

MR. SPEAKER: Why should he have this special privilege of speaking before lunch while others should be kept waiting for lunch?

SHRI PILOO MODY: I think they will digest my speech better on a hungry stomach.

MR. SPEAKER: He does not have any lunch and therefore, he is saying this.

SHRI PILOO MODY: For those who do not have appetite, it may even create an appetite.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a secret how he has such a body without eating.

SHRI S. M BANERJEE: How much time are you allotting for this privilege motion, Sir, I think you may allot three hours for it.

MR. SPEAKER: We shall finish it by 4 P.M. when we shall take up the other motion.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: In that case, let us carry on up to four o'clock and let be no lunch hour, because we want to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: I think those Members who want to speak may keep on while the others may quietly slip away and have their lunch.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Is it that you want to eat away the privilege motion or the adjournment motion?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think we can adjourn for about half an hour and re-assemble at two-o'clock. Let us have some lunch hurriedly, reasonable at two o'clock, and finish this before we take up the other motion at four o'clock.

12.24 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after lunch at five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]
RE. CALCUTTA HIGH COURT
JUDGMENT IN RAILWAY EM-
PLOYEES CASE

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Piloo Mody.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Before that, Sir, I want to raise a very important matter. The Calcutta High Court has set aside the order of removal from service of several railway personnel passed under Rule 14(11) of the Railway Servants (Discipline and Appeal) Rules 1968 read with proviso (B) to Article 311(2) of the Constitution. This is what has been reported in today's papers. The Judgment has far-reaching consequences in ending the victimisation of thousands of railway employees. I seek your permission to raise this issue in the House today to secure a clear assurance from the Government that they will respect the High Court's judgment and not challenge it in the Supreme Court. Since we are at the fag end of the session, I would request the Government to make a statement. Without losing their face, taking advantage of the Calcutta High Court's judgment, they can see to it that the victimisation is ended and the workers are protected.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): They have said that the dismissals were illegal.

It is a very serious matter.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Ausgram): I have also given notice under rule 377 to raise this matter. As Mr. Dandavate pointed out, the Calcutta High Court has set aside the order of removal from service of several railway personnel. I support Mr. Dandavate's demand that the minister should make a statement. I want immediate reinstatement of

[Shri Krishan Chander Haldar]

the dismissed railway employees took part in the recent railway strike

SHRI S M BANERJEE (Rampur)
 Sir, the Calcutta High Court has set aside the dismissal of the railway employees. The Supplementary Demands for Railways are going to be discussed tomorrow most probably. Before that discussion starts, the minister should make a statement that they will not go to the Supreme Court and they will reinstate all the workers whose services have been terminated or who have been dismissed. If that statement is not made, what will happen? I have gone through the Supplementary Demands.

I have gone through the supplementary Demands for Grants for Railways and there is no provision made for the amount by way of payments to be made to such employees whose services have been terminated.

I would only request you to direct the Railway Minister to make a provision there. Otherwise, it will be difficult to have a discussion on the Demands.

SHRIMATI PARVATI KRISHNAN (Coimbatore). Sir, I want to add only one word to what has already been said by Shri Banerjee. In taking this action, the Government, the Railway Minister and the Railway Board should also see that all those employees whose appeals have been rejected and whose dismissals, removals from service have been confirmed should also be taken back. It should not be said that their dismissals, removals, have been confirmed because these dismissals, removals, from service, as per the judgement of the Calcutta High Court, have been shown to be totally illegal.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER. Shri Pilloo Mody

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Sir, you kindly direct the Minister....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Supplementary Demands for Railways are coming for discussion.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I would request you and appeal to you to kindly direct the Minister (*Interruptions*) Now that we have made our submissions, we would request you to make certain observation..

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All right—I will make some observation. The only observation is that the Government will take note of the submissions made by the hon Members. Now, Shri Pilloo Mody

SHRI DHAMANKAR (Bhiwandi)
 Sir I have given a notice under Rule 377.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is not the time for notices under Rule 377.

SHRI DHAMANKAR: I will take only a minute.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What do you want to say?

SHRI DHAMANKAR: Sir, there are reports in a section of the press that about Rs. 2 crores of insurance premia deducted from the salaries of policy holders under the Salary Savings Scheme and paid to the L.I.C. are lying un-adjusted for years in the Nagpur Division of L.I.C. Similar unadjustment of fund is also reported in other divisions of L.I.C. It is likely that the policy holders may suffer because those amounts have not been adjusted. I would request the Government to go into this and make the necessary arrangements.

14.13 hrs

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE—contd.

CERTAIN NEWS REPORT IN PRATIPAKSHANA, A HINDI WEEKLY