

## PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

## OFFICIAL REPORT

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## HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

*Friday, 7th August, 1953**The House met at a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

*(See Part I)*

9-14 A.M.

## POINT OF PRIVILEGE

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy** (Mysore): On a point of privilege, Sir. In today's *Times of India* there is a reference to withholding of press gallery card to the correspondent of 'Hindustan'. It is being done, according to the paper, by the officials of the House of the People.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I do not want the hon. Member to take up the time of the House on that subject. We know exactly what the matter is. The person concerned saw me yesterday and I have fixed up a time to discuss the matter with him. He has also made a representation which I am looking into.

I may suggest to hon. Members that as soon as they get to know a particular matter, it need not necessarily be raised on the floor of the House. The procedure is that when a question of privilege is sought to be raised, they

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should write to me in the first instance. I will look into it and, if necessary, fix up a time. If the matter is considered to be of importance it will be referred to the Committee. This is the procedure.

## COIR INDUSTRY BILL

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** I beg to move\*\*.

"That the Bill to provide for the control by the Union of the Coir Industry and for that purpose to establish a Coir Board and levy a customs duty on coir fibre, coir yarn and coir products exported from India, be taken into consideration."

As hon. Members are already aware, the coir industry is one of great economic importance, principally to Travancore-Cochin, where it is concentrated, and also, from the point of view of earning foreign exchange, it is of importance to the whole country. In Travancore-Cochin I understand about one lakh families comprising of nearly five to six lakhs of persons, are engaged in this industry. Since alternative industrial employment in this area is practically nil, they are almost wholly dependent on the coir industry for their livelihood. This dependence is made the more acute since the fortunes of the industry are inextricably linked with the export trade in both unmanufactured coir and finished goods. Nearly three-fourths of the total production is exported.

\*\*Moved with the recommendation of the President.