

Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh are functioning under the management of Kanpur Sugar works (British India Corporation). The payment of arrears of wages of workers and dues of sugar cane growers are outstanding against these mills. An amount of Rs. 2.5 crore is outstanding against Gauri Bazar Sugar Mill whereas Padrauna Sugar Mill and Kath Kuanya Sugar Mill have to pay Rs. 6.5 crore and Rs. 3.5 crore respectively. The farmers are agitated. Large resentment is there among the lakhs of farmers for non-payment of their dues even after one year. The over all situation in these regions looks explosive. The Central Government is requested to arrange the payment of outstanding dues of the farmers by all those Mills which are functioning under the Textile Ministry before Holi festival.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, what should we do? Should we adjourn for Lunch?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): I will speak after Lunch.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Shailendra Mahto, do you want to say something?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, after his statement, we will adjourn.

13.09 hrs

PERSONAL EXPLANATION UNDER RULE 357

[Translation]

SHRI SHAIENDRA MAHTO (Jamshedpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak under Rule 184. Yesterday, I had gone to Noida. Due to some reasons, I am sorry that some points have been raised in my absence. I want to say something very personal.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Somnath Chatterjee and Shri Arjun Singh had given a notice of Breach of privilege against me on the basis of the Press Conference jointly attended by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Shri Ram Jethmalani and myself on 26th February. The honourable members of Opposition have made allegation against me in the discussion made under Rule 184, which began yesterday, that I have taken money to vote against the No Confidence Motion in July, 1993, which is beyond truth. I would like to give clarification regarding some points in this

context. The fact is that we the members of Jharkhand Mukti Morcha alongwith Shri Buta Singhji met the hon. Prime Minister at his residence and discussed about the Constitution of Jharkhand Autonomous Council. It's a fact that I am a Jharkhandi. I have been fighting for jharkhand for the last twenty years and will continue to do so in future as well for the Jharkhand state. While replying to discussion on the No-Confidence Motion the hon. Prime Minister gave assurance for resolving the Jharkhand Council issue. Only after that we voted in favour of the Government. So far as the question of depositing money in a Bank is concerned that was our party fund and with consent of the party it was given to me for party work. This is all I have to say.

Yesterday, some such issues also cropped up in this House..... (Interruptions) You please keep quite. I was not expelled from the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha. It is totally baseless. On 9th August, 1995 when Jharkhand Council was constituted the inner conflict which commenced due to difference of opinion in the Party. I had been served a notice on 26th November, directing me to take oath in the Jharkhand Council, failing which disciplinary action would be inevitable against me. I explained my position and thereafter, I had been removed from the post of general secretary on 2nd December. With this I decided to join the Bharatiya Janata Party on my own.

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee visited Ranchi on 7th January, and in a mass meeting I joined the party. But even before this I was expelled, on 5th January. What Shri Mandal said yesterday is not correct. On 6th January the Press reported that I was expelled. Therefore, I did not see any need to send my resignation. This is my own statement.....(Interruptions).

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): Where were you taken yesterday? Where were you kept? They blamed us that we Ministers prevented you from coming here.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now the House stands adjourned for Lunch till Thirty Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

13.11 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Thirty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

14.32 hrs

The Lok Sabha Re-assembled after Lunch at thirty two minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): You have given this understanding that the Members should be allowed to speak whatever they want to speak and, therefore, we have fielded many speakers. If they do not get a chance to speak with full freedom, then there is the problem. If they are not given a chance, that would mean getting away from your assurance. So they should continue to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee, we have this motion to thank the President. We have the Budget. I have said that we will discuss Purulia matter. So, we shall have to adjust.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: It means some discussions would be cut out.

MR. SPEAKER: We do not start with the intention of cutting the discussion at all.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barti): There are other items also such as Bihar scam. We want to discuss that also.

[English]

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI (Kodarma): There is no scam in Bihar. Moreover, the subject of Bihar is a State subject. That is why it should not be discussed here. Moreover, that matter is *sub judice*. That is why, it cannot be discussed here. (Interruptions) There are many irregularities which have taken place. They can be clubbed together and discussed here. (Interruptions). The matter is *sub-judice*. That is why it cannot be taken up. That is a State subject.... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record.

(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): Sir, my submission is: let the discussion be completed by tomorrow.

