

14.41 hrs.

MOTION RE: EXPRESSION OF DISSATISFACTION AT GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE TO ANSWER CHARGES RELATING TO THE 'HAWALA CASE' AND TO ALLEGATIONS ABOUT ILLEGAL PAY OFFS TO SOME MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Thank you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you. At least you have allowed me to speak. I do not know whether it comes under the purview of breach of privilege of Members of Parliament to not to have allowed me while I was on my legs to say something on this motion. So many other hon. Members were allowed to take part on this motion. I do not know if such a thing had happened earlier also.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Kumari Mamata Banerjee, it is a matter of accommodation.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I am not saying about seeking of clarifications on what the Prime Minister had said. I am saying about when they discussed about the motion and when I was on my legs to say something on that motion. The Chair allowed so many other Members. but I was not allowed. I am sorry to say that. I am grateful to you for having allowed me to speak.

First, I would like to say something about what I heard in so many speeches made by important leaders from the Opposition Parties as well as from our Party also. Somebody has said that the prestige of the country has gone down because of corruption. The message has gone to the world that India is a corrupt country. Corruption had been there everywhere. On earlier occasions also I have said that corruption is there everywhere. But it is within our country. We should not send a message to the outside world that India is a corrupt country. I register my protest at such things.

Sir, I would like to submit to you and through you to the House what Mr. Abraham Lincoln said. He said, "if you once forget the confidence of our fellow citizens you can never regain their respect and esteem. It is true that you can fool all the people some of the time and some of the people all the time but you cannot fool all the people all the time." So, as a junior Member of this House I must remind my elders - who are respected persons -- that instead of saying 'thumbs up' they should not say 'thumbs up' -- that means, they should not bring down the prestige of the country. If there is an issue of corruption, the Government has to take action but it does not mean that India's prestige would go down in the eyes of the world for some political purpose. I strongly object

to such views because some politicians are trying to bring these issues before the elections. Everytime before the elections- history repeats itself - this type of issues have come. When late Rajivji was the Prime Minister then something came; and when Shri Narasimha Raoji is the Prime Minister, this *hawala* issue has come. Whoever is found guilty, the law will take action against them. We are not objecting to that but it is also a fact that India is our country and we are proud of our country. In this context, I would like to quote the words of the eminent American Philosopher, Willy Durnat, who has well said, "India was the Mother of our Philosophy". Then wrote the Zen Scholar, Dr. Suzuki at Japan, "the study of Japanese thought is the study of Indian thought." The famous Chinese author Lim Yufang wrote, "India was the China's Teacher in religion and imaginative literature."

Sir, we shall, therefore, neither fail nor falter. We will fight with all our sincerity and all our moral right and we shall not give up or give in. And we shall overcome. We would fight it out whatever may come. I have quoted these because we can say whatever we want to say, we have the right to say but again to condemn a particular individual means condemning a particular country.

That is why I have quoted all these things.

Sir, earlier also I spoke on the Vohra Committee Report, the Lokpal Bill State-funding of elections, and that the corrupt must go. The Vohra Committee Report is a very serious report. The Directors of CBI and the other enforcement branches. and others have said that one portion of politicians and one portion of industrialists are working together with the underground mafia and that is why the country's security is at stake. I am also of the same view. But we have got a small report from the Vohra Committee and we are yet to receive a detailed report. I do not know what is there is that, but it is a fact.

Somebody has stated that because of the Supreme Court verdict it has become clear that there is no confidence in the Prime Minister. I do not think so. The CBI, of course, is an impartial body. If a High Court or the Supreme Court asks the CBI to investigate into a matter, the CBI can do so without asking the Government. It is an independent agency and this is their power. Even if a State Government asks the CBI to go into the details or to investigate into a matter, the CBI can investigate into that matter. But they cannot always submit their report to the Prime Minister.

