

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

taking back all these words unconditionally and beg to apologise to the Hon'ble Speaker and the Members of Parliament."

This was published in the Pratap itself. I do not think it is necessary to pursue this matter any more.

श्री जलन्धर राव शास्त्री (जिला आजमगढ़—पूर्व व जिला बलिया—पश्चिम) : पर्याप्त है ।

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy (Mysore): Is it sufficient? A paper may start publishing certain things against Members of Parliament and then apologize. Is it enough that we get an apology, or should not a Committee of Privileges go into this question?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The rules are that as soon as notice of any such motion is given to the Secretary, the Speaker examines it and if there are no technical objections he gives permission for the matter to be raised immediately after the Question Hour, on the floor of the House. Then it is for the House immediately to take up that matter and dispose of it, or, if it is a lengthy one, if it considers it desirable or feasible, to send it to the Committee of Privileges. Now, the House can dispose of it immediately. It can take time to consider the matter, or it can refuse to accept this apology and ask the editor himself to make an apology. It can do anything it likes. I only said this—this matter was brought to my notice—and therefore I suggested to the House that the House is willing it may accept the apology, or if the House wants it can say that further apology is necessary and that we are not going to accept this. It is open to it to do so. I thought it is in Urdu, it is not in English. Further, that man also found that the words were used rather differently—I mean that it is wrong to have abused—and he has tendered an unconditional apology. My own suggestion is that this matter may be dropped.

Several Hon. Members: Yes, yes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House agrees that the matter may be dropped.

MOTION RE TERMINATION OF SUSPENSION OF A MEMBER

Acharya Kripalani (Bhagalpur cum Purnea): Sir, I would like to make a statement.

I would like to make a submission about the incident that took place in this House on the morning of the 27th and which led to the suspension of Shri Kamath for seven days. I have already written to you about this matter.

I know how difficult and exacting is the task of the Chair in this House. It has to decide complicated questions of procedure, points of order and other like things at the spur of the moment. In the midst of ***tongues it has to keep***order to allow the proceedings of the House to be carried on. It is therefore no wonder that the Chair often works under a great***strain. For this task it is provided with extraordinary powers. What the Prime Minister, with all his executive authority, cannot do, in this House the Chair can do most effectively without its authority being questioned.

This great authority, therefore, I submit, must be exercised with great charity. And unless this is done, the rights of the Members are likely to suffer. The authority of the Chair and the anxiety of the Members to discharge their duties by insisting upon speaking must, as human nature is, sometimes create conflict. This conflict can be removed by*** a little good humour***. I am glad to say, Sir, this is generally the case when you are in the Chair.

Usually this House functions in a manner that is more quiet and passive than that of any popular House in the West, including the Mother of Parliaments in England.

***Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

Shri Algu Rai Shastri (Azamgarh Distt.—East cum Ballia Distt. West): That is so.

Acharya Kripalani: This House is considered to be more dignified*** I am sorry, Sir, that the words "fantastic nonsense" have been used so often here that they have become almost fashionable. If, therefore, a Member of the Opposition uses these words, it must be viewed with indulgence.

Shri Kamath made it clear before leaving the House, in response to the order of the Chair, that these words were not used against the Chair but against those who were shouting him down and arrogating to themselves the functions of the Chair. This, Sir, is on record. I had a talk with Shri Kamath and he again assured me that these words were not used against the Chair. I am sorry that Shri Kamath did not resume his seat when he was ordered to do so. But, for this it would have been enough if he had been asked to leave the House for the day. But, Sir, I believe that an exile of a whole week for Shri Kamath from the House deprives it of the presence of a very dynamic, colourful and interesting personality. I therefore move that the suspension of Shri Kamath may be withdrawn.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the suspension of Shri Kamath be terminated".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The suspension is withdrawn from today.

Shri Dhulekar (Jhansi Distt.—South): With your permission, Sir, I should say that I take strong exception to some words used by Acharya Kripalani***. He has spoken so many words which are derogatory to the prestige of the Speaker, Deputy-Speaker and the House***. I take exception to it. I agree to the proposition that Shri Kamath may be given exemption from suspension for

four days. Still I will say that Acharya Kripalani, should apologise to the House and if he does not do it I request that he may withdraw from the House. Under the cover of making a statement he damned us all. Attacking us all, he said that we were quiet and passive. I say, 'No', Sir. We are an active people and we are prepared to fight the Opposition. With these words, I request that Acharya Kripalani may take back all those words except the last portion where he had urged that Shri Kamath may be given some concession.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There need not be a discussion over this.

श्री अलगू राय शास्त्री: श्रीमान जी, मैं एक शब्द कहना चाहता हूँ।

Shri Joachim Alva (Kanara): I just want to place two view-points before you.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is it necessary to have any discussion on this matter? I feel really that all that has been said by Acharya Kripalani need not have been said. ***Coming as it does from the leader of an important group, I think it will not be right. I thought it would be a statement which would say that something unfortunate had happened. We were only too willing to allow this concession, if the particular person wanted this ***. But anyhow we are not going to pursue it and take up another matter (*Interruptions*). ***If he has no objection, he may himself strike out that portion. I would not like that these things should appear in the proceedings. All the compliments that were given in the first part were taken away by the latter part. It is rather strange. I would only say that it is unfortunate and in a matter of this kind some other controversy has been unnecessarily introduced. I do not think that this was intended.

