

netisation, what steps do the Government propose to take to mobilise or mop up the black money so rampant in the country today in certain quarters?

**Shri K. C. Pant:** I have already indicated the steps that the Government has taken. If the hon. Member has any suggestions, we will be glad to have them.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** Is it not a fact that a scheme of voluntary disclosure about which we made a great deal of noise and which was announced with such trumpeting, has proved to be a fiasco, and may I know if the Government of India has withdrawn it and if it has not withdrawn it, what steps the Government of India is taking to resuscitate this pet scheme of voluntary disclosure?

**Shri K. C. Pant:** Does he want us to bury the scheme or resuscitate it? (*Interruption*). From memory I can say that something between Rs. 190 crores and Rs. 200 crores were obtained by the Government under the two voluntary disclosure schemes.

12.00 hrs.

**Mr. Speaker:** We will now take up the Short Notice question. There are 27 names here. That is why I say that after two or three Members put the questions, it becomes a repetition. I do not mind it, till we take a decision about printing only five names. We have taken a decision about Calling Attention Notices; it has to be implemented next week or after you all approve of it. We have now 10, 13 or 15 or 50 names. If all the 50 names are to be called, it not only become repetition but we lose the precious time of the House and the other business will suffer. Therefore, I will call the first name now.

**Shri M. L. Sondhi:** It is a very important question, Sir. I would like to put one question.

**Mr. Speaker:** I will call you.

## SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

### Revolving Restaurant

+

- SNQ. 13. **Shri B. K. Daschowdhury:**  
**Shri Samar Guha:**  
**Shri Chittaranjan Roy:**  
**Shri M. L. Sondhi:**  
**Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:**  
**Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:**  
**Shri Onkar Singh:**  
**Shri Yajnik:**  
**Shri Yashpal Singh:**  
**Shri S. C. Samanta:**  
**Shri K. N. Pandey:**  
**Shri Dhirendranath:**  
**Shri P. K. Deo:**  
**Shri K. P. Singh Deo:**  
**Shri A. Dipa:**  
**Shri Arjun Singh Bhadoria:**  
**Shri George Fernandes:**  
**Shri J. H. Patel:**  
**Shri S. M. Joshi:**  
**Shri Madhu Limaye:**  
**Shri S. M. Banerjee:**  
**Shri M. R. Krishna:**  
**Shri Sarjoo Pandey:**  
**Shri Ishaq Gambhall:**  
**Shri Nanja Cowder:**  
**Shri Nanja Gowder:**  
**Shri Amliyanath Bose:**  
**Shri D. C. Sharma:**

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that steps have been taken for construction of Revolving Restaurant and Conference Hall as an annex to a Public Sector Hotel in New Delhi at a cost of Rs. 2.5 crores; and

(b) whether the contract for the construction of the same has been awarded to a firm which did not submit the lowest tender?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Iqbal Singh):** (a) Government approved on the 27th January, 1967 the construction at a cost roughly of Rs. 2.39 crores of an Annex to the Ashoka Hotels Limited, consisting of 300 additional beds, a Convention/banquet hall and two speciality res-

taurants (including a Revolving Tower restaurant) to be ready in time for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development which begins in New Delhi on the 1st February 1968.

(b) The Board of Directors of the Company decided to award the work to the second lowest tenderer. However, when the matter came to the Government they directed the Ashoka Hotels Limited to ask the contractor concerned to reduce the quoted rate by Rs. 2.20 lakhs and this was agreed to by him. He thus became the lowest tenderer at Rs. 87,47,570.

**Shri B. K. Daschowdhury:** In view of the great economic crisis in our country, may I know what made the Government approve of this big scheme involving a huge amount of money, and further, you finalised the contract surreptitiously, you took a particular firm, Ahuja Co., and allowed them to reduce their original tender by Rs 2,20,000. May I know why?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Jaganath Rao):** As stated in the main answer, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development will be held here in Delhi on the 1st February, 1968. 2,500 delegates from various countries are expected to attend this conference. At present, the hotel accommodation in Delhi is not more than 1,400. Therefore, the Ashoka Hotels Limited wanted to expand its capacity also a conference hall which could hold 2,500 delegates at a time has to be constructed. At this time, apart from the project, it is also considered necessary to have a special restaurant. That is why a revolving tower restaurant was also contemplated.

