BJP MP Ramesh Bidhuri Hurls Slurs At BSP's Danish Ali In Lok Sabha

Why In The News?

- The BJP Parliamentarian From South Delhi, **Ramesh Bidhuri**, Hurled A Series Of Offensive Words At A Muslim MP In The Lok Sabha On Thursday, Indelibly Scarring The Special Session That Should Have Been Known For The Passage Of The Women's Bill A History Making In Independent India.
- The Obscene Words, Fraught With Hatred For Muslims, Were **Expunged From Parliamentary Records By Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla**. But Danish Ali, The BSP MP Who Was Targeted, Repeated The Words At A Media Conference At His Home On Friday And In A Letter To The Speaker.

INDIA TODAY BJP asks party MP Ramesh Bidhuri to explain offensive remarks amid outrage

Who Is Ramesh Bidhuri?

- A Two-Term MP, Bidhuri Has Been A Three-time MLA Of The Delhi Assembly. He Belongs To A Prominent Family Of Tughlaqabad, Which Has Been Associated With The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) For Decades. His Family Is Also Said To Have Contributed Significantly To The Area's Development.
- In 2015, Five Women MPs From The Congress, CPM, NCP & TMC Had, In A Complaint To Then Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan, Accused Bidhuri Of "Abusive Behaviour" And Using "Sexist, Abusive And Derogatory" Language In The House.

Any Action Taken?

 Ali Threatened To Resign From The Lok Sabha If Action Was Not Taken Against Bidhuri And Demanded That The Matter Be Referred To The Privileges Committee.

- The Speaker's Response, A Stern Warning To The BJP Member, Dismayed The Opposition Parties And A Large Number Of Citizens On Social Media, Who **Demanded Bidhuri's Immediate Arrest**.
- Several Leaders Underlined That Opposition MPs Had Been Suspended For Far Lesser Indiscretions While Bidhuri's Outburst Had The Potential Of Disturbing The Communal Situation In The Country.



Anger And Shock On Social Media

- Two Former Ministers, Harsh Vardhan And Ravi Shankar Prasad, Who Were Allegedly Seen Giggling When Their Colleague Was Attacking And Humiliating An Entire Community, Also Provoked Anger And Shock On Social Media.
- Prasad Said He Had Never Supported Undignified Comments. Harsh Vardhan Gave A Detailed Clarification Explaining How He Enjoyed Good Relations With Muslims, Being An MP From Chandni Chowk.



What Is Parliamentary Privilege?

- They Refers To **Rights And Immunities Enjoyed By Parliament** As An Institution And **MPs In Their Individual Capacity**, Without Which They Cannot Discharge Their Functions As Entrusted Upon Them By The Constitution.
- According To The Constitution, The Powers, Privileges And Immunities Of Parliament And MP's Are To Be Defined By Parliament. No Law Has So Far Been Enacted In This Respect.
- A **Breach Of Privilege** Is A Violation Of Any Of The Privileges Of MPs/Parliament. Among Other Things, Any Action 'Casting Reflections' On MPs, Parliament Or Its Committees; Could Be Considered Breach Of Privilege.



Committee Of Privileges In Parliament

- This Committee Consists Of **15 Members In Lok Sabha (10 In Case Of Rajya Sabha)** Nominated By The Speaker (Chairman In Case Of Rajya Sabha). In The Rajya Sabha, The Deputy Chairperson Heads The Committee Of Privileges.
- The **Committee Examines Every Question Involving A Breach Of Privilege** Of The House Or Of The Members Or Of Any Committee Thereof Referred To It By The House Or By The Speaker/Chairman.
- It Also Determines With Reference To The Facts Of Each Case Whether A Breach Of Privilege Is Involved And Makes Suitable Recommendations In Its Report. It Also States The Procedure To Be Followed By The House In Giving Effect To Its Recommendations.