

[Mr. Speaker]

commended certain action against the Editor of *Blitz* Newsmagazine, Bombay, and myself, its New Delhi correspondent in connection with a despatch published in the issue of the said weekly dated 15th April, 1961 relating to a speech delivered in the House by Shri J. B. Kripalani on defence matters.

By the said motion Lok Sabha had adjudged me guilty of a gross breach of privilege and contempt of the House. Thereafter in compliance with the directive of the Hon. Speaker, I surrendered my Lok Sabha Press Gallery pass and the Central Hall entry permit.

I take this opportunity to inform the House that I am extremely sorry that I have committed a breach of privilege for which I hereby tender my apology.

May I in conclusion venture to request Lok Sabha through you, Sir, to take a lenient view and restore my Press Gallery pass and the Central Hall entry permit."

Is it the pleasure of the House that the apology may be accepted and the Press Gallery Card and Central Hall Pass may now be restored to Shri Raghavan?

Hon. Members: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: The apology is accepted and the passes will be issued accordingly.

12.18½ hrs.

RESIGNATION OF MEMBERS

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House that the following Members have resigned their seats in Lok Sabha:

- (1) Dr. D N. Pathrikar Kamble with effect from the 17th March, 1962.

- (2) Shri Raja Ram Misra with effect from the 20th March, 1962 afternoon.

12.19 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET—GENERAL DISCUSSION—contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with the general discussion of the General Budget. Shri Inder J. Malhotra, who was in possession of the House, may continue.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra (Jammu and Kashmir): While speaking last time I was referring to certain points raised by Shri Madhok regarding the general elections in Jammu and Kashmir State. Now I have only to say that the allegations brought forward by my hon. friend, Shri Madhok, are absolutely baseless and false. As far as his charge regarding the procedure of conducting the elections is concerned, I have only to say that the persons who were conducting the elections in Jammu and Kashmir State were persons of integrity and honesty. Government employees like Deputy Commissioners, Collectors, assistants and clerks who assisted in election work cannot be said to be people who lack integrity.

12.21 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

Here I would like to congratulate the Indian Election Commission and the persons who assisted in conducting these elections, because they worked in such a manner that the elections all over India, more especially in the Jammu and Kashmir State, were most fair.

Shri Madhok also referred to the construction of the old Moghul Road which would connect Jammu via Rajouri, Kashmir Valley and Srinagar. Shri Madhok remarked