

[Shri Morarji Desai]

precautions, but we must go with confidence and the courage. If my hon. friend, the External Affairs Minister suspected something, he is as human as the hon. Members are. And, therefore, I cannot say that he is less human. If he suspects, I am not going to quarrel with him. I only say I do not go on suspicions, not that their suspicion would not come to me also but then I do not act on suspicion. That is the only difference. I have nothing more to say.

12.40 hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE. CALLING ATTENTION NOTICES

MR. SPEAKER: On the 1st and 2nd December, 1977 Members had raised certain points about the procedure for dealing with Calling Attention notices. Subsequently, the matter also figured at the sitting of the Business Advisory Committee held on 2nd December, 1977. I have carefully gone through the objections raised by the Members, the provisions of rule 197 which governs the procedure for Calling Attention and the past practice.

One of the objections raised on the 1st December, 1977 was that the Members whose Adjournment Motions had been converted into Calling Attention notices should have given separate notices under rule 197 to become eligible to participate in the ballot. I had agreed to that and explained under what circumstances names of those Members were included in the ballot. In this connection I may mention that the practice followed during the last Lok Sabha was that names of only those Members who had tabled Calling Attention notices were balloted for determining the names of 5 Members which were to be included in the entry for List of Business. On the 24th June, 1977 when Members tried to make submissions regarding their notices about lock-out in *Indian Express* and *Financial Express*, my distinguished predecessor observed in the

House that he had admitted a Calling Attention on the subject and names of Members who had tabled Short Notice Questions and notices under rule 377 would also be balloted. From that time the practice has been to include in the ballot for Calling Attention notices the names of Members who had tabled Short Notice Questions and notices under rule 377 on the subject.

Taking into account the objections raised on the 2nd December, 1977 that if decision on a Calling Attention notice was delayed, chances of the Members who had tabled Calling Attention at the first opportunity finding place in the ballot became relatively less when the number of names to be balloted increased on account of other Members tabling Calling Attention notices subsequently, I have decided that we may revert to the old procedure under which names of only those Members were balloted who tabled Calling Attention notices.

Similarly, the ballot under Rule 54 (4) for clubbing names on an admitted Short Notice Question shall be restricted only to Members tabling Short Notice Questions on that subject and names of Members tabling Calling Attention notices on the Subject shall not be included therein.

In other respects, keeping in view the provisions of rule 197, I have decided to follow hereafter the following procedure in the matter of Calling Attention notices:—

(i) All Calling Attention notices received upto 10.00 hours on any day will be placed immediately before me for my consideration. I will go through all of them and then select one of them for a statement by the concerned Minister at the sitting of the House on the following day.

(ii) The Members who have tabled Calling Attention notices on the Subject and the Minister concerned

will be informed about the admission of the notice. The rest of the notices shall be treated as not selected and will lapse under the provisions of rule 197(5). Where a Member is not informed about the selection of his Calling Attention notice, he should take it that his Calling Attention notice has not been selected and no intimation about this will be given to the Member. This is also as per the practice followed in the past.

(iii) Any Member whose notice has not been selected will, however, have the right to revive his notice for a subsequent day by giving a fresh notice and such notice will be reconsidered by me along with other notices received for that day.

(iv) The Calling Attention selected by me would normally be listed in the Agenda of the next sitting. However, I will have my discretion to allow a Calling Attention at the end of the day on which notices are given if I feel that the matter is so urgent that the statement must be made on the same day.

(v) The ballot for determining the names of 5 Members for inclusion in the List of Business will be held on the day on which the notice is selected by me and all Calling Attention notices on the subject received upto 10.00 hours on that day will be included in the ballot.

The above procedure should not be taken to imply that I must admit a Calling Attention notice for each sitting because admission of the notice will be entirely subject to the rules and subject to my judgment that the matter sought to be raised calls for an urgent statement from the Minister.

I hope the above procedure will remove all misgivings about the procedure for Calling Attention and it will work to the satisfaction of all sides of the House.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola): On this I want to make one submission. Formerly, once you decided

it was balloted in the afternoon itself and on the notice board next day's call attention was put up so that we knew whether ours was rejected or accepted as tomorrow's call attention.

MR. SPEAKER: I am told it is being done.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begusarai): But it looks rather odd that a Member hailing from a particular area which is affected in any way does not find a place; if his name does not figure in the list of those who have given notice of call attention it looks odd. I shall give you an illustration. If a cyclone hit my area and my name does not figure in the list, would it not look very odd and strange? The Chair in such cases should exercise its discretionary power and include one member; otherwise it would be very unnatural. Let five names remain; but let one name be added by the Chair. Otherwise the House would not be benefiting from the information that can be made available by the Member hailing from that area. Kindly consider this suggestion.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): Why do you not send it to the Rules Committee?

MR. SPEAKER: If you send a motion I will send it.

SHRI SHAMBHU NATH CHATURVEDI (Agra): What is the necessity of reviving those notices time and again?

MR. SPEAKER: Kindly read Rule 197.

12.45 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

THIRTY-FIFTH REPORT

**SHRI GAURI SHANKAR RAI (Ghazi-
pur):** Sir, I beg to present the Thirty-fifth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Hundred and Seventy-ninth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) on 'Production of Polio Virus Vaccine.'