Sir, I quote one case. In the verdict given in the case of Inder Singh versus the State of Punjab of 1995, on page 312 paragraphs 18, the Supreme Court has stated that the report should not be submitted to any other person except the court. Sir, there are many verdicts that we have in the Supreme Court. What is this verdict that

the Supreme Court has given? Yes, I endorse Chandra Shekharji's view regarding the role of the Solicitor-General. Yes, we are in doubt. We have a doubt in our mind as to whether he is playing his role in a proper manner or there are some politics or some conspiracy behind it. I do not know but I think this..... (Interruptions)

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem) : Let us not go into those things. If I may submit with the permission of the Deputy-Speaker, -- not that I am defending or not defending any individual -- he is a person belonging to my profession and he cannot come here and defend himself. As far as possible we should restrain from going into it.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I am also a lawyer, Sir. I always plead the public interest cases, but not any other case..... (Interruptions)....I have not mentioned the name.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM : Constitutionally there is only one Solicitor-General.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, I have not mentioned the name. Chandra Shekharji has said this in this very House. You will find it, if you go through the record. I am saying what Shri Chandrashekarji has said.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If it is objectionable, we will remove it from the record.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : It is not at all objectionable, Sir, I endorse the view of Chandra Shekharji. We have to see and if there is anything wrong we have to correct it. We should not allow our country's prestige to go down. That is why I have said this. I have no intention to condemn any person. This man belongs to Bengal and I know him personally very well, but individual relation and country relation are different. That is why I have said so.

It is a fact that we need four reforms and I think Kumara Mangalamji will endorse my views. Do not you think that you want these four reforms, the judicial reforms, the administrative reforms, the electoral reforms and the Lokpal? Without these reforms and without passing the Lokpal Bill, you cannot go for elections. If you go, you have to ask money from the people and from the industrialists.

The *hawala* person has a Madhay Pradesh based company and that is why somebody's name is there. If you go to any State, you will find diaries. Sir, you will be surprised to know that now a days everyday is purchasing diaries. They are writing the names of whoever they like because the one diary that has been found has high-

lighted that anybody can write the names of anybody he likes. I am a public representative. Suppose a common man comes to me and asks me, "Mamatji, you forward my letter for petrol pump." I do not do it and then he may be annoyed.

He can write or put my name in that diary. But there must be some proof; there must be some authenticity. It may happen to each and every person. We are not supporting corruption. But if you want to stop corruption, then you have to change the system because the system is getting collapsed now. Everybody has to appreciate that if you do not go for State funding of elections, then for fighting the elections you have to take money from some person or industrialists; you have to take money from the foreign countries. I want to know specifically from the Finance Minister or from the person who will give the reply as to which are the parties that are taking money from the foreign countries. Sir, this is a very serious allegation. I know there are some parties which are taking money from the foreign agencies and from the foreign countries. Sir, this is a very serious allegation; I know there are some parties which are taking money from the foreign agencies and from the foreign countries for their party expenditure. I do not discriminate whether it is Congress or BJP or CPM or Janata or Samata or any other party. I want to know in detail whether that it has to collect the report and submit it on the Table of the House for the sake of the knowledge of our countrymen.

In the Lokpal Bill, State funding should be included so that the people who can collect money, will just contest the elections and poor people cannot come because they do not have the money power and the muscle power. It should not be the definition of democracy. It cannot be the definition of democracy. So if we want proper democracy, proper democratic rights, then we have to pass this Lokpal Bill. I appeal and request all the hon. Members of this House to please pass the Lokpal Bill and please ask for State funding.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I have taken just five minutes. Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are right. There are also others to participate. Please do not mistake the Chair.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I will just take a few minutes more.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Very good, okay.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : May I request the Government and at the same time, all the political leaders before passing this Lokpal Bill that they all sit together and just prepare a formula or a policy that through State funding the next election will be held? The message should go to the people that it is not out of the industrialists' money, or out of the mafias' money that people are going to the Parliament. They are going to become Members otherwise also. Then only this corruption will stop. May I request all the party members including our Government that before passing this Lokpal Bill if they sit together and decide these things it will be proper for the country? The elder people are here, some junior members are also here; but if you do not accept the new generation, it will be very difficult in the near future for the people who will come to the Assembly or the Parliament, who will be the future of the country. That is why, the people are losing their confidence in the leaders.

