

MR. SPEAKER: If you want, again I can put it to division. I have discussed it. I am completely on firm grounds.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: What is the rule?

MR. SPEAKER: This is the general rule. This is the general practice we have been following all along. It is not for the first time we are doing it.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Can you quote any rule by which you are objecting?

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Under what rule you are...

MR. SPEAKER: It was already in process.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It was process before that.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: What process?

MR. SPEAKER: I had already started the process before that.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The ruling has been given.

*(Interruptions)*

19.06 hrs.

RE: DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

**Paragraphs 11 and 12 of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor, General of India for the year ended 31st March, 1988 (No. 2 of 1989)—Union Government Defence Services (Army and Ordnance Factorles)**

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, do you want to start the discussion?

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: Please start the discussion.

*[English]*

Can you start the discussion?

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE (Rajapur): What is this, Sir? When there is such a clear indictment by the CAG on the entire Government...

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: You can say that during the course of discussion.

*[English]*

You can say whatever you want to say in the discussion.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Professor Sahib, can I say something about that?

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): I have your permission?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Sir.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I have been trying to raise it since morning...

MR. SPEAKER: Please do it, Sir.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Your Deputy-Speaker did not allow me. You know better than anybody else... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): You need not give any sermons to us.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH (Padrauna): Are you the only one who can sermonise?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE. We are not sermonising. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Both of you can sermonise, but after I finish. Sir, you know better than anybody else that whenever any matter under Rule 193 or Rule 184 is admitted by you, it is discussed in the Business Advisory Committee as to how to fix up the time and the day in that week when this discussion will be taken up.

MR. SPEAKER: Absolutely.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: This is the normal practice. We have been attending those meetings. Sometimes the Minister's convenience is also taken into account, if the Minister says that he will have to consult such and such Minister whether he will be available on that day or not; and if he will not be available, we change the time. In this particular case, you admitted this motion in the name of Prof. Dandavate and Mr. Jaipal Reddy. And it appeared in the list of business for today. This morning when we opened our parliamentary papers, we found in the list of business that this Item No. 10 had been

included. I immediately got in touch with Prof. Dandavate on the telephone and asked him: "Were you consulted and did you say that this time suits you today?" He said: "No. I was never consulted." In the Business Advisory Committee meeting, not a single Member of the opposition was present. He should have been consulted separately. It may be that the time and the date do not suit him. And today, Sir, we find that this practice has been violated. It is a minor matter, I think, a procedural matter. But even in this matter, his right has been ignored. According to normal norms and conventions, the Mover should always be asked at least once: "We are thinking of putting this down in the list of business for such and such time and date and do you have any objection?" He was not asked even. Therefore, I am saying that the way by which this item has been brought in the list of business for today is absolutely irregular and invalid. And it cannot come in this fashion. I am asking you—with all your long years of experience of how we do these things—to just give your mind to it and let us know your impartial opinion. This is not a matter of any political party or anything like that.

MR. SPEAKER: There is nothing of that. No party was involved.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Why was it done like that without asking him?

(*interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I will ask the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to see me in my Chamber, Sir!

MR. SPEAKER: Yesterday, we had fixed up the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee. I think, it was the day before yesterday that the notice was issued and everybody in the Business Advisory Committee was informed about it. If by any chance any Member had objected to it or said that he could not come...

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Today, it was come.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. Yesterday, the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee was held. Nobody did come. If you had informed me that you could not come or you wanted it to be deferred...

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: How do we know that it is coming up today?

MR. SPEAKER: I am not talking about that yet. I am just talking about the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: What was the state of the House the day before?

MR. SPEAKER: You could have informed me. Anybody could have informed me that this time was not suitable for today and I would not have taken it up.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: How do we know that this time is fixed?

MR. SPEAKER: You are not appreciating my point.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: In the notice also which was sent to us for the meeting it was not mentioned.

MR. SPEAKER: I am talking only about the Business Advisory Committee meeting for which there was a definite notice.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: In the notice there was no mention of the matter which was going to be taken up in that meeting. I can show you that notice. When the time is to be fixed by the Business Advisory Committee for various items, various Bills, matters under Rule 193 or Rule 184, the notice for the Business Advisory Committee meeting includes on the second page those items. But there was no mention of this item.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: Sir, the Minister is on a very weak ground on this count.

MR. SPEAKER: I think you are forgetting, Guptaji, that Bills only are included in

that and we discuss these things on the floor there in the Business Advisory Committee meeting itself that this item should be included, this item should not be included, or this should be given priority and this is not going to get the priority. This is how we discuss it. Because in the House everything was going on in such a manner we thought we must discuss this problem. Professor had himself...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: But the Member in whose name it stands was not even asked.

MR. SPEAKER: I listened to you. Now you listen to me. I will give you my reason.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Why didn't you postpone the Business Advisory Committee meeting?

MR. SPEAKER: Nobody asked me to postpone it.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: We did not know that it was coming up today. There was no question of asking for postponement. Nobody knew that it was coming up today till we got the packet in the morning. You can accept my word.

MR. SPEAKER: Let me explain my position. I don't take any partisan interest in that. I simply sit there, listen to you. I think we always have decided by consensus in the Business Advisory Committee as to what is to be taken up and what is not to be taken up.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: And when to take up.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, and when to take up. This is the procedure. But nobody came yesterday. But the quorum was there. So we decided that we must take up this issue.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: Quorum without the Opposition.

MR. SPEAKER: Nobody informed that we are not coming. If you don't attend, what

can I do? I cannot make you attend.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** Yesterday when the entire disturbance was there in the House and agitation was there, we expected the Business Advisory Committee to tell us...

