

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: I understand; I need not require education.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have to educate you, if you are not educated.

[*Translation*]

PROF. MAHADEO SHIWANKAR (Chimur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to have clarification on three-four points. You are also from Maharashtra and you also know the difficulties of cotton growers. Like us, you also observe that the cotton growers grow cotton on thousands of acres of land but every year the monopoly procurement scheme is not started in time and the growers have to suffer heavy losses. We want that the Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme should be extended for another ten years and every year due to indecision of Central Government in the name of giving extension to this scheme the cotton growers are confused about their produce, hence the scheme should be extended for another ten years.

Secondly, I would like to say that the prices of cotton are fixed not in proportion to the cost of production and very few people get remunerative prices. On the basis of cost of production the minimum prices should be fixed at Rs. 1200 or 1250 per quintal. The farmers have to suffer losses and they are in debts. Hence, I would like to say that the farmers should get the remunerative prices on the basis of their cost of production. particularly the areas of Marathvada and Vidarbha are very poor and the people of these areas should get the benefit of remunerative prices. This whole scheme was for the cotton growers...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is not the subject of Central Government, Maharashtra Government is concerned to it.

PROF. MAHADEO SHIWANKAR: I want to say that Central Government should fix higher prices for them.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Central

Government does not pay for it. They them self fix the prices.

PROF. MAHADEO SHIWANKAR: The main thing I want to say that the Central Government should help in this matter. I have raised this point because of it only. I want to raise another point that this scheme is incurring losses. Maharashtra Market Federation does not get permit to export well in time, due to which it always suffers losses. There is a fixed quota for it and it should be given in time. Central Government must consider this matter.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This scheme is of Maharashtra Government.

PROF. MAHADEO SHIWANKAR: Central Government will also have to consider this.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have told you it is not like this. This is Maharashtra Government's Scheme.

PROF. MAHADEO SHIWANKAR: Thank you.

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Malegaon): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Janata Dal Government is the well wisher of farmers in 15 years of Congress rule grave injustice was done to the farmers and now the Janata Government is doing the same to the Monopoly procurement system under pressure.

16.02 hrs.

RE-BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[*English*]

DR. THAMBI DURAI (Karur): Sir, according to today's Agenda, at 4 o'clock we are supposed to take up discussion on Mandal Commission. Since morning we are demanding for its discussion. Now, it is already 4 o'clock, so we, should not continue

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with the Calling Attention. Let us take up the discussion on Mandal Commission, Afterwards, if time permits, we can continue with the Calling Attention.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is a lot of sense in what you say but you all have seen what has happened in the House. I leave to the House to decide in whatever fashion they like.

DR. THAMBI DURAI: Sir, the whole country is agitated over this issue. So many buses are burnt. A number of students have died, A lot of tension is created. It is our duty to see that the tension is reduced. It is the duty of the Members of Parliament to create confidence among the students community. It is high time that we take up discussion on Mandal Commission.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Today, no business has been transacted according to the Agenda. And, if I have given any ruling, it has not been accepted. So, I leave it to the House to decide.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMNAGALAM (Salem): Sir, I understand your problem. It is not simple to handle things in such a kind of situation. But, Sir, the Prime Minister has come in the House so, I think it is important. Time fixed for the discussion was 4 o' clock. Everybody is waiting to hear the views of various parties. So, I would suggest that we should take up the discussion on Mandal Commission.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): Sir let us finish this item listed on the Agenda and then we can take up Mandal Commission. We can sit late and finish it. You take the sense of the House... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now it is 4

O'clock, a concensus has not been arrived at regarding the Bill about Delhi. Therefore feel that the Bill be introduced in the House and a discussion is initiated on it. As was decided yesterday that if we had to sit even upto midnight we will do so and pass the Bill for giving statehood to Delhi. This is my view. Yesterday's consensus agreement may be implemented... (Interruptions) ...That gentlemanly agreement should be implemented even if we may have to sit upto midnight, no matter Congress people support or not it should be taken up today at any cost... (Interruptions)

DR. THAMBI DURAI: It is a very important subject. Hon. Prime Minister is here. We want to listen to him. He should know as to what is happening now in India. This is more important. Therefore, we should take up Mandal Commission.

PROF. MAHADEO SHIWANKAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my point of order is this that discussion on Calling attention has not yet completed. Dr. Khushal Bopche and other honourable members are yet to speak. The Government is yet to decide on the matter. So Government should take decision today, because it is a question related to 10-15 lakh of people. So we want your decision regarding this Calling Attention just today.