Sir, I now want to raise a very important issue. The Finance Minister -- though he is not here now -- knows that recently at the inauguration of PILCOM Cricket World Cup took place in Calcutta. I want to know specifically whether PILCOM account has been in London with the concurrence of the Finance Ministry. A huge amount of Rs. 11 crore was paid to one Lunnetta. How was this money transferred? How was it done without tender? What was the deal behind it? I heard that to start a hotel in London this has been done as a joint venture. I want that investigation should be done regarding this.

My next point is whether it is a fact that -- because of the eye problem, I cannot see the Television -- they have shown India's map to the world, excluding the Kashmir portion. If it is a fact, then this is a serious violation of the Constitution. So, I want that punishment be given to these people and the Government must investigate the matter because those people do not have any authority to exclude Kashmir as Kashmir is very much with us.

So, I want a correct report from the Ministry.

Sir, there are some politicians who go on foreign tours every year. For what purpose are they going? They stay in private hotels, specifically, in Switzerland. A norm is followed for going to foreign countries. If any Government agency or any private agency invite anybody, they can stay there for six days. The RBI has specifically fixed this norm. But, there are important Leaders who stay there for 100 or 200 days. For what purpose? How many Leaders have gone to Switzerland on such private tours? They have stayed for quite a number of days. The blacklisted industrialists borne for their boarding, lodging and every other thing.

As far as *hawalas* case is concerned, strong action should be taken against those people who are involved in this. We also want that wherever corruption is their, strict action should be taken.

Lastly, I am sorry to say that a hungry man has no sense of beauty and a greedy politician who has no credibility and who has no sense of duty should talk about morals, should talk about values. You find out whether they maintain their values or not. I would like to say that when Iqbal -- the famous Urdu Poet -- died, his mother was very poor.

[Translation]

She had done a lot for her son. When Iqbal was in a position to look after his mother, she died. Iqbal felt pained and then he wrote :

"Umrabhar Teri Mohabbat Meri Khidmat Karti Rahi,
Par Jab Teri Khidmat Karne Ke Kabil Hua To Tu Chal Basi."

[English]

This means, you have done everything for me but when I have to pay back something for you, you died. So, I want to say that you can speak whatever you want to speak but do not forget that our country's prestige should be thumbs down instead of thumbs up.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the subject under discussion is a very serious one. I would like to say that there are some conventions of our Parliament.

15.00 hrs.

The Prime Minister is held in high esteem in the country. At the same time, he is the leader of the House. I would like to remind you of the glorious tradition of this House that when a question of misdemeanour or misconduct about any member comes up, the history of this House reveals that Parliament comes to grip with the situation. In this regard, I also want to remind this House and the citizens of the country that in 1951, the only fault of Shri Mudgal, a member of Congress Party, was that he had used Parliament to help a business house of Mumbai. The then Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru had called him to his office. When the Prime Minister was not satisfied with his clarification, the matter came up in the Parliament. That dealing involved less than ten thousand rupees. I want to tell the House, how Shri Mavalankar had dealt with that issue. Shri Mavalankar had constituted a special committee to assess the extent to which the conduct of Shri Mudgal, had damaged the reputation of Parliament. I would like to read out the observation of Shri Mavalankar before this House and countrymen.

[English]

Mavalankar has observed:

"Even though there is a Committee on Privileges constituted under the rules, yet it is within the powers of the special circumstances and inquires to be made. There is nothing inconsiderate in that. Moreover, it is a moot question to be considered whether any such conduct as alleged is really the sense of breach of privilege of the House or is something different. A Member behaved in a manner in which the House would not like him to behave and yet it may be argued that it is not a breach of privilege.

In all such circumstances, the practice in the House of Commons has been to constitute a special Committee and the procedure of making a motion is a procedure that is usually adopted in the House of Commons, even though there is a Committee on Privileges."

