

[Shri Morarka]

and Broadcasting, Irrigation and Power, Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation and Mines and Metals.

12.41 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS

NINETEENTH REPORT

Shri Khadilkar (Khed): I beg to present the Nineteenth Report of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sitzings of the House.

12.42 hrs.

RE: ORDER IN WHICH MEMBERS ARE TO BE CALLED

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Hem Barua has written to me. That debate is still continuing, it has not concluded. Therefore . . .

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): It does not matter.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): A convention has been violated.

Shri Hem Barua: It pains me to say that a very healthy convention started by you was deliberately violated by the Chairman who was presiding over the proceedings of the House during the discussion on student unrest on the motion of Mr. Mathur. What happened? On the 23rd I sent in my name as an accredited spokesman of the party and the only spokesman of the party. I did not get a chance on the 23rd. I understood the reason for that, because mine is a small party numerically, I was not entitled to get a chance in the first stage. What happened on the second day, yesterday the 24th? The Chairman was in the Chair. I went to him, a thing which I normally never do, and asked him: "Is my name

there?" He said: "Yes, your name is the fourth here in the list. I propose to call Acharya Kripalani, and after that I propose to call you." Then I came down, and Acharya Kripalani, in his generosity, said: "Do you want to speak before I speak?" I said, "No, dada, you speak; after you I will speak." Then, what happened?

The convention is this that after the first round of speakers of the political parties recognised as groups is over, you give a second chance, or the second round starts, but yesterday what happened? I waited and waited. Then another member of another party, whose spokesman had already participated in the debate on 23rd November, was summoned and I was bypassed completely. Not only I, the spokesman of the Jana Sangh was also bypassed.

It pains me very much to say that this is calculated to lower the prestige of the House. It tantamounts to a breach of privilege against a member, because a healthy convention has been established by the Speaker, and when I came to know that my name was the fourth in the list I was satisfied in my mind that it was the Speaker who in his wisdom must have arranged the list. So, your wisdom has been challenged by the Chairman, and that has been also violated.

After you give a chance to every group, that is the convention, you allow another spokesman, but here were two people, two members belonging to the same group who were allowed to speak. You may allow all the 10 or 11 members belonging to a particular group to speak, I do not have any objection, but when I find that a fundamental principle has been deliberately violated in this House, it pains me. I hope and trust that that gentleman who was the Chairman yesterday in your place will be removed from the Panel of Chairman. And may I assure you that I am not going to participate in any debate whenever I find that gentleman in the Chair because