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Title: Incident regarding prevention of three members of Parliament by Delhi Police while submitting a memorandum to the Chinese Embassy on 2.12.2004.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I, hon. Member Shri Mohan Singh and hon. Member from Ladakh Shri Thupstan Chhewang, had gathered near Teen Murti Bhawan. We wanted to proceed on foot to the Chinese Embassy just to hand over a memorandum because the Chinese Government has given death sentence to one of the Buddhist monks. So, just to absolve him of this death sentence, we wanted to hand over a memorandum, but the police had stopped us and one police official * told us that he would arrest all of us. We could see that all the people and vehicles were passing through that way. But we, Members of Parliament, have been stopped by the police. We said that we would only go and hand over this memorandum to the Chinese Ambassador. We said that we will

come back if they do not accept it and we are not going to make a forcible entry into the Chinese Embassy. But the police behaved with us as if we are in China.

Sir, I agree that they may not agree with our contention. But India is a democratic country. In a democratic country, do we not have the right just to go and submit a memorandum? I was so startled yesterday that I could not believe my eyes to see that it is my own Government, my own police which is behaving in this manner with Members of Parliament.

So, I seek your protection. I wanted to move a Privilege Motion on this matter because the police prevented Members of Parliament from doing their duty.

One * DCP also came.

* Not Recorded

MR. SPEAKER: Names to be deleted.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : She said you go through the procedure, and the protocol says you will go to the Ministry of External Affairs to give a memorandum. Sir, I am not the Government. I am the people's representative. Should I go to the Ministry of External Affairs just to submit a memorandum?

Ultimately they asked us to come. We went. We submitted the memorandum and we came back. Nothing happened. The heavens did not fall. But I was very surprised. Sir, through you, I am drawing the attention of the Government that we want a good relationship with China, but not in this way. Why is the Government so panicky about China? So, let the Members of Parliament have the right to go. So I appeal to you to kindly instruct the Government that the police should not behave with us, the Members of Parliament, in this way because we do not want to break the law. Thank you very much, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: This is the first time, just now you have brought it to my notice.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Sir, I told you.

MR. SPEAKER: While I was passing the corridor, you said you wanted to mention one thing. Certainly I shall look into it.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Thank you, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: You could have brought it to my notice earlier.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We are all working every minute.