[Translation]

An allegation was levelled on the conduct of Shri Mudgal that he had used Parliament for an amount less than ten thousand rupees. He was a member of the Congress Party. This is not a question of a particular party, it has become a question of Parliament. I thank the first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru for he was not satisfied with the clarification given by Shri Mudgal and the issue came up in Parliament. Shri Mavalankar had constituted a Committee which found Shri Mudgal guilty. However, Shri Mudgal had resigned before he could be censured. Later, he was censured for giving resignation. All this happened in 1951 in the Provisional Parliament. Today, allegation has been levelled against the Prime Minister. The Leader of the Opposition Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee first raised this issue outside the Parliament and later, in the Parliament also. There are allegations about bribing of Members also. Now the question is, as to how this Parliament would deal with such an allegation. This aspect is yet to be debated upon. I would like to say that the Provisional Parliament had taken right step about the conduct of Shri Mudgal. It does not augur well for the country that allegations are being levelled against the Prime Minister outside as well as inside the House. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when Shri Atal spoke on this issue, I was in my constituency. There, the people asked for my comments on the allegations levelled against the Prime Minister, involving an amount of rupees three crore. I told them that I would not say anything in this regard there because I would be going to Parliament. Today, I am speaking on the allegation but the Prime Minister is keeping mum. Is it

good for a Parliamentary democracy? Our Parliament keeps the country united. It is our supreme institution. We feel proud in saying before the world that in India, Parliamentary democracy has strengthened its roots and it would continue to prosper ahead. Therefore, my submission is that --

[English]

This Parliament must come to grips and this House must come to grips with the misconduct of a Member.

[Translation]

The allegation levelled against the Prime Minister are much more serious than the allegation made against Shri Mudgal. Why the Prime Minister is keeping mum? Shri Mavalankar had then quoted the practice in vogue in the House of Commons. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I now want to touch upon Profumo issue.

[English]

Mr. Profumo was the Defence Minister of England.

[Translation]

What was his fault. His fault was that he had lied before the Parliament. A meeting of the Conservative Party was called and he was asked to seek an apology before the House of Commons. Thereafter, he was divested of his Defence portfolio as well as the membership of the House of Commons. Then he resigned from both the positions. Later, it was revealed that he had illicit relations with a woman named, Christeen Keelas, who was an agent of K.G.B. When this issue was raised in the House of Commons, a Committee under the Chairmanship of a world famous judge, Lord Denning was constituted. It also looked into the loopholes in the security system. I am not saying that allegations of corruption against the Prime Minister have been proved. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today, I would like to read out before this House the views of a constitutional jurist of world fame, Lord Iværjenings, who said :

[English]

"The most elementary qualification demanded of a Minister is honesty and incorruptibility. It is, however, necessary not only that he should possess this qualification but also appear to possess it".

[Translation]

Besides we are proud of late Hidaytullah who was the Chief Justice of India. When an issue of allegations against several Ministers of Bihar came up, he had observed :

[English]

"It cannot be stated sufficiently that the public life of persons in authority must never admit of such charges being framed against them. If they can be made, then an inquiry whether to establish this or clear the name of persons charged is called for justice."

[Translation]

Hidaytulla stated that :

[English]

An enquiry must be made.

[English]

I think, I will not be wrong, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, if Mr. Prime Minister, according to these norms, subjects himself for an inquiry by an independent authority, by a judicial authority.

[Translation]

Why did not he do so? The way Parliamentary traditions were upheld in the Mudgal case is indicative of the glorious tradition of this House. The countrymen should not get the impression that this House is composed of all crooks. The Prime Minister of India represents 90 crore people. Will it add to the glory of India if such charges are published in "The New York Times of America or "The Times" of Landon? Our Cabinet Minister Shri Venkat Swamy is present here. Was it not imperative on the part of the Prime Minister, in the capacity of the Leader of the House to subject himself to the inquiry of a special Committee, like the then Prime Minister Nehru ji who had moved a motion with regard to Mudgal case upholding the glorious traditions of the House. We expect from the Prime Minister :--

[English]

He should rise to the occasion and subject himself to judicial enquiry since allegations have been levelled against him by no less a person than the Leader of the Opposition.

[Translation]

I would like to ask why it was not done? How shall this country be run? For we, Indians--

[English]

Parliamentary democracy is a way of life.