The voting should take place on 6th as a first item. That is what we suggest.

MR. SPEAKER: What do you say? How do you respond to this suggestion?

.....(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: So many things are involved. Further information is coming up. Why do you want to shut out this discussion? You can have the voting on 6th morning.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): We are ready. All of our Member are here. Today itself, we are ready.

MR. SPEAKER: Ready for what?

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: We are ready for today's voting. It can go on up to six of the clock.

MR. SPEAKER: They are saying that they need more time.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): I have the authorisation of the hon. Leader of the Opposition as also the Mover of the Motion to concur with what others have said. If it meets with your convenience and your approval, then this particular debate be carried forward till 6th and concluded on the 6th.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us understand one thing. This is a matter which we wanted to discuss and we are discussing it. But there are other items also which we should be taking up. That also should be borne in mind. Will there be cooperation on the other matters?

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): Let everyone say about it.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: They would be able to come or not, this should have to be ensured. People will come to know about it later on. This is really difficult to understand as to how those

Members, who will go to their home, can be able to come back on 6th.

[English]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): The voting should not be today so that we can go.

MR.SPEAKER: That is right, Let the discussion continue, I will request the Leaders to come inside and discuss with me.

14.38 hrs

MOTION RE: EXPRESSION OF DISSATISFACTION AT GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE TO ANSWER CHARGES RELATING TO THE HAWALA CASE AND TO ALLEGATIONS ABOUT ILLEGAL PAY OFFS TO SOME MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT - *CONTD.*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is such an issue that many Members wish to make submissions. I am sure, Sir, you will be kind enough to give that opportunity as you have done it in the past. I have no doubt that opportunity will be given to them.

What I was submitting yesterday was - at the time when the House rose before the Budget was to be presented - the issue that had come up about the statement made by one of the Members of this House about the circumstances in which he and some of his colleagues in the House had voted against the No-Confidence Motion in July 1993. And a direct allegation has been made against the Prime Minister and the Leader of the House. So, we had heard Shri Suraj Mandal. We heard Shri Buta Singh yesterday. We are yet to get the views of the Prime Minister and nobody has spoken as yet for the Prime Minister. No Minister has intervened.

MR.SPEAKER: Shri Somnath Chatterjee, I had sent that notice to him. He has replied to me denying it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I am not saying this. Up till now, no Minister has given any views. Then we have heard this morning Shri Shailendra Mahto. One thing is very clear. It has been admitted by three hon. Members of this House that because of what the hon. Prime Minister had said about the Jharkhand issue, the voting was done. At least the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha Members exercised their votes on the basis of the Prime Ministers' assurance given on the floor of the House and at an earlier meeting. Forgetting for the time being, whether any money had been transferred or had changed hands or not, in my respectful submission before this House, this is nothing but an

interference with the exercise of the duties of a Member. And this is nothing but a breach of privilege of this House. I just indicated this when we rose yesterday. I did not have a copy of May's Parliamentary Practice yesterday. But I have a copy of May's Parliamentary Practice whose authority or whose acceptability cannot be doubted. On page 158 of the Twentieth Edition, it clearly says and I quote:

"Conduct not amounting to a direct attempt to influence a Member in the discharge of his duty, but having a tendency to impair his independence in the future performance of his duties will also be treated as a breach of privilege."

No. question of money, no question of direct influence is here. The illustration has been given of a particular case that happened in 1963. In England on 25th June, 1963 the Speaker ruled:

"The letter sent by a parliamentary agent to a member informing him that the promoters of a private deal would agree to a certain amendment on conditions that he and other Members associated with him would refrain from further opposition to the Bill constitute in a Prima facie a breach of privilege".

Therefore, you withdraw your support to the No-Confidence Motion, you oppose it, this is the benefit you will get. This is a political sop which has been given. They have said....(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): I am on a point of order. Rule 186 says that the Motion under Rule 184 shall not raise a question of privilege. This is what the hon. Member is doing.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: This is very amazing. I am not raising a question of privilege. We are saying, how the governance of this country is being carried out. However affairs of this House(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: May was quoted only to show that this is a question of privilege.....(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I have read it in the House that the Prime Minister is guilty of interfering with the Members' discharge of their duties according to their free will. And if you are so keen, we can bring a free Motion of privilege against your leader..... (Interruptions)