

make a high level inquiry into it. The Bihar Government is ready for a probe.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Buta Singh ji.....

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, today Shrimati Krishna Sahi.....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Only what Shri Buta Singh says goes on record.

[Translation]

SHRI BUTA SINGH (Jalore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Government an assurance was given in the House that the vacancies meant for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes shall be filled by 31st March, 1992 and a statement on behalf of the Government of India shall be made in the House. Sir, 31st March, 1992 has ended. The Government of India has not given any reply regarding the clearance of backlog of the vacancies for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In the meantime, 104 Under Secretaries have been reverted and made section officers. A very illegal and unconstitutional step has been taken. With the result 104 officers of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are sitting in their houses and are not coming to offices. I want that either there should be a discussion on this under Rule 193 or a Calling Attention Motion should be admitted. At the same time, you should give directions to the Government of India to make a comprehensive statement on it in the House so that the House and the country should know whether the backlog has been cleared or not.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): This is against the assurance

given by the Welfare Minister. That is why this question is being raised.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Hari Kishore Ji.....

(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please listen for a minute. On the question of Bihar Shrimati Krishna Sahi has just said that the Chief Minister of Bihar is not coming out of his house. Yesterday the Home Minister said here that he is not having contact with the Chief Minister. The way there is publicity of these things the way there is coverage in Parliament News and the way Shrimati Krishna Sahi has raised this issue today indicates that a conspiracy is being hatched to dismiss the Bihar Government. The Home Minister has said in the Rajya Sabha that he will initiate action when the report comes. The report has come. The Bihar Government has given information about all the facts but an attempt is being made to create an atmosphere against the Bihar Government through one sided propaganda by media. We condemn it and challenge Krishna Sahi that the Chief Minister of Bihar is attending programmes openly at all places. If any one is locked in houses, then it is the Congress(I) people. If Shri Jaganath Mishra has the courage, he should go there and see what is going on. The Chief Minister has himself visited Bairol on the 29th and taken note of the situation. So, an atmosphere of this kind is being created in this House just to dismiss the State Government. We warn that the way an attempt is being made inside and outside the House to present the entire episode is a deliberate attempt to create a situation of caste war. This is highly deplorable. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You have been given a chance to speak, you should make a good use of it.

[*English*]

Please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: There are others, who want to speak.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you. This is a daily affair. All of you are sitting in the House and watching this. If this is the way, then how can we work? This kind of thing does not help us.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, kindly say something on my question. This is very important. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: We shall discuss it. It cannot be discussed here. I shall discuss it with you.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this has happened for the first time. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): How far the State matter will be permitted to be raised by you? (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: This is a very important matter. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will say.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will not allow anything to be discussed on the floor of the House

which cannot be discussed. But all the leaders of the parties have to tell their Members that such matters should not be raised and if they raise, the leaders shall have to tell them that this matter should not be raised. If you are allowing your Members to raise the matters and if you are expecting the Speaker, in such an Hour, to stop them from speaking, well, you are expecting too much. I have no machinery with me to stop them from speaking. I have absolutely no machinery. The procedure which is followed in the House is.....

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I accept your observation. There is remissness on our part also and on all sides. But, you have to be firm. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will be firm. When I am firm, I cannot be alone firm. This entire House belongs to all of us. Supposing I am firm, you shall have to appreciate it. You shall have to cooperate. If you are not cooperating, well, the easiest thing for me is to say that somebody can take the Chair and I can get inside. Then, it will continue. This is going on and you are all witness to this thing. This is going on in front of our eyes and we are all eye witnesses to it. Supposing you are not helping, you will find me very weak to control such kind of things.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall present my point of view in brief. Firstly, as our colleague has said, I understand that no such step should be taken by the Government of India to dismiss any State Government or the Bihar Government and if any such step is taken, then it will have serious repercussions. Secondly, I would like to say that just now our colleague

Shri Buta Singh ji has presented a very important matter before the house and yesterday there was a meeting of All Party M.P's.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let me speak in brief. Whatever he has said I shall have a discussion in the chamber and then decide. There is no need of a lengthy speech on that.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Please listen for one minute. After all we are also public representatives. We too have the right to present our point of view.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now you see how can this problem be solved? You tell us.

[English]

Okay, you speak now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): This is relevant to the House.
(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: You may recall that I had asked a question in this very House on this very issue and you were in the Chair. Sitaram Kesriji was there. *(Interruptions)* I had asked whether the backlog would be cleared? He had said that it would be cleared. I had asked then whether he was having a magic. Then he said that he had a magic wand. 31st March has passed. You will have a discussion upon this in the House. I am extremely grateful to you for this. But I would like to ask you that after 47 years of independence and after the end of the Baba Saheb Ambedkar centenary

year, the backlog could not be cleared, rather the officials are being demoted and sacked from their jobs. There cannot be anything more shameful than this and it is my charge upon the Government that whatever progress we had made, this Government, which calls itself revolutionary, has halted that progress and rather drifted it back. Margraet Alva ji is sitting here, she is a high level Minister but she is not aware of it. She said in the Centenary Committee that she had never made any promise. The Cabinet Minister says that he makes a declaration and Margraet Alvaji says that she had not given any assurance. Therefore, I would like to urge, through you, that since 31st March has ended, the Government should issue a white paper on the backlog. We request you that we have given notices under 193,184 and for the calling attention. You may have discussion in the House on any notice. I would like the hon. Prime Minister to be present here and to reply to the debate because this matter concerns the lives of people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Nobody would be allowed to play with their lives in this manner. We have been exercising restraint on this issue in the House and did not raise it even once, because you always said that this issue should not be raised time and again. Therefore, I did not raise it. Today we urge you to accept this Motion and allow a debate on it in the august House.

SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK (Buldana): Everybody knows about the issue raised by Shri Buta Singh. Last year, on 4th and 5th October, the hon. