITION RE. PRESERVATION OF
FREEDOM OF PRESS

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): I beg to present a petition signed by Sarvashri Dilip Chakraborty and Jayanta Kumar Gan, Editor and Printer and Publisher, respectively, of the Bengali news weekly Bangla Desh, Calcutta, regarding preservation of the freedom of Press.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know how these items have started coming on the agenda. Kindly bring your petition to me in my Chamber.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You were not there.

MR. SPEAKER: I am always there.

11.50 hrs.

RE. BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY

AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANS-

PORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): Sir, cer-

tain important items of business are still

pending. Besides certain Members belong-

ing to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes in

this House have sent in a letter saying

that they feel that the time allotted for

discussion on the report of the commis-

sioner for Scheduled Castes and Tribes is

short. They therefore request that at least

ten hours should be allotted for discussion.

You may kindly consider this point also.

MR. SPEAKER: It is for you to con-

sider; I am not in the picture.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: For all these

reasons I have consulted my friends in the

Opposition we may sit on Monday also.