

that lie ahead of them and not you. Don't you want that we should do that? This is the way they divide the country and the people, Sir. And they want to divide the House also . . .
(Interruptions) . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia, I am allowing only Geetaji to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Sir, in the interest of world peace and non-alignment and the Third World countries, I, on behalf of my party, associate with the ideas expressed by our hon. Foreign Minister . . . (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: May I have your attention please?

For the last few days, the USSR was in a turbulent state. Now, it has been restored to the constitutional and democratic authority. The people and the Parliament of India have always worked with the people and the authorities in USSR for the mutual benefit, peace and prosperity in the world and justice for all. The people, the Parliament and the authorities in India rejoice in the restoration of the constitutional and democratic authority in USSR. All the Members and the Leaders of all the parties wish President Mikhail Gorbachev, the Parliament and the people of USSR all the glory, peace and prosperity and all the best in their duty to their country and the world. All the Members and Leaders in the House congratulate them for their faith in their principles and democracy and for seeing the triumph of their principles and democracy in their country. The Members in the House are one on these views and would like the same to be conveyed to the President, the

Parliament and the people of USSR.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: 'People of India' means Bharat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore): Mr. Speaker Sir, I have given a notice regarding the question of a breach of privilege committed by the hon. Minister of Communications with regard to the telephone tapping episode . . .

MR. SPEAKER: I have not yet given the consent . . .

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Now I am seeking your consent. The matter is serious, Sir. The House is seized of the matter. On 5th August, the hon. leader of the House . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. I have to get the reply . . .

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, it has appeared in the papers that the hon. Deputy Minister of Communications has given . . .

MR. SPEAKER: If you have given a notice and if it appears in the newspapers, then that becomes a breach of privilege. Then it becomes a serious matter the other way. Please sit down. I will talk to you in the Chamber.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, may we take it that the matter is under your consideration.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, it is under consideration.

[*English*]

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Speaker Sir . . . (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : When I guided you to meet me in the Chamber, please take your seat.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay-North) : The entire House including you and probably the Communication Minister Shri Rajesh Pilot, would be surprised to know the decision of the Communication Ministry that in all 46 important cities of India, from 1st November, postal mail, letters, cards, etc. will not be delivered in the first, second and third floors of multi-storeyed buildings. This decision was taken by the Department on 29th May by a statutory order. In those days, we were amidst elections. Such statutory orders are required to be placed before the House. That has also not been done. You can just imagine the fate that all of us would face. These 46 cities include Delhi, Madras, Mumbai (Bombay) and others. Sir, this is a serious matter. If the Government implements the order, there will be chaotic conditions in the postal services. So, I demand a statement from the Communication Minister on this. I also demand that the order must be laid on the table of the House and it should be withdrawn. Otherwise it will be very difficult to get the mail. As it is, the postal services are at the

lowest ebb. The condition will be more chaotic with this order. I demand that this order should be withdrawn. Anyway, this decision was taken long back in the past and hence it should be withdrawn.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : A number of times we raised in this House the matter regarding the take over of Larsen & Toubro in a clandestine manner by the Ambanis. An assurance was given by the leader of the House that the Finance Minister would make a statement on this.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : I have not given any such assurance.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : When we demanded a statement from the Minister, the leader of the House gave us an assurance that the Finance Minister would make a statement on this. This is a very serious matter. Larsen & Toubro is being taken over by the Ambanis in a clandestine manner and the Finance Ministry is silent on this. He should make a statement on this . . . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman-Nicobar) : Sir, I have received information from my constituency Andaman-Nicobar that the people there, are facing acute shortage of essential commodities, especially sugar. People are not getting sugar even from fair price shops. You know the geographical location of the Islands. We live in one of the remotest parts of the country. People are not getting sugar. It is an essential commodity. Sir, I would request the Government to ensure that, if necessary, special quota will be provided so that it can be distributed through the