

this right. You please find the way out. We are ready to co-operate in that matter.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Sir, we have heard the argument, reasoning and the rules. On behalf of my party, I was involved in the discussion. It was a new factor to us when Mr. Vajpayee, a very respected leader, Leader of the Opposition with such a massive strength, came out today with a new information before us that it was assured that Adjournment Motion would be allowed. I have no knowledge, at any stage, in any meeting, that such an assurance was given to him. If there is an assurance which was given to him by somebody from ruling party, he should come forward and tell us. There is no need of this exercise. This is a futile exercise. If there is understanding, it should be honoured but who is the gentleman who gave that understanding to him? This is my first point.

Secondly, I am a bit sentimental. You may not like it; Members may not like it but since the Chair of the Speakership has been taken by you, there is a tendency to get decisions from the Speaker by methods which are not desirable in the parliamentary democracy.

If one thinks that things could be done this way, we are here to protect it and fight it out. Figures never count in the Parliamentary democracy. There is no point in saying, "I have got Shiv Sena and others and other with me." We are also here. Everytime they are arguing. You only accept their point. Does this 310 Members have no value? What is this? What sort of an argument is this? This matter is agitating everybody. They want to gain a point. (Interruptions) I have not interrupted your leader.

Now, they want to censure this Government. They have already censured this Government over the past two days. Everybody has heard whatever they have said. The nation knows about their stand on this issue. As they do not accept, we also do not accept what has been given. Shri Vajpayee has said that it was his duty to hatao this Government. Till this moment it is my duty to keep this Government. We are here for that... (Interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Can you support the price rise? Do you support the price rise?... (Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : When there was a difference in your Party in the Gujarat unit, did everybody support everybody?... (Interruptions) So, that is not the question. I would like to request you that your decision would be the trend-setter for the events to follow in the next five years in this House.

So, please be very aware. Before you give your decision, as a Member of this House and as the Chief Whip of my Party, I would like to urge upon you to go through the rules. The withdrawal of the listed items of business of the House cannot be done without the consent of the House. It is a matter of the House now. Everytime, the ball is put in your Court and if this be the situation then let the matter be left to the House to be decided. We will decide it. Please do not waste any more time of the House on this. This is my suggestion... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, we have a couple of minutes to go for lunch.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : There has been a plane crash today morning and the hon. Minister for Civil Aviation wants to make a statement.

12.58 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: PLANE CRASH AT KANDI NEAR BHUNTAR AIRPORT

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, with deep sorrow and regret, this is to inform the House that an aircraft bearing registration No VT-ETC of L-410 type belonging to Archana Airways, a private operator, has reportedly met with an accident at Kandi about 30 kms south of Bhuntar Airport. This 17 seater aircraft was on a flight from Shimla to Bhuntar. There were nine persons on board (six passengers and three crew members). The aircraft is reported to have had last contact with Bhuntar at 0853 hours. Its Estimated Time of Arrival at Bhuntar was 0854 hours. As per the report received so far, the aircraft hit the top of a hill.

At present there is no information about the fate of the passengers and crew of the aircraft. Search and rescue has been initiated by Indian Air Force; Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police of Mandi District have left for the site of the accident.

Preliminary investigation into the cause of the accident has been initiated by the DGCA and Director of Air Safety has been appointed as Inspector of Accidents under Rule 71 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937.

I will inform the House as soon as further details are available.

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN (Kangra) : Have the Central Government sent any rescue team there or not?

13.00 hrs.

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM : Sir, I have already contacted the Indian Air Force people. Till 1230 hours, there were heavy clouds, because of which the search of the aircraft could not take place. But, ground level operation work has already started. I have told all my officials, if clouds permit, that I am also thinking of visiting the site.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : Whether it is the place where plane of Shri Surendra Nath was crashed?

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM : Yes, it is so.

13.01 hrs.

[English]

MR SPEAKER : Now the House stands adjourned for lunch till 2.00 p.m.

14.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

(Mr Speaker in the Chair)

[English]

RE:HIKE IN ADMINISTERED PRICES OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS—Contd.

MR SPEAKER : I will have to dispose of the matter which has been raised before the Lunch break

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Sir, with your permission may I be permitted to say a word.

You had very kindly sought to discuss this matter with some of us further during the Lunch recess. We are mindful and always highly respectful of the position of the Chair. At no stage has our contention been with the Chair. Our contention has been and remains with the Treasury Benches.

The Minister for Parliamentary Affairs is an efficient and an energetic Minister. He is a very old friend of mine. He has to consult, I think, 15 of his partners who are in the Government. *(Interruptions)*

MR SPEAKER : We are on a very important issue. Please do not interrupt him.

(Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER : We have to run the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR (Begusarai) : Sir, we are prepared to give full cooperation to you....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The matter which has been raised before the Lunch break has not yet been disposed of. I will have to dispose of that matter.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : If the Chair is saying that the matter has not yet been disposed of, then what to do? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Sir, the energetic and efficient Minister for Parliamentary Affairs also the somewhat silent leader of this House these days. I know their difficulties. They have to consult 15 or 16 different Groups to arrive at one viewpoint. I am mindful of this. Our difficulty of having a discussion with teeth and sting remains. But, notwithstanding that, we shall abide by whatever you rule from the Chair. On that there is no option and it has never been our intention to challenge your ruling. But we do appeal to you, Sir, that this methodology of the Government and its supporters to avoid a discussion is so obvious an embarrassment...*(Interruptions)* We have said for the first day and a half, nothing but to demonstrate so effectively, that they fight shy of even discussing as important an issue as a sum of Rs. 10,000 crore of additional inputs...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : A person like you should not say that...*(Interruptions)*

MR SPEAKER : Hon. Members during the pre-lunch period, we were discussing about the notice of an Adjournment Motion by Shri Jaswant Singh. A lot of points of order have been raised during the discussion

Shri Fernandes has raised a point of order under Rule 60

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : Sir, I am here

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, I have seen you

Rule 60 of the Rules of Procedure comes into the picture only when the Speaker gives his consent under Rule 56. So, the point of order raised by him is out of order.

Then, Shri Dasmunsi has also raised a point of order under Rule 58. Rule 58 speaks about a motion having been discussed once in the Session. We have not yet discussed this issue and, therefore, I still uphold the right of the Member to give a notice for a fresh Adjournment Motion. There is a distinction between the right of a Member to give a notice for an Adjournment Motion and the consent to be given