

MPs can now wear Tiranga Lapel Badge in the Lok Sabha

Another feather in Shri Naveen Jindal's Cap

New Delhi, February 19, 2010: In a pleasant and long awaited decision, the Lok Sabha on 18th February, 2010 decided to allow Members of Parliament to wear Lapel Pins displaying the National Flag on their person in the august House. It may surprise many to know that according to Rule No. 349 (XIV) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Lok Sabha Members of the Parliament were not allowed to wear badges of any kind while seated in the House.

The Member of Parliament, Naveen Jindal approached the Rules Committee and the former Lok Sabha Speaker Somnath Chatterjee in 2004 to allow Hon'ble Members of the House to wear the National Flag in the form of Lapel Pins while in the House.

Sh. Jindal pleaded with the Rules Committee that the National Flag is the greatest symbol of our Country, therefore, MPs be allowed to display it while sitting in the House as a mark of respect to the supreme symbol of the Nation. Continuing his efforts he approached the 15th Lok Sabha Rules Committee and Hon'ble Speaker Smt. Meira Kumar, who has amended the above said clause of Rule 349 to read "Members shall not wear any badges in the Lok Sabha except in the form of Tricolour in the form of Lapel Pin". The passion shown by the Kurukshetra MP Sh. Naveen Jindal for the cause of the National-flag adds another feather to his cap.

Earlier, in January 2004 Sh. Jindal obtained the right for every citizen to fly the National Flag on all the 365 days of the year when the Hon'ble Supreme Court granted Indians the Fundamental Right to fly the Tiranga.

In December, 2009 the young Member of Parliament and one of the leading industrialists of the country Shri Naveen Jindal got the Flag Code once again amended and secured permission to fly the National Flag even during night hours. Prior to December, 2009 flying of the National Flag during night was normally not allowed. Now if the Flag flies on a 100ft and above high flagpoles it could be flown even during nights when adequately illuminated.