

rent Session and assented to by the President since a report was last made to the House on the 18th February, 1963:—

- (1) The Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 1963.
- (2) The Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Bill, 1963.
- (3) The Appropriation Bill, 1963.
- (4) The Central Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1963.
- (5) The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1963.

RESIGNATION OF SHRI U. N. DHEBAR

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House that Shri U. N. Dhebar, an elected Member of Lok Sabha from Rajkot constituency of Gujarat State, has resigned his seat in Lok Sabha with effect from the 21st March, 1963.

12.37 hrs.

RE: REMARKS MADE BY SHRI BAGRI AGAINST THE MINISTER AND OFFICES OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on Saturday, 23rd March 1963, during the discussion of the Budget, Shri Mani Ram Bagri made certain insinuations against me which are completely unrelated to facts and defamatory in character. He made similar vague and sweeping attacks against senior officers of the Ministry and the Council. If such things had been said outside Parliament, there would have been legal remedy by suitable civil or criminal action. Since statements in Parliament are privileged, I seek your protection against such wild and unjustified charges both for

preserving the dignity of the House and the reputation of individuals who are thus attacked. I would therefore request you to enquire into the allegations and take such actions as you may consider necessary to redress the wrong that has been done and to prevent the repetition of such incidents in the future.

Mr. Speaker: I will ask the hon. Minister, because that statement is a recorded one in the debate, that he may send me a full statement about the facts that have been stated by Shri Bagri and the allegations made by him. I will simultaneously ask Shri Bagri to send his own explanations or any evidence that he has about the statements or allegations that he has made. Both I will just see and examine, and then I will see if something is needed.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): Sir, I rise to a point of order. May I submit that in such cases where speeches are objectionable and, particularly, when they are of a defamatory nature, such things are resolved, as a custom, in the House by raising a point of order and getting your ruling? Either you get that part of the speech expunged or you ask the Member concerned to withdraw it. This is the usual procedure. The procedure suggested by my hon. friend that some regular type of enquiry or other thing should be made with regard to speeches is a novel thing. I would suggest to you not to resort to this. The best thing would be, as you have ordered, let the objectionable passage be passed on to you and you may give your ruling. That is the usual cure.

Mr. Speaker: How has he presumed I will say that an enquiry be made? I have only asked for the statements of both the parties.

Shri Tyagi: I am objecting to the request that was made here.

Mr. Speaker: Any hon. Member can make a request. I am asking