As regards the second part of the question, that it was given to Tirath Ram Ahuja in a hush-hush manner is entirely wrong. We strongly repudiate it. It was the second lowest tenderer. The management, the Ashoka Hotels Limited, decided to accept the tender.

When it came to Government, we considered it; it was put up to the Deputy Prime Minister, and we asked the management to see that the tender is reduced by Rs 2,20,000. It was done. There is nothing hanky-panky in this.

**Shri B. K. Daschowdhury:** Is it a fact that in the forwarding letter by Messrs Ahuja and Company to Ashoka Hotel Limited, it has been specifically stated that whenever any point is at variance with the terms of contract as laid down by Government, the terms of the letter shall prevail? May I know why the Government was so eager to agree to the dictates of this particular contractor firm? Secondly, is it not a fact that this Ahuja and Company did not quote for items 15, 16, 17 and 27, which means an additional expenditure of Rs 25 lakhs or more?

**Shri Jaganath Rao:** According to the tender notice, no tenderer was asked to quote for some of the items, because the mechanism of the tower itself was not finalised by the consultant architects. Regarding the letter referred to by the hon. member, they were asked to withdraw those conditions. The tenders were examined by the consultant architects and they found that the tender of Tirath Ahuja and Company was in order.

**Shri Samar Guha:** My question consists of two parts (a) and (b). (a) At a time when millions of human skeletons are crying for food in the near-famine areas and when our country has been reduced to the status of a global beggar in search of food all over the world and when the nation is facing the worst crisis demanding the strictest measures of economic austerity . . .

**Mr. Speaker:** What is his question? This is all known to everybody.

**Shri Samar Guha:** This is the background, Sir. Why has the Government indulged in such a perverse

luxury in constructing a revolving restaurant and a hall for the international conference annexed to the Ashoka Hotel at a fantastic cost of Rs. 2.5 crores for entertaining the so-called international visitors?

**Shri Iqbal Singh:** Our country has invited the delegates for the international conference. It is good that sometimes we should also invite. It is also paying. This is generally of the American pattern. If we want to make more money for Ashoka Hotel, these facilities are necessary. About the other things, we do not think so.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri Chittaranjan Roy.

**Shri Samar Guha:** Part (b) of the question is still there. I may be allowed to put it. I have put only part (a).

**Mr. Speaker:** I cannot help it. You can put only one question.

**Shri Samar Guha:** On a point of order, Sir. The question constitutes specifically of two parts (a) and (b).

**Mr. Speaker:** There may be (a), (b) (c) and (d), but it is all one question; not four questions. (*Interruptions*).

**Shri Samar Guha:** They had constructed a bungalow in Lajpatnagar . . . (*Interruptions*).

**Mr. Speaker:** When I am on my legs, hon. members should sit down. Every question has got (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and so on. It does not mean there are half a dozen questions and every member can ask half a dozen supplementaries. It is known to everybody in this House that only one supplementary is allowed.

**Shri Samar Guha:** Sir, a part does not complete the whole.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. I am not hearing anything. I request the hon. Member to resume his seat. This is not proper. It is a known fact. I do not know how I can explain. We

have been seeing it for years that a question has several parts.

**Shri Chittaranjan Roy:** In view of the fact that our Government is going to reduce its expenditure to a great extent, even cutting down our planning also, may I know what is the relevant reason that the Government can show for the construction of this revolving restaurant and conference hall which goes in defiance of the declaration so far made by the Finance Minister in this House? May I also know whether it is a fact that the notice inviting tenders was not published in the papers and whether it was given to some selected contractors? I would like to know whether it is also a fact that this revolving tower has been incorporated into the items of the tender though the architect at that time had not completed the design?