[Translation]

It is not a question of votes alone. It is a way of life for us. A German based organisation called 'Transparency International' has included India, Pakistan, Philippines and United States in the list of corrupt countries. Is it good for our country and Parliament? Is C.I.A. wrong in forecasting that India will disintegrate? I do not believe in the credibility of C.I.A. because--

[English]

Cynics and prophets of doom all over the world are conspiring against India. Should we fall in the trap?

[Translation]

The countrymen are today confronted with a question of.

[English]

to be or not to be.

[Translation]

Shall the country's Parliamentary democracy move ahead successfully or shall we allow the country to disintegrate for the sake of a handful of Ministers?

I would like Venkat Swamy ji to request the Prime Minister - who is conspicuous by his absence-on my behalf to go through the ruling given by Mavalankar ji in Mudgal case and the speech delivered by Nehru ji at that time and let his conscience to decide the direction.

[English]

Let his conscience be his guide.

[Translation]

The Prime Minister is not ordinary person but he is Prime Minister of a country whose civilization is 5000 years old.

[English]

He should step down till a judicial authority clears him. He should step down as the Prime Minister. This is the minimum thing that he should do in service of parliamentary democracy. He should step down. There is no other go for him. Let him behave as an elderly statesman and Leader of the House which has a name in the world for its parliamentary democracy.

[Translation]

Therefore I have hope and I would only like to say that :--

[English]

In the interest of Parliamentary democracy and in the interest of probity in public life, I would request the Prime Minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, to step down till a judicial authority or competent authority of the House clears him of the charges that have been levelled against him by the Leader of the Opposition, both outside the House and inside the House.

[Translation]

Why did not he file a defamation suit against Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee for having commented against him outside the House? Therefore, I say that we should take inspiration from the precedents set in the Parliament.

The Prime Minister should step down, at least to uphold democratic values and maintain Parliamentary democracy.

[English]

He should step down till an independent judicial authority or an independent Committee as has been envisaged by Shri Mavalankar in Mudgal case clears him of his charges.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay South Central) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, just now hon. Rabi Ray said that though we adopted British pattern of democracy but did not imbibe their spirit. The Prime Minister says that in Hawala case merely filing of chargesheets does not establish conviction of a person. It is for the Supreme Court to decide whether one is guilty or not, yet it remains a fact that there has been a scandal of Rs. 5000 crores.

15.16 hrs.

(SHRI P.C. CHACKO in the Chair)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the country, is plagued with scandals today. We procured sugar from the international market when its price was too high, though there was enough stock of sugar in the country. A scandal of thousands of crores of rupees was involved in it. Where did the money that came through Hawala in this deal go? The same is the case of urea deal wherein we did not procure urea when its price was \$ 202 per tonne but procured it at the rate of \$ 246 per tonne. All the Hawala transactions will be unfolded once Chandraswamy is arrested.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would cite a recent C.B.I. case. One smuggler brother of the ex-Chief Minister of Goa was chased by a Customs official named Fernandes

while the former was smuggling gold worth Rs. eight crore but some people fired at the smuggler and killed him. The C.B.I. framed a concocted case against the Customs official. In this regard, the Supreme Court in its decision passed strictures against the C.B.I. The C.B.I. was asked to file a false case because the then Government of Goa needed Congress support for remaining in power. Justice Ansaria of the Apex Court, while, raising the curtain over this case said that this case has shown that the C.B.I. can frame false cases and do injustice. All these proofs are before the Supreme Court.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would not take much time. I do not want to misuse the time allotted to me. This is for the first time in the country that people have become despondent and they are repenting their decision of not electing the right person to rule the country. Therefore, Sir, through you, I would like to urge in the House that there should be no pressure on the C.B.I. and it should be allowed to function free from any pressure. The entire House should support this view.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, while concluding my speech, I thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the issue has baffled the entire nation. The names are well-known and I will not mention those names. Some of them are no more in this world. This *hawala* issue has got very large ramifications. It has brought disrepute of our nation in the comity of world nations. This has also made people to have a very low opinion about the politicians including those at higher positions and equally important is one of the premier investigating agencies, the C.B.I., created through an Act of Parliament, has lost its credibility among the people. The people are unable to understand the ineffectiveness that has overtaken the C.B.I. which, though during emergency has exceeded its limits, yet during the subsequent periods, by and large, was having the reputation among the people. But it was really surprising why it kept quiet for so long a period. This has given rise to very serious questions also because it is proved beyond any doubt. These are not allegations by the Opposition. We are not accusing that so and so have taken so many crores or so many lakhs. This has come out of some search and it is now clear that this *hawala* money is going to finance the terrorists and the anti-national elements working in Jammu and Kashmir and in other parts of the country. And the same persons are able to give money to politicians in high positions.

