JULY 11, 1977

Privilege

200

I direct that papers should be laid on the Table.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Then you have to tell today that you are going to supersede your earlier direction number two.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: When I called for the papers to be laid, you did not stand up. After it was called, you stood up. So, I think the order will be that after the papers are laid, you can raise the point.

DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR OFFICERS (FEES) AMDT. RULES, 1976 AND NOTIFICATION UNDER DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR OFFICERS (FEES) AMDT. RULES, 1976

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Diplomatic and Consular Officers (Fees) Amendment Rules, 1976 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 817(E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th October, 1976, issued under section 8of the Diplomatic and Consular Officers (Oaths and Fees) Act, 1948. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-651/ 77].

(2) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 922(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th December, 1976, issued under the Diplomatic and Consular Officers (Fees) Amendment Rules, 1976. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-652/77].

12.27 hrs.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE AGAINST SHRI KISHORE J. TANNA OF JAMNA DASS MADHAVJI AND COMPANY, BOMBAY SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Under rules 222/223, I hereby seek your consent to raise a question involving a breach of privilege of the House. I wish to raise this today at the appropriate time (vide directions) after the question hour. The facts of the case are as follows:

Shri Kishore K. Tanna of Jamna Dass Madhavji and Company Bombay, one of the firms against whom serious charges of economic offences and malpractices have been correctly levelled has written a letter to the Editor of the Times of India and got it published in the issue today. The relevant portion which is related to my privilege motion reads as follows:

"While we do not mind any enquiry against us we feel that the official action in publicising the names of the firms without any proved charge against them is unfair. It seems to be a politically motivated cheap gimmic."

This refers to the reply the Commerce Minister, Shri Mohan Dharia, gave in response to my compelling insistance on the floor of the House during the debate on the Demands of the Ministry. He did not do it suo motto. I also gave a notice to the Lok Sabha and also wrote to the Minister insisting to get fullest details about the criminal misappropriation of our precious foreign exchange of about 600 crores of rupees by 13 firms dealing in oils. In the list of names this firm's name should also be seen.

The unwarranted criticism and insinuations made in the letter under reference clearly amounts to a breach of privilege of the House where it is the right of the House to get fullest details on matters of public importance and therefore, this action is motivated and deliberate. The writer of this letter has shown contempt of the House and for this sérious misdeed, he should be brought to book immediately and that could be done by referring the matter to the Pri-