

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: My submission is this. If you will kindly go through different arguments put forward by the hon. Minister, you will find that the news room of AIR is run on the lines as is done by the privately run newspapers. This is the defence he took. They more or less copied the news from other newspapers. But my submission is that AIR is a Government organ and it cannot act on that news (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever be your grievance against A.I.R. and anybody else, I am concerned with reporting in connection with the proceedings before the House. On the 5th, when Mr. Mohan Dharia made a statement, in that reporting it is mentioned 'while speaking on his resignation....' But, so far as privilege issue is concerned, as for the reporting in general, you are at liberty—I do not prevent you—to do as you please.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I would only say that it would be befitting of you to make certain observations. About All-India Radio, I say that in the past more than once, they are always releasing the distorted news which does not suit the Government. If you wish.....

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Here the news is about Shri Dharia. What I am saying is that All India Radio, in the course of last three years or so have been distorting the news.....

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Bosu, kindly sit down.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Your rebuke or warning will not work at all on the All India Radio.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA (Poona): May I, with your permission, Mr. Speaker, explain the position? The letter that was written was without any

pressure from anybody. I am not a man to be pressurised. But, as I have said in my letter, Shri Gujral himself confessed that the news bulletin that is broadcast on AIR or T.V. have no more importance than the news in the newspaper. He has himself confessed that no more credibility should be attached to it. They are not necessarily reliable. In the circumstances, there is no use proceeding with this. Therefore, I have written a letter (Interruptions)

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil): You have been dropped. You have been sacked. All India Radio has credibility. What I object is you are a publicitymonger.

12.09 hrs.

RE. QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE
AGAINST UNI

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT (East Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I and several other Members have given notice of a privilege motion against the Indian Express against the UNI news. It is a very serious matter the manner in which the notice given by Shri Madhu Limaye has been published in the press.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Bhagat, I have seen this privilege motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: He is a brief-case lawyer.

MR. SPEAKER: The news has appeared in various newspapers. The no confidence motion is against the Speaker. Your privilege motion Mr. Bhagat came to me a bit late and I have not considered it. But I must say that the procedure we follow is:

[Mr. Speaker]

"334A. A notice shall not be given publicity by any member or other person until it has been admitted by the Speaker and circulated to members:

Provided that a notice of a question shall not be given any publicity until the day on which the question is answered in the House."

This is the rule. Now, as I happen to be concerned myself I feel a bit embarrassed in making any observations on it. It is not only in one paper but it has come in all the newspapers. As to what should be the position in this, I have to see the motion.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola):
Not only that even the contents of the motion have been published.
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, if you want to listen to me, kindly sit down or I will not make any observation. Hon. members seem to be very over-zealous on their motion on this particular rule which I have quoted the procedure has been specifically laid down. It is more specifically given. In the case of all other motions when the Speaker admits a motion, of course, the procedure is already there but in this case the motion comes to the House for admission on or after 14th day. It just is given and the House gives the leave, then the Speaker admit it and till now that procedure has not been over yet. I had fixed a date. It came to me on the 3rd of March and I think that date falls on the 18th—to be on the safe side one day more. This motion has not yet come. I have been very often eulogizing the Press as part of Parliament and as if they have equal responsibility, and they feel always happy when I make such observations. If they feel they are a part of the Parliament, then, they are expected to know the rules of procedure also. This is not such a light subject. If you allow this practice any gentleman may

come, give a motion and then go out to the press with all these campaigns against the Speaker, it is very difficult for the Chair to function. So far as this motion is concerned, it is a matter for the House and the House could be seized of it any time. Nobody on earth can prevent it. But, there are procedures. Here, something is said against the Speaker. The Member can say anything against the Speaker. But, the Speaker cannot come down and reply at that level. I am not in a position to make counter attacks and make counter statements like anybody outside the House. When you say something against the Speaker, he is not in a position to enter the House and make counter allegations. This is the procedure laid down and I have not been feeling very happy over it. After all, this is a matter for the House. There are procedures and remedies against the Speaker. It is a very unfair practice to depart from that and I think that liberty to the Press should be...

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE (Banka):
Nothing wrong with the procedure.

MR. SPEAKER: Procedure should be followed correctly and in spirit. I respect the Constitution. I respect the rules. But, I also expect that the liberty should not be converted into a licence.

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: You are violating all the procedures. I am on my Constitutional right. (Interruptions) I am not here at the mercy of Congress people.

MR. SPEAKER: As far as the privilege is concerned, I will have to go into the various aspects.

No points of order. I am not calling you. Please sit down. When this motion comes, I will see to it.