**Shri Jaganath Rao:** Regarding the last part of the question, to take it first, tender notices were issued to 24 firms in the country spread over Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Delhi. The notice inviting tender was not published in any newspaper because it happened that all the firms in the construction field were served notices. Only six firms in Delhi purchased tender forms and out of those six only five tendered. Therefore, it makes little difference.

**Shri Jyotirmoy Basu:** That is a matter of opinion.

**Shri K. Lakkappa:** Crores of rupees are involved.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. Nobody can get up in the middle and shout like that. Anybody whose name is here will be allowed to put a supplementary.

**Shri Jaganath Rao:** Tenders were received on 10th April 1967 and the

management decided on the tenders on 20th April, 1967. Therefore, nothing was done in a hush-hush manner.

**Shri M. L. Sondhi:** From the questions put and the answers given, in all seriousness I suggest that this case is a portfolio of corruption and, I believe, the principal adviser of the Minister has, to the best of my knowledge, a shady past in the External Affairs Ministry. Is the Minister aware that this contract remains an uncertain contract and therefore is really void in letter and in spirit because the contractor alleges or says or claims that he will revise his prices if this happens or that happens? I have a letter here according to which it is clear that he is browbeating the Minister and the Minister is living in an illusion. Will the Minister now realise that he has inherited a situation and is he prepared to take into account the fact that the contract is an uncertain contract?

**Shri Jaganath Rao:** I have inherited a healthy baby; I have not inherited anything which is not legitimate (Interruption) We have not accepted any condition imposed by the contractor. We asked him to withdraw and he withdrew the condition. It is a firm contract, a valid contract and nothing is void. Regarding 'portfolio of corruptions' my hon friend, who belongs to that party, when he comes to power can be in charge of that portfolio.

**Shri M. L. Sondhi:** You should remember that Shri Mehr Chand Khanna lost the election here because of this. The same fate may befall you also.

**Mr Speaker:** That is five years away.

**Shri M. L. Sondhi:** The Jan Sangh is a party free from corruption. He has made an insinuation. I did not attack the Congress Party . . . (interruptions) We are patriotic. The Minister is hiding something because he is guilty. Why does he attack the

Bharatiya Jan Sangh? . . . (interruptions)

**Shri S. S. Kothari:** This Minister is arrogant, I tell you.

**Mr. Speaker:** Everyone is arrogant, I find. It is the privilege of every member.

**Shri M. L. Sondhi:** He is trying to shield Shri Prem Krishen.

**श्री श्रीकंठ रत्नलाल बरवा :** यह ठेकेदारी का प्रश्न है और ठेकेदारी मेरा घघा है। 22 साल ठेकेदारी करते हुए मुझे हो गए हैं। मुझे बड़ा आश्चर्य हुआ यह सुन कर जब मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि मैंने प्रधान मंत्री से पूछ लिया है। कानून के अन्दर जितनी कडिगंज होती है, टेंडर के जितने नियम होते हैं उनका जिम्मेदार प्रधान मंत्री नहीं होता है, उनका जिम्मेदार कीफ इजीनियर होता है। मुझे बड़ा आश्चर्य हुआ जब उन्होंने कहा कि मैंने प्रधान मंत्री से पूछ लिया है।

मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब टेंडरों के लिए नगराशिष्णन का गई है, ठेकेदारों से आप मिले हैं तो क्या उन चार ठेकेदारों को भी आपने बुनाया था जिन्होंने टेंडर दिये थे? नियमों के अनुसार जिसका लोएस्ट टेंडर होता है उसका कांट्रैक्ट दिया जाता है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उसको क्यों नहीं दिया गया? अगर नगराशिष्णन का गई तो उन चार टेंडर से भी क्यों नहीं का ग. मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि जा टेंडर कडिशनल था, उसको रिजैक्ट क्यों नहीं किया गया? उसका क्या कारण था?

