

C.B.(I) No. 316

RULES COMMITTEE

(THIRTEENTH LOK SABHA)

FIRST REPORT

(Laid on the Table on 28 November, 2001)



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

November, 2001/Agrahayana, 1923 (Saka)

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CONTENTS

	PAGE
1. MEMBERS OF THE RULES COMMITTEE.....	(iii)
2. REPORT	1
APPENDIX	
Minutes dated : 27 August, 2001.	3

MEMBERS OF THE RULES COMMITTEE

- Shri G.M.C. Balayogi *Chairman*
2. Shri Bal Krishna Chauhan
3. Shri M. Durai
4. Shri K. Karunakaran
*5. Shri Suresh Kurup
6. Shri Man Sinh Patel
7. Shri N. Janardhana Reddy
8. Shri Saiduzzama
9. Shri Chandra Pratap Singh
10. Shri Ramanand Singh
11. Shri Ram Prasad Singh
12. Shri P.C. Thomas
13. Shri Sahib Singh Verma
14. Shri A.K.S. Vijayan
15. Dr. Jaswant Singh Yadav

SECRETARIAT

- Shri G.C. Malhotra — *Secretary-General*
Shri John Joseph — *Additional Secretary*
Shri B.R. Kanathia — *Joint Secretary*
Shri C.S. Joon — *Deputy Secretary*
Shri J.S. Chauhan — *Under Secretary*

*Nominated on 12.10.2001 vice Shri Samar Choudhury died on 10.9.2001.

**FIRST REPORT OF THE RULES COMMITTEE
(THIRTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

The Rules Committee at their sitting held on 27 August, 2001 considered and approved a proposal regarding insertion of a new rule 374A in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha with a view to providing for automatic suspension of a member. The Minutes of the sitting of the Committee held on 27 August, 2001 are appended to the Report.

2. The recommendation of the Committee is contained in this their First Report which the Committee authorised to be laid on the Table of the House.

3. The Committee note that the growing incidence of disorder caused by the members leading to frequent adjournment of the House was discussed at a meeting held on 23 August, 2001 by Speaker with Leaders of Parties in Lok Sabha. A decision was taken at that meeting to make a provision in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha for automatic suspension of such members who come to the well of the House and create disorder.

The Committee feel that although the existing rules 373 and 374 provide for withdrawal and suspension of members from the House, yet their application was found somewhat cumbersome and inconvenient to curb such incidents of disorder.

4. To cope with such problems, the Committee recommend that after rule 374, the following new rule be inserted in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Ninth Edition):

374A.(1) "Notwithstanding anything contained in rules *Automatic* 373 and 374, in the event of grave disorder *Suspension of* occasioned by a member coming into the well *a Member.* of the House or abusing the Rules of the House persistently and wilfully obstructing its business by shouting slogans or otherwise, such member shall, on being named by the Speaker, stand automatically suspended from the service of the House for five consecutive sittings or the remainder of the session, whichever is less:

Provided that the House may, at any time, on a motion being made, resolve that such suspension be terminated.

(2) On the Speaker announcing the suspension under this rule, the member shall forthwith withdraw from the precincts of the House.”.

NEW DELHI;
19 November, 2001
28 Kartika, 1923 (Saka)

G.M.C. BALAYOGI,
Chairman,
Rules Committee.

APPENDIX

See para 1 of the Report]

MINUTES OF THE FIRST SITTING OF THE RULES COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY, THE 27th AUGUST, 2001

The Committee met from 1500 hrs. to 1600 hrs.

PRESENT

Shri G.M.C. Balayogi *Chairman*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Bal Krishna Chauhan
3. Shri K. Karunakaran
4. Shri Man Sinh Patel
5. Shri N. Janardhana Reddy
6. Shri Saiduzzama
7. Shri Chandra Pratap Singh
8. Shri Ramanand Singh
9. Shri Ram Prasad Singh
10. Shri P.C. Thomas
11. Shri A.K.S. Vijayan
12. Dr. Jaswant Singh Yadav

Special Invitee

Shri Santosh Gangwar *Minister of State in the Ministry
of Parliamentary Affairs*

SECRETARIAT

Shri G.C. Malhotra	— <i>Secretary-General</i>
Shri B.R. Kanathia	— <i>Joint Secretary</i>
Shri V.K. Sharma	— <i>Director</i>
Shri P.K. Grover	— <i>Deputy Secretary</i>
Shri J.P. Sharma	— <i>Deputy Secretary</i>
Shri D.R. Kalra	— <i>Deputy Secretary</i>
Shri C.S. Joon	— <i>Deputy Secretary</i>
Shri J.S. Chauhan	— <i>Under Secretary</i>

2. The Committee considered Memorandum No. 1 regarding insertion of a new rule 374A to provide for automatic suspension of a member.

The Committee noted that the growing incidence of disorder caused by the members leading to frequent adjournment of the House was discussed at a meeting held on 23rd August, 2001 by Speaker with Leaders of Parties in Lok Sabha. They also noted that at the Leaders' meeting, a decision was taken to make a provision in the Rules of Procedure for automatic suspension of such members who come to the well of the House and create disorder.

The Committee felt that although the existing rules 373 and 374 provide for withdrawal and suspension of members from the House, yet their application was found somewhat cumbersome and inconvenient to curb such incidents of disorder.

To cope with such problems, the Committee decided that the draft new rule 374A as proposed be inserted in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Annexure).

3. The Committee authorized the Chairman to finalise the recommendations in this regard and have the report of the Committee laid on the Table during the next session.

4. Thereafter, some members made the following suggestions:—

- (a) Question Hour proceedings should not be disturbed. As telecasting of question hour was one of the reasons for disturbances during question hour, such telecasting might be discontinued for about six months on trial basis to see how it helps in smooth transaction of the question hour;
- (b) Zero Hour in the House may be discontinued as matters raised during this time are not replied to. Instead, two or three calling attention motions on issues of national importance be allowed during that hour;
- (c) slogan shouting and protests near building gate no. 1 and the statue of Mahatma Gandhi should not be allowed;
- (d) media people with cameras etc. might not be allowed near building gate no. 1 to take interviews of members etc.; and
- (e) no members should be allowed to speak from any place other than the seat allotted to him.

5. The Chairman then observed that the existing guidelines regarding "Broadcasting and Telecasting of President's Address and Lok Sabha Proceedings" took care of the suggestions made by the members in para 4(a) above.

As regards suggestion in para 4(d) above, the Chairman observed that he had a meeting with leaders on 23rd August, 2001, on this issue. He would like to have one more meeting with leaders before taking suitable decision in the matter.

In regard to para 4(e) above, the Chairman felt that once the House functioned normally, such problem would be settled automatically.

The Committee then adjourned.

ANNEXURE

(See para 2 of Minutes)

After Rule 374 insert new Rule 374 A:

“Automatic suspension of a Member. 374A. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in rules 373 and 374, in the event of grave disorder occasioned by a member coming into the well of the House or abusing the Rules of the House persistently and wilfully obstructing its business by shouting slogans or otherwise, such member shall, on being named by the Speaker, stand automatically suspended from the service of the House for five consecutive sittings or the remainder of the session, whichever is less:

Provided that the House may, at any time, on a motion being made, resolve that such suspension be terminated.

(2) On the Speaker announcing the suspension under this rule, the member shall forthwith withdraw from the precincts of the House.”