

12-06 hrs.

**QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE AGAINST (i) EDITOR, THE NATIONAL HERALD AND (ii) SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR, M.P.**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri K.P. Unnikrishnan had given a notice of question of privilege on the 14th August, 1978 against the Editor, *The National Herald*, New Delhi, for alleged "gross distortion and wilful misrepresentation" of certain proceedings of Lok Sabha of the 12th August, 1978, and casting "aspersions" on their "conduct as Members in the House" in a news report published in its issue dated the 13th August, 1978, under the caption "Major Tactical Reverse".

The Editor, *The National Herald*, who was asked to state what he might have to say in the matter, in his reply dated the 19th August, 1978, has stated *inter alia*, as follows:

"Our reporter has explained that in his attempt to give the gist of the tumultuous proceedings of the day in an abbreviated form, unintentional errors had crept into the report. He has further stated that it was farthest from his mind while reporting the proceedings to misquote any member or misrepresent any party's view point. We express regret and offer our unqualified apology for the erroneous reporting and request that the notice of breach of privilege against *The National Herald* is not pressed."

In view of the regret and unqualified apology tendered by the Editor, *The National Herald*, if the House agrees, the matter need not be pursued. The Editor of *The National Herald*, may, however, be asked to publish the necessary correction and his apology prominently in the next issue of the newspaper.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Pandit D. N. Tiwari, M.P., Chairman, House Committee, had given a notice of question of privilege on 3rd August, 1978, against Shri Somjibhai Damor, M.P. for making certain unfounded allegations against him in the House on the 31st July, 1978 and also in a letter addressed by him (Shri Somjibhai Damor) to the Speaker on that date, regarding allotment of houses to the Members belonging to the Scheduled Tribes.

Shri Somjibhai Damor was requested to furnish his comments on the matter and either to substantiate the allegations made by him or to express regret. Shri Somjibhai Damor in his reply dated the 23rd August, 1978, has stated:

"In this regard, I express my unqualified regrets to you and also to Chairman of the House Committee."

In view of the unqualified regrets expressed by Shri Somjibhai Damor, if the House agrees, the matter may be treated as closed.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

12.10 hrs.

## MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 26th August, 1978, agreed without any amendment to the Delhi Police Bill, 1978, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 24th August, 1978."

12.11 hrs.

## CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED "IOLENT CLASHES INVOLVING NAVAL PERSONNEL, WORKERS OF HINDUSTAN SHIPYARD AND BUS WORKERS

श्री विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा (बलिन बिल्ली) :  
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, श्री अलिम्बानी लोकमहल के निम्नलिखित विषय की ओर गृह मंत्री का ध्यान दिनाता हूँ और प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वह इस बारे में एक बक्तव्य दें :-

"विशाखापत्तनम में नौसेना कर्मचारियों तथा हिन्दुस्तान शिपयार्ड के कर्मचारियों और इस कर्मचारियों के बीच हुई हिंसक मूठभेड़, जिसमें पांच व्यक्ति मारे गये, से उत्पन्न विपत्ति का समाचार"।

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अलिक लाल मंडल) : महोदय, सरकार को विशाखापत्तनम में 26 और 27 अगस्त, 1978 को हुई घराजकता की दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण घटनाओं जिनके परिणामस्वरूप तीन व्यक्तियों की जानें गईं, पर बहुत दुःख हुआ है। सरकार इस विषय में राज्य प्राधिकारियों के साथ सम्पर्क बनाए हुए है।

26 अगस्त को काफी शाम को नौसेना के कर्मचारियों तथा हिन्दुस्तान शिपयार्ड के सिविलियन कामचारों, जो एक बस में यात्रा कर रहे थे, के बीच कहा मुनी हो गई। हिन्दुस्तान शिपयार्ड के श्रम