

[Shri Gauri Shanker Rai]

inside the House in a most contemptuous manner and has insulted the House. She has imputed motives also. It is a clear breach of privilege and contempt of the House because contempt of a member of the House is contempt of the House itself.

In her statement she has said :

"However, I find that some leaders of the Janata party government are determined to pursue their smear campaign of character assassination inside and outside parliament so as to denigrate not only me but the congress party as a whole. The Home Minister's recent statement about an alleged plan (or thinking) in my government to shoot down leaders of the opposition in jail is shocking and preposterous and has no basis whatsoever. This is the very limit to malicious propaganda deliberately carried on by some leaders of the Janata party".

another place she says :

"The whole idea is outrageous and could occur only to one who himself is thinking along these lines. It is one more instance of the type of misrepresentation and insinuation which are current these days."

Now.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No explanation now. I had just received this notice, before I entered the House. I will have to go through it and after going through it I shall decide about it.

SHRI GAURI SHANKER RAI : I should like to be heard before you reach your decision.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I shall give the ruling on Monday. I have gone through the statement.

श्री जनेवर निख (इलाहाबाद) :  
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आप इनकी पूरी बात सुन लीजिए। हो सकता है कि इस सदन के कुछ और सदस्य भी इस पर कुछ कहना चाहें।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have to go through the motion. If there is any prima facie question of privilege involved, then only the question will arise.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY (Bombay-North-East). May I mention something now ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please do not say anything now.

(ii) ALLEGED MISLEADING INFORMATION RE. BELCHI INCIDENT GIVEN BY THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS ON 13-7-77

SHRI B. RACHAIAH (Chamarajanagar) : Sir, I have given a notice of privilege motion against the incorrect statement made by the hon. Home Minister about the incident that took place in Belchi village on 13th June, 1977. A Parliamentary Committee consisting of Scheduled Caste Members have visited the spot and they have made on-the-spot study. There has been a lot of discrimination in the statement made by the Home Minister. The statement is misleading.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have gone through that also. Let me make my observation on that later. I received three notices of question of privilege from Shri K. Chandrappan, Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan, Shri K. A. Rajan Shri B. Rachaiiah and Shri B. P. Kadam regarding alleged misleading information given to the House on 13th June, 1977 in the statement made by the Minister of Home Affairs on the calling attention matter about the atrocities on Harijans in Belchi village in Bihar. In accordance with the practice of the House in such matters, I have sent copies of the notices to the Minister of Home Affairs for his factual comments. I will take a decision in the matter after I receive a reply from the Home Minister.

#### MATTER UNDER RULE 377

NEWS ITEM ABOUT ROLE OF SHRI SANJAY GANDHI IN AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR OFF-SHOOT DRILLING

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY (Bombay-North-East) : I wish to bring to the notice of the House the iceberg of corruption in which the former Prime Minister's son, Mr. Sanjay Gandhi has been involved, and in which account our country's reputation in the entire world has been very greatly spoiled. I read from the record a news item in the latest News week of July, 1977 which says :

"Indira Gandhi's son, Sanjay, is the target of yet another inquiry by Indian authorities. The Indian Government is investigating his role in negotiations—conducted while Mrs. Gandhi was still in power that ultimately led to a Government Française contract to pay the compagnie Française des Pétroles, (a french company)...."

(Interruptions)