Sir, it is really a perturbing thing to find that some senior Secretaries have taken money and a former C.B.I. Director also has received money. This is really

alarming. These *hawala* revelations have also proved that foreign companies are able to influence the decisions of our big public sector undertakings through some politicians and bureaucrats. That is also established beyond any doubt and close on the heels has come the Supreme Court judgement of 1st March.

Sir, I have carefully heard when the Prime Minister was intervening in the debate. I cannot really understand and I am surprised with what face, with what sense, this Government is still continuing in the position and more so the Prime Minister. You will excuse me if, I say that the careful reading of the judgment of the Supreme Court indicts the Prime Minister who is having the administrative control over the C.B.I. For lack of time, I do not wish to repeat, but he has said; "to eliminate any impression of bias and avoid erosion of credibility."

That means the court, in its wisdom, has come to some opinion that because the CBI is not acting impartially or is acting with some bias, with some selectivity and has lost credibility among the people, and, at the behest of some high official or some high politician, it is acting like that, that made it to give this judgement. Has the Supreme Court ever given such a judgement in the past? Is it not really shameful? I am unable to understand this. It has also said that these records should be kept in safe custody, under lock and key. That means it has felt that there may be some possibility of tampering with these vital documents. That means the CBI's ineffectiveness is proved beyond any doubt. The hon. Prime Minister is in charge of the CBI. The CBI is directly under his control. So, the Supreme Court judgement is a reflection on the functioning of the Prime Minister. That is what I want to say.

He has read the Supreme Court judgement but he evaded to give his version as to what are the circumstances that led the Supreme Court to give such a judgement. If I am permitted to say so, it has clearly censured the CBI and the Prime Minister, though in very soft words.

He has also read out: "We also place on record the further statement made by the learned Solicitor General on instructions from the CBI Director that neither the CBI Director nor any of his officers has been reporting to any authority." I want to know whether the CBI and its Director not reporting to the Prime Minister till 1.3.1996. How can we accept such an argument? That means he was failing in his duty. And how is the Prime Minister keeping quiet? How can he allow the CBI not to inform the administrative head of that department, that is, the Prime Minister? This a *modus operandi* which enables the Prime Minister to directly reply to this House.

To avoid the charge or the allegation that the Leader of the Opposition has levelled here, that is that on 11th March, 1995 Mr. S.K. Jain while he was deposing before the CBI had stated that he paid moneys to the Prime Minister of this country and on his advice, to some

X and Y, the Prime Minister has taken this opportunity to mention this. This is most unfortunate.

Just now Shri Rabi Ray, the former Speaker, said about Mudgal and that incident. Here I would appeal to the Prime Minister that the prestige of the whole nation is at stake. If they do not rise to the occasion. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY : He rose and went away.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Yes, unfortunately he has gone away. What I suggest is that he must step down voluntarily, at least after this judgement given by the Supreme Court of India on 1st March, 1996. He should not wait for a minute to continue in that position.....(Interruptions)

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM : Sir, I am on a point of order. There is no quorum in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the quorum bell be rung.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now there is a quorum in the House. Shri V.S. Rao may please resume his seat. He will continue his speech after the Private Member's Business.

.....(Interruptions)

15.30½ hrs

[English]

MOTION RE : FORTY - EIGHTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI (Srikakulam) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House do agree with the Forty-eighth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 28th February, 1996"

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the Forty-eighth Report of the Committee of Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 28th February, 1996.

The motion was adopted.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : Sir, I have a request to make. The discussion on the Resolution on sick industries is going on from last July. We should close it, finish it off today and come on to the next subject.