Title: Regarding referring petitions of Shri Rajesh Verma, MP and Leader of Bahujan Samaj Party in Lok Sabha for disqualification of Mohd. Shahid Akhlaque, Shri Ramakant Yadav and Shri Bhal Chandra Yadav to the Committee of Privileges.

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House that on 26 March, 2007, Shri Rajesh Verma gave three petitions under rule 6 of The Members of Lok Sabha (Disqualification on Ground of Defection) Rules, 1985 against Mohd. Shahid Akhlaque, Shri Ramakant Yadav and Shri Bhal Chandra Yadav praying that the Members be declared to have incurred disqualification for being Members of the House under paragraph 2(1)(a) of the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution for having voluntarily given up membership of their original party, namely Bahujan Samaj Party.

In terms of Rule 7(3) of the said Rules, I caused copies of the said three petitions together with their annexures to be forwarded to the said three respondents for furnishing their comments in the matter.

Having received their comments since and having regard to the nature and circumstances of the case, I have decided to refer the three petitions to the Committee of Privileges under rule 7(4) of the said Rules for making a preliminary inquiry and submitting a report to me preferably before the last day of the present Session.

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12.04 hrs.