

[H. N. Mukerjee]

calling-attention-notice if you think that the other matter is also so very important.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Balrampur) : It can be taken up at 5 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER : I thought about that also. I was told that it has been printed already. Otherwise, we could have taken up the call attention about the Agricultural Prices Commission's recommendation day after tomorrow—Prof. Ranga had raised this issue in the House—and this one tomorrow. If, however, there is no difficulty in doing it, we can have it tomorrow itself because this is a serious matter—I understand we can interchange that. So we shall have it tomorrow.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Day after tomorrow is a holiday. The matter will be pushed off further.

MR. SPEAKER : We shall have this tomorrow and the call attention about the Agricultural Prices Commission two days later. It does not matter.

12.46 hrs.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE AGAINST
EDITOR OF "MAHARASHTRA
TIMES"

Mr. SPEAKER : On 3rd March 1969, Shri K. Ananda Nambiar had sought to raise a question of privilege regarding an article published in the *Maharashtra Times* dated the 20th February 1969. As decided by the House, the editor was asked to state what he had to say in the matter.

I have now received a letter dated the 22nd March 1969, from the editor of the *Maharashtra Times* in which he has stated *inter alia* as follows :

"After going through the proceedings of the Lok Sabha, I am happy to note that Mr. Ramamurti had not blamed the whole of the Marathi people for the

riots in Bombay. I therefore stand corrected."

"Editorial was based on the press reports and the full text of the proceedings of the House could not be had. I hope, therefore, that you will agree that I had no intention to misrepresent any hon. member or to attribute any false motives to him."

"I thank you and the members of Lok Sabha for giving me an opportunity to explain my position".

SHRI RANGA (Srikakulam) : He does not apologise. This has become a kind of habit. This is the second or third time that these things are happening. Only yesterday, Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee was telling me—I think that in coming up before you and she has already written to you about it—that some paper called *New Age* attributed some things like this to her.

I would like you to sound a note of warning—I am only mentioning it—to the press as a whole that we would expect them to deal with these things a little more carefully and more responsibly than they seem to be doing.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (बलरामपुर) :
अध्यक्ष महोदय, उन्होंने अपनी गलती माल ली है, मैं समझता हूँ कि मामला खत्म करना चाहिये।

MR. SPEAKER : In view of this, I think the matter may be dropped, and the editor asked to publish the factual position in the next issue of his paper.

He must publish it also. Last time we did not do it in the case of Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah because the regret expressed was categorical.

I take it that the House agrees.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta North-East) : May I point out that I do not mind being abused by the press, for

we deserve it to a certain extent—more or less. But I do mind if after reference has been made by you as Speaker, there is no mention in the letter of a tinge of regret. He says 'I understand'.

MR SPEAKER : He has said 'I stand corrected'.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE : That is not regret.

12.47 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report on working and administration of Companies Act and papers under Companies Act

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BHANU PRAKASH SINGH) : On behalf of Shri F. A. Ahmad,

I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) on the working and administration of the Companies Act, 1956, for the year ended the 31st March, 1968 under section 638 of the said Act. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-478/69.*]
- (2) (i) A copy each of the following papers under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:--
 - (a) Review by the Government on the working of the National Industrial Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi for the year 1966-67.
 - (b) Annual Report of the National Industrial Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi for the year 1966-67, along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (ii) A statement showing reasons for delay in laying the above documents. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-479/69.*]

Annual Report of Khadi and Village Industries Commission.

SHRI BHANU PRAKASH SINGH : On behalf of Shri Raghunath Reddy, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Bombay, for the year 1967-68 under sub-section (3) of section 24 of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956 along with the Statistical Statements. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-480/69*]

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

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

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 1969, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 18th March, 1969, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."
- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Bill, 1969, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 21st March, 1969 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."
- (iii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the