275 Remission of Sentence for contempt of House

SHRI KANWARLAL GUPTA: There should be an unconditional apology. Then we can drop it.

MR. SPEAKER: He has already expressed regret. I drop the matter. I do not hold the motion in order.

13.11 hrs.

REMISSION OF SENTENCE FOR CONTEMPT OF THE LOK SABHA

SHRI NATH PAI (Rajapur): Mr. Speaker, I have already written to you about the incident that took place in the House the other day when three visitors from the Gallery dropped some pamphlets.

It is one of the privileges belonging to this House that lots of our countrymen look upon Parliament as the ultimate arbiter for redressal of their grievances, but it does not mean that the proceedings of the House should be interrupted. I had written to you about a motion in this respect. I am in a position to tell you that the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition have conveyed to the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that they are in agreement with my proposal.

MR. SPEAKER: This is about the remission of the sentence. This Motion may be moved. But he might please tell them not to do it again. This has happened in State legislatures also. This is not the proper way of bringing matters to our notice.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAGHU RAMAIAH): We are entirely in your hands. I think the general consensus is in favour of remission of the sentence to the period of imprisonment already undergone. I move:

"This House resolves that the sentence of imprisonment awarded by this House on the 13th December 1969 to the persons calling themselves (1) Shri Tarachand C. Shah, (2) Shri Krishna P. Patil and (3) Shri Gulabrao R. Deshmukh for having thrown leaflets in the House from the Visitors' Gallery and thereby having committed contempt of the House, be reduced to the imprisonment already undergone and they be released at 4 P.M. today."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"This House resolves that the sentence of imprisonment awarded by this House on the 13th December 1969 to the persons calling themselves (1) Shri Tarachand C. Shah, (2) Shri Krishna P. Patil and (3) Shri Gulabrao R. Deshmukh for having thrown leaflets in the House from the Visitors' Gallery and thereby having committed contempt of the House, be reduced to the imprisonment already undergone and they be released at 4 P.M. today."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: Let these people be released at 4 P.M. today. I would ask the hon. Member to tell them that they should not repeat this kind of thing, not even in the State legislatures.

13.14 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Employees' Provident Funds (Fifth Amendment) Scheme

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EM-PLOYMENT AND REHABILITA-TION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Employees' Provident Funds (Fifth Amendment) Scheme, 1969, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 2686 in Gazette of India dated the 29th November, 1969, under subsection (2) of section 7 of the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2407/ 69.]

REPORT ON DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME AND LEVELS OF LIVING PART II

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Committee on Distribution of Income and Levels of Living—Part II— Changes in Levels of Living. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2408/69.]