

RAJYA SABHA

(1966)

Point of privilege

Banning of processions before Parliament House by Lt. Governor.

Facts of the case and ruling by the Chairman

On the 14th November, 1966, Shri Raj Narain a member, sought¹ to raise a question of privilege regarding a reported statement by the Lt. Governor of Delhi, Shri A. N. Jha, that processions would be banned within two miles radius of Parliament. The member contended that the Lt. Governor had no right to prevent a procession from proceeding towards Parliament and thus he had Committed a breach of privilege of Parliament and its members.

2. The Leader of the House (Shri M.C Chagla) thereafter stated inter alia:--

"The Lieutenant-Governor is an executive officer. He is in charge of law and order and what he said was on the question of dealing with law and order. He was not saying anything to impede Parliament from performing its functions, or prevent anybody from approaching Parliament. If he is banning a Procession, he in his discretion has come to the conclusion that there is apprehension of law and order breaking down, and he has issued an order under section 144, which he is entitled to do. I do not see how the question of the dignity of Parliament arises."

3. The Chairman (Dr. Zakir Hussain) disallowed the question of privilege.

1 R.S. Deb., dt, 14-11-1966.