

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF ENGINEERS

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): I beg to lay on the Table, a copy of the Report of the Committee of Engineers. (Interruptions). (Placed in Library. See No. LT-1796|59).

RE: ORDER IN THE HOUSE

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Sir, there is no order being maintained in the House. Hon. Members continue standing while others are speaking.

Mr. Speaker: If those hon. Members who insist on speaking notwithstanding the fact that I have proceeded to some other matter, think they can go on disturbing the proceedings of the House, I will have to do without them.

Shri Sarju Pandey (Rasra): On a point of order, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: No point of order.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I move that the hon. Member be suspended from the House for the day.

Mr. Speaker: Yes. The question is... (Interruptions). The hon. Member will kindly retire from the House for the rest of the day. (Interruptions). It is open to the Leader of the House to say it. The Leader of the House is the representative of the House; so far as the order is concerned, he can bring it to the notice of the Speaker. When the Speaker is hesitating, he would like to have confirmation from the Leader of the House as to what he should do. Certainly, in taking the opinion of the Leader of

the House, I have only done the right thing.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat): The Leader of the House says it only when an Opposition Member is involved; not when it is a Member of his own party.

An Hon. Member: On a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: There is no point of order.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): After hearing it, you can say there is no point of order. You cannot do so before hearing it.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I move that all hon. Members in any part of the House who are challenging your ruling be suspended from the House for the day.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: What right has he to ask you that a person who raises a point of order be suspended? Does anybody have that right? (Interruptions).

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta-Central): Sir, on a point of order in regard to what the Prime Minister has just chosen to suggest. I ask you if it is in order for the Prime Minister to bring forward an omnibus motion of that sort that whoever is contesting your ruling should be asked to leave the House? (Interruptions). I request you not to come to a decision merely because the Leader of the House is a very great personality. The Leader of the House does not seem to be aware of his responsibilities as the Leader of the House. (Interruptions). He says that you are to ask every Member who contests your ruling to leave the House. That is a sort of copy-book maxim which he has no business to impose upon us in this manner.**

**Expunged, as ordered by the Speaker.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is not for me to say whether I realise my responsibilities or not, but I do realise and know that some hon. Members opposite do not know what their responsibilities are. I did so—I have never done so for the last few years—I ventured to suggest it because the other day, you were pleased to say that it was my duty to draw your attention when things occur in this House which are contrary to the procedure of this House and the dignity of this House. Now, I am not going into the merits of the question, but repeatedly we have seen the dignity of the House being ignored and being offended against and people doing this not only by voice, but by strange gestures throwing them about. It is an extraordinary sight in this Lok Sabha.

Some hon. Members: Shame!

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: People are moving their arms and shouting. While you are standing they do not sit down; they are standing. They carry on arguments while you are talking, and they do not listen to you. I do submit that this is an offence against all rules of procedure and the dignity of the House. And I venture to say that any person who functions in that way should be proceeded against. It is for you. I did not mention names; I can mention names later but I may suggest that any person who acts that way may be asked to withdraw and made known that you will be pleased to take such action.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: It is open to the Leader of the House, if he chooses, to bring forward a motion in conformity with the rules of this House, naming certain members, and certain procedures necessarily follow. Before that is done, Sir, it is gratuitous on the part of the Leader of the House to make that kind of remarks which he goes on making. I am equally interested in regard to the regulation of the House in conformity with the rules, and I do not wish your ruling to be contested at all. Actually I came very

much late in the proceedings, and I am not very well aware of the kind of questions that have been raised. But the kind of omnibus suggestion just made by the Prime Minister goes against the grain of Parliamentary institutions and I wish he will remain beware of that.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. What I have been noticing for some time is this, and I have been repeatedly saying it. What the hon. Leader of the House said, I am afraid, is too little. So far as I am concerned, and the order in this House is concerned, I have disallowed the three adjournment motions and I have informed the hon. Members of that fact. Now, whenever any hon. Member feels that on an adjournment motion which I have disallowed, which I have not allowed to be brought here, there are some merits and the matter has to be taken up, it is open to him to convince me, to write to me and so on; not to raise it then and there. In spite of my direction, hon. Members are repeatedly doing it here. The other day when some representations were made, though I disallowed some adjournment motions, I said that I require the assistance of the hon. Leader of the House in this matter. I also said that so far as asking any hon. Member to withdraw from the House for the day is concerned, I could do it myself, but if I have to do it for a little more time, say, for a week and so on, on account of the persistent conduct on the part of individual members, I want the assistance of the Leader of the House. The Leader of the House is here, not to assist me alone but to assist the House as a whole and to advise the Speaker and to bring the conduct of any individual recalcitrant member to his notice for taking such action as may be necessary. Today all that he said was in view of the fact that a number of hon. Member were standing up simultaneously notwithstanding the fact that I began to call the hon. Ministers to proceed with their work one hon. Minister, another hon. Minister and a third hon. Member—and they went on speaking one after the other, in

[Mr. Speaker]

spite of my direction not to do so. The hon. Members from this side were speaking, three or four or five of them. What has the Leader of the House said? All that he said was that "in accordance with the rule take action against such of the hon. Members who defy your order and make it impossible for us to proceed". It is not a question of omnibus motion. The rule is there, and that applies to everyone who causes disturbance. I am really surprised at the conduct of the hon. Members. I look to the leaders of each group to control his following, and see to it . . .

Shri Raghunath Singh: They have failed to control.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Mukerjee has come here to defend their cause. I agree with him, so far as the particular points that have been raised are concerned. There is no general order asking all of them to vacate. But he must equally take notice of the fact that some hon. Members here, in spite of our having gone to some other subject, went on getting up and going on loudly protesting. When I said that I will proceed to the next item, he raises a point of order. A point of order can be raised, and abused also. After all this disturbance, when I did not allow him to proceed, he says "On a point of order". It is open to me to see whether the point of order is based upon something, or merely is a ruse to get an opportunity to get the other point adjourned. It is open to me to find out that. If once, twice or thrice I call upon an hon. Member to order and then he suddenly gets up and says "A point of order, Sir", am I merely to yield? Have I no discretion in this matter to see how did the point of order occur? After I have asked him to sit down once, twice and thrice, he says "On a point of order, Sir" as though I ought not to have asked him to sit down. It is rather strange. A per-

son who wants to defy my order wants to evade it by saying it is a point of order, and if I do not admit it, immediately all hon. Members get up and say "you have not acted properly". I do not know how I can get on. If it is a regular defiance, I am afraid, I will have to take more serious action than what has been suggested to me by the Leader of the House. The Leader of the House has not gone out of his way. On the other hand, it is I that suggested that I want some help, and he came to my help today. He has kept quiet all these two-three years and it is only now that he offered help, lest he be misunderstood; otherwise, it may be misunderstood, because he is the leader of the party also. Under these circumstances, he has not done anything wrong. On the other hand, he has assisted me and the House. I would welcome such reasonable assistance from all hon. Members of this House, as all of us are jointly interested in keeping order in this House.

Dr. Sushila Nayar (Jhansi): Your orders about action against members have gone completely unattended to.

Mr. Speaker: Sardar Amar Singh Saigal, I find he is not here. Shri Jhulan Sinha.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

FIFTY-FOURTH REPORT

Shri Jhulan Sinha (Siwan): I beg to present the Fifty-fourth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

MINERAL OILS (ADDITIONAL DUTIES OF EXCISE AND CUSTOMS) AMENDMENT BILL*

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): On behalf of Shri Morarji Desai, I beg