**Shri Jaganath Rao:** It is not a CPWD tender. The tender was issued by the Ashoka Hotels Limited, an autonomous body.

**An hon. Member:** But it is under you.

**Shri Jaganath Rao:** In consultation with the Deputy Prime Minister who

is the Finance Minister, I suggested to the management of the Ashoka Hotels to ask the contractor to reduce the amount. Regarding the other question, why the lowest tender was not accepted, it is a well-known fact that in every tender notice there is a clause—in this case, clause 14—which says that it is not incumbent upon the management to accept the lowest tender . . . (interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: If every hon. Member stands up and asks questions at the same time, how can we function in this House? Let us try to do it in a disciplined way . . . (interruptions) Already 30 names are there in the list and I find more are standing up. Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta and Shri Kothari, whose names are not in the list, should not stand up and speak like this . . . (interruptions). Do they want to hear answers from the Minister or shall I go to the next question? If they do not want to hear, I will pass on to the next subject.

श्री यशवन्त शर्मा: जो सवाल किया जाता है, उसका जवाब ठीक घाना चाहिये । हम लोग यहा टाइम वेस्ट करने के लिए नही भाए हैं . . .

श्री मधु सिन्घे: ऐसा न करिये । इसको चलने दीजिये । शान्ति मे इसको चलने दीजिये ।

Shri Yajna Datt Sharma rose—

Mr. Speaker: Will you please sit down.

Shri Yajna Datt Sharma: \* \* \*

Mr. Speaker: Do not take down whatever he says. What is this type of indiscipline? You want the Minister's answer to suit your taste. That is not possible. I cannot force a Minister to do that.

Shri K. K. Nayar: I do not want to ask a question . . . (Interruption)

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: Sir, the hon. Member had put a very pertinent supplementary and only a part of it has been replied to.

Mr. Speaker: If he has not answered it in full, we must ask him again, but you must at least hear him.

Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta: If he does not answer properly, then we seek the protection of the Chair.

Mr. Speaker: The gentleman who has put the question can get up and say, "My question has not been answered"; or, the Leader of the Party can get up and say that the question has not been answered, and not that the whole House should get up and start shouting. Now, let us hear the Minister's reply

Shri Jaganath Rao: Will he repeat the question?

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : ठेकेदारी में कुछ नियम होते हैं, जिन के अनुसार अगर कोई ठेकेदार कन्डीशन लगाता है, तो उस का टेंडर रिजेक्ट हो जाता है । जिस का टेंडर लोएस्ट होता है, उस को कन्ट्रैक्ट दे दिया जाता है । अगर लोएस्ट टेंडर भी कन्डीशनल टेंडर होता है, तो उस के बारे में पूछा जाता है । अगर दूसरे नम्बर का टेंडर उस से ज्यादा होता है, या तीन चार टेंडर होते हैं और बे ज्यादा होते हैं, तो उन चारों को बुला कर बातचीत कर के टेंडर का फ़ैसला किया जाता है । मैं यह जानना चाहता हू कि प्रधान मंत्री के कहने पर—बीकू इंजीनियर के कहने पर नहीं—दूसरे नम्बर के ठेकेदार को क्या काम दे दिया गया, जब कि उस का टेंडर कन्डीशनल था, उस को रिजेक्ट क्यों नहीं किया गया । मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हू कि क्या उन चारों ठेकेदारों को भी बुला कर पूछा गया था ।

Shri Jaganath Rao: Sir, I did not bring in the name of the Prime Minister at all. I said that I consulted the

Finance Minister who is also the Deputy Prime Minister, but the hon. Member brings in the name of the Prime Minister.

