Title: Obervation regarding maintenance of Dignity and decorum of the Hosue.

11.01 hrs

OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

Re: Maintenance of dignity and decorum of the House

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, my attention has been drawn to some reports in the Print Media and I have also seen some of the news items in the Electronic Media on what has happened in the hon. House yesterday. Unfortunately, somewhat one-sided report has been given in some quarters raising questions about the impartiality of the Chair in dealing with the issue desired to be raised by one hon. Member. As such, I wish to make the position clear.

It is necessary to recall only on 26 July, 2005 one Adjournment Motion was admitted by me and there was a full and comprehensive discussion on the question of infiltration of foreigners into our country including infiltration from Bangladesh. The concerned hon. Member did not choose to take part in the debate nor, so far as I have been informed, was even present in the House. The same matter cannot be raised twice in one Session of the House as clearly provided by the Rules. Just because one hon. Member was not present during the discussion in the House does not justify trying to raise the similar issue within a week or, at all, during that Session. Rules will have to prevail at all times and for all. If there was any doubt, the reason could have been ascertained from the Chair.

The hon. Deputy-Speaker was in the Chair when the question was raised and he had, If I may say so, rightly informed the House of my decision as the Speaker. But nobody met me or tried to know the reasons of my refusal to admit the similar Motion. Whatever may have been the feeling, it could not and cannot ever justify in indulging in behaviour as happened yesterday. I wish to repudiate categorically and with all the authority of the Chair and with all sincerity the reprehensible insinuation that my decision was promoted by political considerations. Making such allegations was a deliberate attempt to insult the Chair and thereby insult the House as a whole.

Since I have had the honour of occupying this great Chair, I have been trying repeatedly and most sincerely appealing to all sections of the House to see that the prestige and dignity of the House is maintained and enhanced, which can be only done by our conducting the proceedings in a manner which justifies the responsibility imposed on us by the people of this great country. During the Monsoon Session, we have had several discussions, which, if I may say so, the Opposition Parties rightly raised and I had admitted Adjournment Motion and allowed discussion under Rule 184 and I am thankful to all the hon. Members for, by and large, cooperating in the maintenance of the dignity and decorum of the House.

However, I shall be failing in my duty if I do not record my total rejection of the grossly defamatory insinuation made against me about taking decisions on political grounds.

I again wish to appeal to all the hon. Members and all sides of the House that as this House belongs to all and ultimately to the people of this country, let us not do or say anything which will, in any way, compromise with the dignity of the House and belie the expectations of the people.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Q. No.181 -- Shrimati C.S. Sujatha.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be allowed.

(Interruptions) ...(Not recorded)

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA (MAVELIKARA): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please cooperate Mr. Ajoy Chakraborty. Please sit down. This is not the time to raise it.

Q. No.181 -- Shrimati C.S. Sujatha[mks1].