[English]

SHRI P. UPENDRA: We propose that tomorrow being a Friday—a day for non-official business—and that some small Bills have to go to the Rajya Sabha and tomorrow being the last day for the Rajya Sabha also, I therefore suggest that the Legislative Business can be completed. We will sit late in the night and finish the discussion on Mandal Commission also.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: No.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: Kindly take the sense of the House. (Interruptions)

DR. THAMBI DURAI: You need not take the sense of the House. According to

Agenda, we can proceed. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND (Chikkodi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister has his own views. He cannot force his views on the House, through you. You have to go by the Order Paper. You see, what is the business that is listed in the Agenda paper at 4 o'clock? Can you change the order and impose the will of the Government on the House? You can't do that. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. UPENDRA: Kindly take the sense of the House. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: After all, I humbly submit that the Deputy Speaker and the House cannot be held to ransom. Deputy Speaker, cannot be held to ransom by the Parliamentary Affairs Minister. he is trying to do that. I am happy that you are not. But the question is that you have to go by the Order Paper. You cannot change the order. (*Interruptions*)

I am sorry to say that, again let not there be any occasion for the Government to impose its will on the House, through you. This is what I am requesting.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not drag me. You had your say.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Mr. Deputy Speaker, let me make it clear. It is not my intention to cast any aspersion on the Chair. But please listen. Our concern is for the item which is listed at 4 P.M. today. The Rules of Procedure says that "the order of business cannot be changed." Let us stick to it. Let us take the item that is listed in the Order Paper. This is my submission.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would not like to impose my views on the House.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: You need not impose your views but we want the views of the Government. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The views of the Government are expressed on the floor of the House. The views of the parties are expressed on the floor of the House. They are recorded. It is for the Members to accept or to reject each other's views. I am not saying that you should accept or reject them. The Presiding Officer's difficulty today is nothing on the Agenda has gone according to the order.

Supposing everything has not gone according to the order and if the House has conducted itself as per the wishes of the members, now this also be decided either by consensus or in whatever fashion you like. I am not going to say, you take it or you don't take it. Now, it is for the House to decide. I am not going to decide on this. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. UPENDRA: Sir, whenever we said 4.00 P.M., we never said whichever is earlier. 4.00 P.M. cannot be treated as a limit. Matters under 193 cannot take precedence over the Government's business. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I do not know what is to be done. Mr. Shankaranand, please take your seat. I do not know what is to be done. If we are discussing all those things which are not on the agenda upto 3.30 p.m., and if we are in the midst of the Calling Attention which is not finished, and if one of the Members having not realized what has happened in the House, is asking me to migrate to the item which is to be taken up at 4 p.m., what do you expect me to do?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: There is a Calling Attention... (*Interruptions*)

DR. THAMBI DURAI: I want to add something to what you have said, Sir, Generally, we are conducting the proceedings in the House this way: there is a list of business on the agenda. We try to cover items as far as possible, according to the agenda. Sometimes we miss some; we are not able to cover them. But when we have fixed the time for an

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item at 4 p.m. it is customary in the House that we take it up at 4 o' clock, and continue with it, unless there is a consensus in the House—not a majority. (*Interruptions*) What you said is correct. We wish to cover all items, but what can we do?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I value the advice given by Dr. Thambi Durai. He has been in the know of the procedure which is followed. I would suggest that the Whips of the parties may meet in the chamber of the Parliamentary Affairs Minister. Up to that, we will complete the discussion on Calling Attention Notice. It is not good to leave it uncompleted.

Now Mr. Hari Shankar Mahale.

DR. THAMBI DURAI: We have also left it like that. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, I am on a point of order.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): In the list of business, only one item has been mentioned specifically, to start at 4 p.m. For none of the others, the time is mentioned. (*Interruptions*) After that, we have the half-an-hour discussion at 5.30 p.m. The Parliamentary Affairs Ministry itself wants that this is to be taken up at 4 p.m. That is specifically mentioned here. To change that, since you advise that the Whips may meet. (*Interruptions*) , my submission is that if anything which is mentioned in the list of business is to be changed, it should be with the consent of the House. I am submitting that if the Whips go separately and decide that it is to be changed, it should be with the consent of the House. It is already mentioned that at 4 p.m. it will be taken up. and there is no consensus for not taking it up at 4 p.m. Then what do we do?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (New Delhi): Sir, in this regard, rule 25 is very clear; and it speaks not of a consensus, but that even the hon. Speaker and the Chair himself has the

right to alter the arrangement of business, if he feels that there is a satisfactory reason for that. I would read it out:

"On days allotted for the transaction of Government business...

and today is one such;

"...such business shall have precedence and the Secretary-General shall arrange that business in such order as the Speaker may, after consultation with the Leader of the House, determine:

Provided that such order of business shall not be varied on the day that business is set down for disposal unless the Speaker is satisfied that there is sufficient ground for such variation."