Acharya Kripalani: May I explain without offending any of my friends? I only made a comparison with what we read every day is happening in the Chamber of Deputies in France, and

***Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Acharya Kripalani]

legislatures in England, in the Continental countries and in America—where there are all sorts of scenes everywhere. We are free from them here ***. I have said that the Chair has powers and that it can smother our speeches and it can also see that we have no proper chances to ventilate our views. The powers of the Chair are great and I have only said that they must be used with charity. That is all that I have said.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Acharya Kripalani: Not only that, I have said that I am sorry that Shri Kamath did not sit down at the instance of the Chair. I submit that there is nothing wrong in my statement. I have made this statement, I tell you, to obviate some other motions that the Chair must have received. If you do not want this and if you want a discussion, I would request you not to have this discussion in this House.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad (Purnea cum Santal Parganas): We are prepared for a discussion.

Acharya Kripalani: I know you are prepared; you are in a majority and you can howl me down if you like; that is possible.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The other motion is from Shri Punnoose; he wants to move the same thing which Acharya Kripalani has moved, namely, that the suspension may be terminated with effect from today. There is nothing more; it is there on record. ***We are only concerned with a particular incident. If the hon. Member wanted to say only that it was unfortunate then that is all right. Even the hon. Member himself is sorry. ***The House has been quite charitable and accepted the statement of Acharya Kripalani. We need not go into other matters; we may set the matter at rest.

***Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy (Salem): No, Sir.....

Shri A. M. Thomas (Ernakulam): I request that the objectionable portions of the statement may be expunged from the proceedings of this House.

Shri Joachim Alva: I want to raise one vital matter before you. I want to know whether the leader of a party is competent to make a statement on behalf of an erring Member. Is not the House entitled to get an apology from the erring Member instead from the leader of a party? Apart from that, it is a graceless statement made by the leader of that party: he ought to have made the statement in full grace and withdrawn. I may remind you, Sir, that neither in the Constituent Assembly nor in the Provisional Parliament nor in this House has an Hon. Member defied the Chair by repeatedly standing up when the Chair has been standing. I may here quote from *May's Treatise on Usages of Parliament—page 105—1950 Edition* only one sentence:

“The purpose of expulsion is not so much disciplinary as remedial; not so much to punish Members as to rid the House of persons who are unfit for membership.”

The Member was repeatedly on his legs when called to order. I do admire the many good things in him but when he violates the orders of the Chair repeatedly and stands on his legs when the Chair is standing, then it is something which we cannot tolerate and the decorum of the House has to be maintained.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let not the Press report the entire speech of Acharya Kripalani. I find there are certain objectionable portions***. I shall sit with him and see if he can omit some of these aspersions which he has made against this House which has so charitably withdrawn

the suspension of Shri Kamath without any hesitation and without any discussion. The House had just now passed the other resolution and accepted the question that I put. It was only too willing to withdraw that order on the report of the leader of that group. The hon. Member who was suspended that day has not sent any apology. In spite of all that the House has been so charitable. It is not in keeping with the tradition of this House to use such expressions. I, therefore, hope and expect that the hon. Member will agree to my suggestion. I will go through his speech and omit one or two passages here and there which are not in keeping with what can be expected from any hon. Member of this House. I will therefore expunge these portions if Acharya Kripalani himself does not want to withdraw some of those aspirations that have been made.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Gurgaon): This was a matter between the Chair and Shri Kamath; this was not a matter between the Chair and the leader of the party. You yourself at that very moment said that if Shri Kamath expressed regret, he would be allowed to come in and the hon. Leader of the House also complimented you on that decision. We all want Shri Kamath to be here. He is our friend; he is a good Member, etc. But I do not like the idea that the leader of a party should represent an individual and come here with a statement like the one read out in the House. He himself should have come here and made amends.

Some Hon. Members: How can he come?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: He could ask your permission to come and make a statement. That is the proper course. Otherwise it becomes a matter between the chair who is above all parties and the leader of a particular party. This is in fact a personal matter. He did not behave in the House as a Member of a particular party. If any Member on this

side of the House behaves like this he will have to come to you and tell you in person that this has happened. You yourself said the other day that if he regrets, everything will be considered as closed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All that I should like to say is that the matter is now over so far as this House is concerned. Everybody knows that if any Member of the House has been suspended from sitting in the House for a week, he cannot himself come here. That is the rule. Some other person has to make the motion on his behalf if he desires to make one. It is true that he must express regret for what has happened and have the motion made by some other Member. Acharya Kripalani told me that Shri Kamath was sorry, and because the Member himself cannot be here, he will make the motion on his behalf. What have marred the situation today are some of the unfortunate statements made by Acharya Kripalani himself. That is the misfortune. Therefore, I shall erase those portions from his statement—the rest of the motion has been adopted. An expression of regret has been expressed on Shri Kamath's behalf. Acharya Kripalani is not an ordinary member. He is a leader of a group. Therefore, I urge upon the honourable House to drop this matter. Some of those portions of Shri Kripalani's speech which are not quite in keeping with the dignity of the House will be expunged from the statement.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

REPORT AND BULLETIN NO. 22 OF
CENTRAL SILK BOARD.

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khendubhai Desai): Sir, on behalf of the Minister of Production, I beg to lay on the table a copy each of the following papers in pursuance of an assurance given by the Minister of Commerce and Industry during the discussion on the Central Silk Board