

कुछ ऐसी बातें हुईं जिससे हम लोगों को और इस सदन की मर्यादा को चोट पहुंचे तो क्या हम उस पर बोल सकते हैं या नहीं—इस पर मैं आपका निर्णय चाहता हूँ।

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot say anything off hand. Rule 373 is not connected with Rule 377.

11.54 hrs.

MATTER UNDER RULE 377

RE. PROCEDURE IN THE HOUSE ON 5-9-74

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE (Banka): Mr. Speaker, Sir, after you re-entered the House to take your seat on the Thursday evening, I quietly returned to my seat. I said not a word during the discussion that followed. I did this because I did not wish to aggravate matters.

I have since studied Shri Vasant Sathe's so-called "Counter Motion". It was in effect an amendment, no matter by what name it is called. It should have been moved immediately after the mover of the privilege motion had finished his opening speech. I am not going into the question of its admissibility. To move it at a later stage in the Debate would have been irregular. After Sh. Piloo Mody's reply speech to allow Shri Sathe to move an amendment or a "Counter Motion" was to make nonsense of all procedures of the House. How could I tolerate that?

Lok Sabha Bulletin, Part I, says that at 6.30 P.M. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee moved a Motion that the House be adjourned.

But Members can move adjournment of the House only under Rules 56—63 to discuss a matter of urgent public importance and under no other rule

What the Opposition wanted was that the Chair should adjourn the House in view of the fact that the

matter under consideration, namely, Sh. Piloo Mody's Privilege Motion and my amendment to it had been disposed off, and the sitting could not be extended without the sanction of the House. At this stage, a Motion could have been moved that the sitting be prolonged upto say 7.30 P.M. or 3.30 P.M. or what-ever the time desired. Shri Raghuramaiah often moves such Motions. But Sh. Raghuramaiah moved no such Motion at 6.30 P.M. on Thursday. Did any other Member move such a Motion? The answer is an emphatic 'No'. Yesterday's Debate and Bulletin Pt. II will bear me out.

In the absence of a Motion to prolong the sitting beyond 6.30 P.M., the subsequent proceedings were irregular. Under what Rule, I would like to ask, did the Chair allow the Adjournment Motion to be moved? Under what Rule, may I know, Shri Sathe was called upon to move the "Counter Motion"? The next item on the List of Business yesterday was Shri Deva Kanta Borooah's statement; and Oil Development Board Bill.

Under what rule could the Chairman take up a Motion of which no proper notice had been given and which was not on the Order Paper?

Even the Motion seeking to suspend the relevant Rules had not been made to enable any "Counter Motion", of the type which Shri Sathe sought to move, to be discussed in the House.

You told the House after you returned to your seat that you had admitted the Motion. But you said that you did not know the stage reached in the Debate on Shri Piloo Mody's Motion. Any way, the amendment or "Counter Motion" could not come after Shri Mody's Motion had been negatived.

So at 6.30 P.M., there was no validly-constituted sitting, for no Motion for extending the sitting had been moved and adopted

I need not say that I am a person who respects Parliament and its pro-

cedures. I never insult the Chair. But in my whole parliamentary career I never witnessed such a naked display of force by the Government majority. There are ways and ways of doing things. If the Government wanted to avoid the acute embarrassment in which it found itself as a result of Opposition tactics, it should have shown sufficient alertness and vigilance betimes. It did not do that. Even then other means were available to it. They did not adopt these means. They wanted to dictate to us and to the House, and that is the reason why I instinctively revolted against this procedure.

While I shall continue to show all the respect that is due to the Chair, I had expected the Chairman would conduct the business of the House in accordance with the procedure of the House?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): With your permission, Sir, may I just say a few words?

What happened in this House on the 5th September is most unfortunate. I also am not going into the merits or otherwise of the case. We know, in our democratic system, there will always be differences between hon. Members on this side of the House and the hon. Members of the Opposition. But what is important is how expression is given to these differences.

As I said, I am not going into the question of merits. But, I think, there can be no two opinions that Parliamentary business should be conducted with dignity and decorum and in accordance with the rules. And it is the duty of all of us to help you in this task.

I would again like to repeat that, whatever be the differences on any issue, nothing should be done by any one which would affect the dignity of the House.

Hon. members of the Opposition are always very loud in their criticism when somebody from this side does something wrong. Sometimes we also do something wrong; some of our members do sometimes get agitated over certain matters. But the hon. members as well as the members of Opposition, do not seem to apply the same standards to themselves. This is what I am pleading for. Whatever be the differences on any issue, nothing should be done by any one which would in any manner affect the dignity, the prestige and the authority of the Chair.

At this stage, we should like to assure you, Sir, of our utmost cooperation in this regard.

12.00 hrs.

SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS REGARDING VARIOUS MATTERS

MR. SPEAKER: The next item is 'Submissions by Members regarding various matters'. We had allotted one hour for this. 35 requests have come. They had come in a bulk and we did not know how to arrange the order in which the members would make their submissions. So, they were put in the ballot box and the order now would be according to the order in which they came out of the ballot box. Now what you can get, in one hour, is only two minutes each. I hope you will not struggle with the Chair....

SOME HON. MEMBERS: The time should be extended.

MR. SPEAKER: If you agree, we can take half an hour more. That would give us three minutes each and this margin of half an hour will be adjusted at the end by extending it.

Mr. Priya Ranjan Das Munsî.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI (Calcutta—South): I would like to draw the attention of the Minister in charge of sports and youth services