Here, there is a dispute among Members on whether it should be varied or not; and before the House, on behalf of the Government, formal motion has been presented, that there be a variation, and this should be taken up first. (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: There is no formal motion before the House.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: I have already moved it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, I am not yielding. (*Interruptions*) Even without that motion, it could have been within your legitimate authority to exercise your discretion on the basis of the discussion that took place yesterday or today, to come to any conclusion. But you chose not to do it. But, now this Motion having been moved and if the House decides that this Motion be adopted, then it would be within your authority to see that the decision of the House is carried. This is my submission.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Well, I do agree with what Mr. Advani has said. Rule 25 is very clear and the discretion is given to the Presiding Officer. Even without rule 25 the

inherent jurisdiction and the authority is given to the Presiding Officer to decide. I did not choose to decide today because the business which was not on the agenda dragged on up to 3.30 P.M. That is one reason.

The second reason why I did not choose to decide is because we were in the midst of the Call Attention Motion. The question is whether we should leave the Call Attention in the midst of it or not.

And the third reason is that there are differing views of the members in the House. Some members think that the Mandal Commission Report which is applicable to the entire country is more important and that it should be discussed. Some members have a very strong view that the Delhi State hood Bill has been pending for pretty long years and it should be discussed. Now, when I find that there are views which are at tangent with each other, it is not possible some times to carry the entire House with the Presiding Officer. So, there are two courses open. One course is to move a motion and decide what is to be done. The second course is to have a discussion outside and decide what is to be done. Now, if you want me to decide, I will decide. But if I decide you shall have to follow it. I would like to hear from you.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: The Motion has already been moved.

DR. THAMBI DURAI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am not challenging your ruling. As you observed, whatever you have said is correct. But when you are changing the agenda which has already been approved, then you cannot change it through a motion. If all are accepting it, if the House unanimously accept it as a consensus, then you can do as decided. But by putting through a motion if you change the the agenda it is not fair. In a democracy then minority is not protected. Because, has been done unanimously by consensus. Simply by putting to vote you can do anything. That is there. You can do. Especially, this Mandal Commission report is very important, But the Delhi Bill is also important, they have been agitating for it. I am not disputing that. Therefore, if you

continue according to the agenda on the paper, we will be more grateful to you.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): I think this dilemma can be easily solved. Up till now the practice has been that whatever is fixed by time, that is time-bound, whenever it is fixed like that, you remember that sometimes it is also put here on the agenda that it will be taken up at that time, and whichever is earlier. If it is time-bound, the practice up till now has been that whatever is the subject going on we interrupt that subject, take up the time-bound discussion and after the time-bound discussion is over, we again take up from where we left the unfinished subject. Here, today also, I know that it would have been better if we could have finished the Calling Attention and then taken up the subject. But now the difficulty—I can understand the difficulty of the Government even—is the moment we do not stick to four O'Clock and do not interrupt, and take-up the time-bound discussion, to complete the Calling Attention, then the rest of the items on the agenda are also there. Then everyone will say, "Why not Rule 377 statements?", "why not other items which are listed?" and so on.

So, I would submit, please stick to the earlier practice. Let the House not break that healthy convention, traditions and practice. Sir, under Rule 25 and even under Rule 30, the discretion is given to the Speaker. I entirely agree with you that the residual power as per the rules is entirely with the Chair and with the Speaker. But the Speaker also goes by the healthy practices and conventions. Once we break the convention, it will open a flood-gate. We are on a delicate and an important subject. At least today let us not break this convention. The country is concerned about the Mandal Commission Report. I do not think that we should make a precedent of changing the 4 o' Clock discussion. The whole nation is looking at it. Let us continue with the discussion on Mandal Commission Report. The rest of the items we can take up later. As you remember, other discussion under Rule 193, which has been interrupted, can also be taken up and finished. That is my request.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are three courses open—either the Presiding Officer decides or the Members decide by consensus or the Member decide by voting. If the leaders of the parties are ready to get up and say, then I will decide. Otherwise, I will not decide. I will not decide because I can conduct the business of the House only with your help. If your help is not forthcoming, I will not be able to conduct. Up to this time, I am very sorry to say that I did not get any assistance to conduct the business of the House today. Today is an exceptional day and I could not carry the Members with me. Supposing if I take up the discussion on Mandal Commission Report, those who have given the Calling Attention may not support. Supposing I say that the discussion on Mandal Commission Report should be taken up, those who are for the Delhi Statehood Bill may not support. The result could be that there would be Pandemonium in the House, which should not be there. My request to the Members of the House is that the leaders of the Parties and the Whips should shortly go to Mr. Upendra's Chamber and decide about what to do, and let me know their decision. Until that time, we shall complete the Calling Attention.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Another factor has to be taken into consideration. Apart from what you have said, quite correctly, another new factor has now appeared, which you have to take into consideration. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has formally moved a motion which is before you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is correctly.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: How do you propose to dispose of that motion? You cannot just avoid that motion.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Indrajit Gupta, you are right in saying that. Let him also apply his mind to this motion, whether this motion is as it should be.

