

12.08 hrs.

RE: MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT ✓

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): Sir, let me make a representation ✓

Mr. Speaker: Already, we have interrupted the business of the House. (Interruptions).

Shri L. Achaw Singh (Inner Manipur): Sir, I have raised a question of privilege.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members will look into the Order Paper. I am calling one after the other. What is the privilege motion? The hon Member will kindly resume his seat?

Shri Tangamani: I am not....

Mr. Speaker: When I once refuse a motion I always say that I do not stand on formalities. If I am convinced I will bring it up tomorrow. So far as these motions are concerned I have disallowed them as not within the jurisdiction of this House.

Shri Tangamani: The reason has not been stated, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I am not bound to state the reasons.

Shri Tangamani: Because the whole question concerns a Member of Parliament, Sir. For the past 4 or 5 days..... (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to accommodate hon. Members. I do not make any difference between one Member and another Member or members of the general public. So far as law and order is concerned the Members of this House have no peculiar right; they cannot disobey an order, they are bound to obey the orders... (Interruptions.) I am going to make no distinction between one Member and another.... (Interruptions.) Order order. Papers to be laid on the Table. ✓

12.12 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT REPORTS

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following papers:—

- (i) Appropriation Accounts of the Defence Services for the year 1956-57 and the Commercial Appendix thereto.
- (ii) Audit Report, 1958 of Posts and Telegraphs under Article 151(1) of the Constitution and the Appropriation Accounts, 1956-57.
- (iii) Audit Report, 1956 of the Government of Delhi under Article 151(1) of the Constitution and the Finance Accounts, 1955-56. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1270/59.]

ANNUAL REPORT OF COAL BOARD

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report of the Coal Board for the year 1957-58. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1271/59.]

AMENDMENTS TO MEDICINAL AND TOILET PREPARATIONS (EXCISE DUTIES) RULES

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duties) Act, 1955, a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 227, dated the 28th February, 1959, making certain further amendments to the Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duties) Rules, 1956. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1272/59.]

12.13 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule

[Secretary]

162 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Indian Income-tax (Amendment) Bill, 1959, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 24th February, 1959, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 162 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation Bill, 1959, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 25th February, 1959, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

12.14 hrs

QUESTIONS OF PRIVILEGE

LEAKAGE OF MANIPUR BUDGET ESTIMATES

Mr. Speaker: Let me explain the position so far as this matter is concerned. I got a notice of a privilege motion from the hon. Member. I have not given my consent. I want to know first of all how a privilege arises so far as this matter is concerned and then, assuming it is a question of privilege, whether, under the circumstances, there is any breach of privilege. These are the two points.

Shri L. Achaw Singh (Inner Manipur): I beg to submit that I brought to your notice a question of the breach of privilege and I submit that it is a

very serious one. A local daily called *Simanta Patrika* published the detailed Budget figures for the Union Territory of Manipur under the Ministry of Home Affairs in its issue of 24-25th February, 1959. Generally, these figures cannot be given out in the Press before the Budget is actually presented to the House. The article had actually a heading like this: "Rs 350 crores Budget for Manipur passed for this year". The same paper gives details of a Press Conference where the Chief Commissioner of Manipur announced these details. Further, the paper says that the Budget estimates had been approved by the Manipur Advisory Committee which met recently.

It is a convention of parliamentary democracy that no Budget secrets should be published before the Budget is formally presented to Parliament. But the estimated budget figures given in the article are all taken out from Demand No. 57 under the Ministry of Home Affairs. It may concern a small Union Territory. But it has serious effects on the people of the Union Territory. The Territory is directly governed by the Centre and by Parliament. According to democratic parliamentary convention, no individual, however high he may be placed, can give out any Budget secret to anyone not to speak of giving such a wide publicity in a daily paper in Manipur.

I submit, Sir, that the publication of these figures under the different heads of expenditure such as land revenue, excise, registration, forest, veterinary, co-operation, and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is deliberate and intentional and is meant for lowering the dignity and prestige and the authority of this House.

I also submit that the Budget estimates were discussed in the meeting of the Manipur Advisory Committee which consists of the Chief Commissioner and Members of Parliament and the Committee under the Chairmanship of the Minister approved it. But