**MR. SPEAKER:** But there was no agitation there. You could have informed me that you are not attending.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** Who knew that it was coming of today? (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:** The Committee decided it and I am not questioning that. Even if you decided to hold the meeting in the absence of the Opposition Members and you decided that that item must be included, you did not consider it necessary to ask the Member in whose name this is put! (*Interruptions*)

**MR. SPEAKER:** I can go even to that extent that if Dandavateji had any reservations or any difficulty in opening this, I could have deferred this.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** I told the Secretary General as soon as I got the packet. Immediately rang up and said we were not present.....

**MR. SPEAKER:** All right. If you want to work, we can take it up on Monday.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:** Yes.

**THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH):** Kindly allow us to put the record straight. (*Interruptions*)

**MR. SPEAKER:** It should have been referred to me before any objection was taken.

**S. BUTA SINGH:** Before taking a decision I would submit that you have the powers as the Speaker to regulate the business and you can do it according to the convenience of

the House and according to your own wish. It is wrong on the part of Shri Indrajit Gupta and Shri Dandavate to say that the procedure was not followed. firstly there was a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee. Secondly today itself in the Agenda Paper, presentation of the Business Advisory Committee Report was there. The Report was presented to this very House in the presence of the Opposition. This is something unheard of that you be a party in the House to the proceedings of the House and say that you don't accept it. This is a new stance taken by the opposition. (*Interruptions*) Now, according to the Rules and Procedure of Lok Sabha, the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, at Item No: 6 on the Agenda, this morning, has submitted the Committee's report to this House which was adopted by this House. Having adopted this report, how can the opposition, protest now?

Sir, it is upto you; you can extend the time, we have no objection. You can extend the time, we are not objecting to it. (*Interruptions*) But, Sir, the opposition must discharge its responsibilities to this House. (*Interruptions*) They cannot flout like this. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:** No. We have already objected. (*Interruptions*)

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):** I am not saying superficially. I always have great respect for the advice or sermon or whatever you may call it, of Shri Indrajit Gupta.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:** Thank you.

**SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT:** Now, I say this. one thing is very interesting. Does he mean to say that all the time he was not participating in the discussion because the time was not suiting him? Was it so? If he is straight forward, even now he could have said, "I don't want it today, I want it tomorrow.". As the Speaker has said, let us take it up on Monday. We have no objection. We do not

want to quarrel with you. We know, why you are doing it. Even now, if you say, "Don't have it today, and have it on Monday", we have no objection. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Resignation first and then discussion.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: We are prepared to accommodate Prof. Madhu Dandavate and have it on Monday. But don't give false arguments. Please be straight forward. (*Interruptions*) You give a motion and you do not want a debate what is this?

MR. SPEAKER: You can give an amendment to the Business Advisory Committee report, if you want.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, matters under Rule 377.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: What is this, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing goes on record.

(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Is the proposal acceptable to you, to have it on Monday? We can refer it to the Business Advisory Committee, again.

[*Translation*]

Is Monday acceptable to you?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Why do you interrupt. This is very bad.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: What is left in it now?

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You can give an amendment to the Business Advisory Committee report.

If you like, I can call a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee tomorrow at 10 O' Clock.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHAIRA: Alright, Sir. (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: You ask him to resign.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Why do you ask for a thing which beyond my powers?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: How can I do in when I don't have such powers?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I can only allow a discussion.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Till he enjoys the confidence of the House I cannot do anything, nor can you do.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You call the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee. We accept that proposal.

MR. SPEAKER: We have the meeting tomorrow at 10 O'clock.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar): What about the Prime Minister?

MR. SPEAKER: I am not concerned. I cannot do anything and I will not oblige you on that.

[*Translation*]

The matter is over. Please proceed further.

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Why don't you ensure the presence of the Prime Minister in the House?

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: If even after this you do not let the House carry on its business I will take it that it is basically wrong. Please sit down.

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: When the whole country is rocked by this episode, why does he not come to the House? (*Interruptions*)

19.12 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*Translation*]

- (I) **Need to Improve the conditions of Bidi workers by releasing more funds from Bidi Workers' Welfare Fund**

SHRI NANDLAL CHOUDHARY (Sa-

gar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, crores of rupees are being deposited into the Central Bidi Workers' Welfare fund by way of cess on *bidis*. But adequate assistance is not being provided to *bidi* worker from this fund. I appeal to the Central Government to increase the rate of scholarship given to wards of *bidi* workers. Housing facility should be provided to the homeless *bidi* workers by releasing more funds for the purpose. Parks, community halls, clubs and other recreational facilities should be provided in areas inhabited by *bidi* workers. Free medical facilities should be made available to *bidi* workers and a separate hospital should be opened in each 'Tehsil' for them. There is an immediate need for a 50-bed hospital in my constituency of Sagar as it has the highest concentration of *bidi* workers. Keeping in view the pitiable living conditions of *bidi* workers, I request that there should be a life insurance cover for every *bidi* workers for a minimum amount of Rs. 10,000. The insurance premia should be paid from the *Bidi Workers Welfare Fund*. Adequate financial assistance and loans under a special task programme should be provided to the educated unemployed children of the *bidi* workers. A special recruitment drive should be undertaken to induct them into the Government services. The Central Government is requested to issue directives to all the State Governments for suitable upward revision of minimum wages now being paid to *bidi* workers. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Earlier also you created disorder. Now you are back at it? It was broken by you.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is neither under your control nor mine. You have done a wrong thing. It was broken by you. This doesn't behove you.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Pressure tacting do not pay other may surpass you on this score.