His question, as I understood him, is as to why the lowest tender was not accepted and why negotiations were carried on only with one of the contractors who had tendered and not with all. My answer to the first part of the question is that the lowest tender was of Messrs. Uttam Singh Duggal and Company. His part performance in the contracts which he had had with the CPWD and Defence was not satisfactory. That is why he was not considered at all. Even his tender was not according to the rules. The architect examined all the tenders and held that the tender of Messrs Tirath Ram Ahuja was in order; therefore, the management's choice was limited to the acceptance of this tender. But when it came to the Government, while the Ashoka Hotel management had the power to accept the tender, Government suggested that the tenderer should be asked to reduce further the amount by Rs. 2.20 lakhs and that was done.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : यह बिल्कुल कोई जवाब नहीं है ।

श्री मधु लिमये : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है । अभी माननीय सदस्य श्री बेरवा, ने यह सीधा सवाल पूछा था कि क्या टेंडर सम्बन्धी कोई नियम होते हैं, जैसे यह नियम 14 है :

"All tenders in which any of the prescribed conditions are not fulfilled or are incomplete in any respect are liable to be rejected."

उत्को तोड़ा गया है ? जिनको ठेका दिया गया, उन्होंने जो पत्र लिखा है, जिस को सौधी साहब पढ़ना चाहते

थे, उस में से एक जमना में घाप के सामने रखता हूँ :

"If any point mentioned in this letter is at variance with the tender documents mentioned above, the point in this letter will prevail."

अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह बात बिल्कुल साफ़ है कि इस सम्बन्ध में नियमों का उल्लंघन किया गया है । श्री बेरवा ने जो प्रश्न किया है, उस का जवाब नहीं दिया गया है । पी०ए०सी० के पचासवीं रपट में वाम साहब को श्री बूथलिंगम टाग लिखा गया एक पत्र दिया गया है । वही बात इस मामले में भी लागू होती है— बिल्कुल वही केस है । कुछ चुनी हुई फ़र्मों के कान में जा कर कह दिया जाता है । इस काम के बारे में अखबारों में विज्ञापन नहीं दिया गया । मंत्री महोदय इन सब प्रश्नों का जवाब दें । तभी सदन की तसल्ली होगी ।

Mr. Speaker: It is not a point of order at all; it is a question.

श्री मधु लिमये : श्री बेरवा के प्रश्न का जवाब नहीं दिया गया है । क्या उस का जवाब नहीं दिया जायेगा ?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Samanta.

It is not compulsory that every Member whom I call and whose name is in the list should put the question. It is not at all compulsory. I know Mr. Samanta is not anxious. The difficulty is that it is a revolving tower and so, you must be careful!

Mr. K. N. Pandey. I don't think he has any question to ask. (Interruptions). If you want, we can have a discussion. If there is really something, the Minister will not suppress it; I am sure the Minister is not anxious to suppress anything. If you want a debate, I am prepared to allow. I am sure the Minister is not anxious to suppress anything. But let us be orderly. Mr. Deb.

**Shri Dhirendranath:** May I know the reason why such a huge amount of money is being spent on an unproductive project when the Conference will be only for two or three days?

**Shri Jaganath Rao:** It is a very productive project; you will see it from the occupancy of the Ashoka Hotel for the last four years, it is very good and there is every prospect of improvement in the future. The hotel industry is a very competitive industry and it has to keep pace with the growing needs and improvements.

**श्री धर्षुन सिंह भदौरिया :** क्या मंत्री महादय यह बताने को कृपा करेगे कि निर्माण और अवास मंत्रालय तथा कंस्ट्रक्टर की साठ गठ की शिकायत प्रधान मंत्री को की गई और उसी पर कुछ कमी के लिए सुझाव दिया गया था ?

**Shri Jaganath Rao:** No, Sir; I am not aware of that.

**Shri J. H. Patel:** (Spoke in Kannada).

**Mr. Speaker:** I have no objection. Mr. Jaganath Rao must understand. Why does he not allow the Delhi people to put the question?

