

12.25 hrs,

RE: QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): I had given notice of a motion of privilege against Shri K. R. Ganesh, some months ago, that he had made a statement wrongly on the floor of the House about the promotion of income-tax officers from class II to class I. This is a very serious matter. The hon. Minister had told deliberately an untruth on the floor of the House and misled the House. I have looked into all the documents to see whether what he has said is true, and I find that the whole thing is untrue. Today, one of your assistants has informed me that the file is with the PAC. I shall look into the file today, examine it today, and I would like to raise the matter tomorrow morning.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member is the Chairman of the PAC and he is not returning the file...

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I shall.

MR. SPEAKER: That file is with him, and he is not returning it..

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: That file has nothing to do with the privilege motion. I have quoted the document..

MR. SPEAKER: It arises out of it. He has not returned the file and yet he is asking me to give some ruling regarding that.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Kindly give me one minute..

MR. SPEAKER: This is enough. He has already got it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I had said there that on 8th December, 1972, while replying to starred question

No. 370 on the disparity of pay scales and conditions of service of the two classes of income-tax officers, Shri K. R. Ganesh had stated the following:

"The hon. Member has asked three questions. First, he has asked whether the PAC had recommended the abolition of class II officers' cadre in the Income-tax Department. I am informed that the PAC did recommend this, but the Department later on discussed it with the PAC and the PAC was persuaded to withdraw this position".

MR. SPEAKER: I have seen some Chairman defending the action of the previous committee. But this is happening just otherwise.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: In this connection, I am quoting the relevant recommendation from the 29th report (Fourth Lok Sabha) of the PAC, 1967-68 from page 29 para 2.41 which reads as follows:

"The Committee feel that one of the reasons for declining standards of output in the Department is due to an imbalance in the service conditions of employees of the Income-tax Department. A note has been submitted by the Chairman of the Board of Direct Taxes which is appended to this Report (Appendix V)".

What I am saying is that what Mr. Ganesh had said with regard to class II Income-tax officers is wholly untrue and this was done with the object of misleading the House. Therefore, I am going to have a minute look at the file today and send it to your goodself today, and I would like to raise it formally tomorrow morning.

MR. SPEAKER: He is in a lucky position. He calls for the file, examines it and then asks me to give a ruling without that file coming to me. A very lucky Chairman! Of

course, I have seen the Chairman defending the actions of the predecessor committees. But here is a Chairman using that against the other....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I stand for truth, I do not stand for defending anybody, not even myself if I do something wrong.

MR. SPEAKER: He is also a Chairman....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I have taken guidance from you, Sir that I should do nothing wrong, hear nothing wrong and speak nothing wrong.

MR. SPEAKER: When something comes to this House, whether right or wrong, it is for me to act as a custodian of the rights and privileges of the Members. Now, there are two personalities, Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu and the Chairman combined in one. I do not know what action should be taken against anybody; the file is with him. I shall see it personally and I shall let him know what to do in that.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: All right, Sir.

I had given notice under rule 377....

MR. SPEAKER: Let him reserve it for some other time. I am not calling him now.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: On the IAC strike, the Minister should make a statement...

MR. SPEAKER: The order of business must be followed. The sector to my immediate left is so near to me that it is difficult sometimes to look to the other side. My whole attention is drawn to this side and not to the other side, the major part of the House, for which I want to apologise.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: May I get up now?

MR. SPEAKER: No. I am not allowing you.

12.26 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

(i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 3rd December, 1973, agreed without any amendment to the Press Council (Amendment) Bill, 1973, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 27th November, 1973."

(ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 4th December, 1973, agreed without any amendment to the Indian Railways (Second Amendment) Bill, 1973, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 29th November, 1973."

12.27 hrs.

COMMODITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

THIRTY-FOURTH REPORT

SHRI G. G. SWELL (Autonomous Districts): I present the Thirty-fourth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

SHRI B. S. BHAURA (Bhatinda): On a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: A point of order is always on some business before the House. There are rules about it. You can make a submission and not raise a point of order.