DR. THAMBI DURAI: Sir, you have not

disposed of my point of order. My point of order is that at 4 o' Clock, we have to take up the discussion on Mandal Commission Report, as per the Agenda. Therefore, let us stop the proceedings whatever may be, Calling Attention or any other item, and take up the discussion on Mandal Commission Report. You have observed that if you take up the discussion on Mandal Commission Report now, some Members how are listed for Calling Attention and some Members who want to take up the Delhi Statehood Bill will be agitated. That means, you are succumbing to the pressure... (Interruptions) As you have suggested, the leaders of the parties can discuss with Mr. Upendra in his Chamber and arrive at consensus. Till they decide about it, let us take up the discussion on Mandal Commission Report now as per the Agenda. Once they come to a consensus, then we can stop the discussion on Mandal Commission Report and take up the item whatever they decide.

[*Translation*]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (Delhi Sadar): No consensus is being arrived at in this regard. (Interruptions)

[*English*]

SHRI VASANT SATHE: When you lay the practice of changing the business by moving a Government resolution, hereafter no business can ever be transacted because everyday motion can be moved and business can be changed. Then the Chair will be in difficulty... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have answered your point of order. I have said that there is an authority given to the Speaker. I have said that there is a rule accordingly. And the practice which we have followed is by consensus. There have been occasions in the House when the time has been extended and the subject have been changed by putting it to the vote...

DR. THAMBI DURAI: You have said that you are afraid of...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am not afraid of anything. I need not be afraid of anything.

DR. THAMBI DURAI: This is what you have said.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am afraid for you. If you are standing to speak and nobody allows you to speak, then you will have to say to the Chair to control the House. I will not have to speak.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Why do you not leave it to the Business Advisory Committee?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us understand the situation. Are you interested in the discussion? If you are interested in discussing the Mandal Commission's Report or Call Attention or anything else, you please decide. I am not afraid of anything. It is not against me. It is not against the Presiding Officer. It is between the political parties. The Presiding Officer does not speak; it is you who speak. It is the duty of the Presiding Officer to see that the business of the House is conducted in a proper manner. But at times, as you have said, I have to adjourn the House and to see that the order is established. You have yourselves seen it. So let me not prolong it. The practical solution which I have suggested is that you talk to the Parliamentary Affairs Minister. If you fail to do that, then I will decide.

DR. THAMBI DURAI: Then you adjourn the House till that time... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have given my ruling that the Parliamentary Affairs Minister and the Whips should discuss this matter and let us know what is to be done. Now I am continuing with the Calling Attention Motion.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Extension of Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme to Maharashtra—Contd.

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Shri Hari Bhau Shankar Mahale.

[*English*]

SHRI HARI BHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Malegaon): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, National Front Government has done remarkable work for farmers and I congratulate the Government on this account. I listened patiently to the statement made by the Minister. It will not yield any good if they also want to do what the Congress Government did previously. This scheme should be extended for another ten years. The Minister said that he would give his decision very soon.

Farmers are suffering losses. So extension for another ten years should be granted as soon as possible. This is my only suggestion.

DR. KHUSHAL PARASRAM BOPCHE (Bhandara): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to offer a suggestion regarding extension of cotton monopoly scheme in Maharashtra. I welcome the statement made by the honourable Minister in this regard. The Minister said in his statement that they are going to purchase bales of cotton very soon. In this regard may I know from the Minister what he means by very soon.

I also agree to the demand made by my honourable members who spoke prior to me. Every year the farmers have to come to you for their demand of extension of monopoly procurement schemes. It is better to extend this scheme for another next ten years. The farmers should get remunerative price for their produce.

You are aware of the fact that this ses-