**श्री मधु लिमये :** अध्यक्ष महादय, कमी व कमी अनुवाद की व्यवस्था तो हानी चाहिए। मन्त्रालय सदस्य बेचारे अकेले लड़ रहे हैं और ध्यान नहीं दे रहे हैं।

**Mr. Speaker:** I entirely agree with him that the mother-tongue should be respected. But where can I get translators for all the 14 languages?

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** He knows English.

**श्री मधु लिमये :** कम से कम दक्षिण की भाषाओं के अनुवाद की व्यवस्था तो तत्काल हो।

**Shri J. H. Patel:** (Spoke in Kannada.)

**Mr. Speaker:** It is the same question. (Interruptions) Mr. S. M. Joshi.

**श्री मधु लिमये :** माननीय सदस्य यह जानना चाहते हैं कि दो करोड़ रुपया खर्च किया गया है, लेकिन उस का उपयोग क्या है।

**Mr. Speaker:** Mr. Lakkappa may please resume his seat. He has not understood the question unfortunately. There are others to plead the cause of Mr. Patel. I know Mr. Lakkappa. He need not champion his cause; there are others to champion his cause.

**श्री रवी राय :** माननीय सदस्य पूछना चाहते हैं कि टावर बन रहा है, उस का उपयोग क्या है, क्या उद्देश्य है उस की।

**Mr. Speaker:** No. He has also not understood it. (Interruptions) We are reducing this House to a laughing-stock. I am very sorry to say this.

**Shri J. M. Biswas:** On a point of order. You will kindly allow this Member to put the question in his own language. It will be the duty of the Chair to see that the Minister replies.

**Mr. Speaker:** There is no point of order here.

**श्री मधु लिमये :** अध्यक्ष महादय,  
..... (अवधान) .....

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. Hon. Members should not bring this House into ridicule in this manner.

**Shri V. Krishnamurti:** You allowed him to put the question. You can very well translate it and have it answered. The Member concerned must get the answer to his question.

**Shri Pilloo Mody:** He is not interested in an answer to his question but he is only interested in the language issue (Interruptions).

**Shri M. L. Sondhi:** I support my hon. friend Shri V. Krishnamurti and say that the hon. Minister should

answer it. (*Interruptions*) What is this? The hon. Minister is behaving worse than what Shri M. C. Chagla has done.

Some hon. Members rose—

**Mr. Speaker:** All hon. Members may please resume their seats. I am sorry that it is going out of control now. Hon. Members are just making everything into a laughing-stock or a matter of joke or a matter for laughter. They should realise that this is Parliament. This is not the place where we can go into all those matters. The dignity of the House must be maintained. The dignity of all the Members is involved in this.

**Shri V. Krishnamurti:** May I submit. . . .

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. I am not going to allow him now. The hon. Member Shri J. H. Patel can very well defend himself. He has not sought the support of Shri V. Krishnamurti to defend himself.

**Shri V. Krishnamurti:** It is a question of the right of a particular Member.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. I do not like the hon. Member to get up again and again in this manner.

**Shri J. H. Patel:** (*Spoke in Kannada*).

**Mr. Speaker:** (*Spoke in Kannada*). I have already allowed him to put his question.

**Shri M. A. Khan:** On a point of order.

**Mr. Speaker:** The other hon. Member is also raising only a point of order. He knows English but purposefully he wants to put the question in Kannada and also have it translated.

**Shri M. L. Sondhi:** The hon. Minister does not understand English. (*Interruptions*). There is so much corruption in this House. . . .

**Shri S. K. Tapuriah:** What does he mean by corruption in the House?

**Shri M. L. Sondhi:** I shall say it ten times. There is so much corruption. Mr. Prem Kishen is corrupt. I say it ten times for the benefit of the ICS Members. (*Interruptions*)

**Mr. Speaker:** I want to take the House into confidence on this matter. If Shri M. L. Sondhi is going to behave in this manner, then I shall have to take the House into confidence now. It is impossible to carry on in this way. Shri M. L. Sondhi thinks that he alone understands English and the hon. Minister does not know English. After all, everybody cannot be as intelligent as Shri M. L. Sondhi; everybody cannot be as proficient as Shri M. L. Sondhi in English. If this is the way he is going to behave, I cannot help taking action; I want to take the House into confidence on this matter. He cannot get up any time he chooses and make remarks in this way. I can understand a person getting excited once in a way. Every human being would be excited at some time or the other. But if he is going to be excited throughout like this and would go on passing remarks like this, then I shall have to think what should be done. He has no right to get up every time like this and make such remarks.

As regards the language issue also. . . .

**Shri K. Lakkappa:** May I submit. . .

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri K. Lakkappa also must sit down. Shri J. H. Patel was the questioner and not Shri K. Lakkappa.

**Shri K. Lakkappa:** He has raised a point of order. . . .

**Mr. Speaker:** When the Chair is on its legs, he has no right to raise any point of order. When the Chair is standing, he must sit down.

As regards the language issue, we must find a way out of it. There is no use shouting here inside the House. We sat down once with the leaders of all the parties and we wanted to see if all the fourteen languages could-



be simultaneously translated here. That was our desire and that was the desire of the whole House. All the fourteen languages of our country must be understood by the other Members also. But this is a process which is being examined, from the point of view of whether it can be done. If it can be done, everybody will be happy because all languages will be translated and everybody will be able to understand each other. Till that is done, we have to be patient. Government also have to examine this matter and see whether the equipment is there possibly, the technicians have to do it; it is not for the Speaker alone to do it; it is not as if I can just issue an order overnight and get it done, in two months' time or three months' time or even in two years' time. It is the job of technical men to see....

**Shri J. H. Patel:** They have money for this revolving tower....

**Mr. Speaker:** He does not know these matters....

**Shri J. H. Patel:** Revolving tower..

**Mr. Speaker:** When I am on my legs, he should not get up like this. Will the hon. Member kindly sit down?

I want to give the maximum possible facility to the hon. Members. I know there are some Members who actually do not know English or Hindi; this is apart from those who while knowing English do not, as a matter of principle, speak it. I can understand that. But there are some Members at least 20 or 30 who know neither Hindi nor English. They are just keeping quiet. I understand their difficulty and appreciate it. We want to enable them to understand the proceedings. The equipment must be brought. Then it must be installed. All this must be done. There is no difference of opinion either on this side or on the other side on this matter. All of us are agreed on that. But till that is done, we have evolved something. It is that speech made in any language will be taped. No Mem-

ber will be prevented from making a speech in his own regional language. (Interruptions). Let us discuss this again. We can have the discussion even tomorrow. I would request the leaders to come. Let us call the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and request him also if he can help us to do anything in the matter. I am prepared to accept any decision that is taken by the whole House. But once a decision is taken, we must be practical. We must allow the House to get along with its business. Here a decision has been taken that any speech made will be tape-recorded, then translated and on the next day submitted to the Member concerned. But if it is insisted that translation arrangements should be made for all the 14 languages, it is impossible. Nobody can do it. Therefore, we have suggested this. We shall meet again tomorrow.

**Shri S. Kandappan:** I have a very important submission to make.

**Mr. Speaker:** When I am on my legs, to interrupt me and speak is indiscipline. He cannot do it now. He can do so later.

As I said, I will convene a meeting of the leaders again, if necessary, tomorrow. But let us allow the proceedings of the House to go on. There are people who have come to listen to our deliberations and watch our proceedings. For the present, let us go on to the next item on the agenda.

श्री सुन्दर अहमद खां : मेरा प्वाइंट प्राफ़ अर्डर रह गया ।

**Mr. Speaker:** When I did not allow any other member, he cannot claim a special privilege.

I was saying: let us not proceed with this question just now. If you want, we may consider this later. We can, if necessary, have a half an hour discussion or something like that. I am prepared for that. That should be considered later, not on the spur of the moment.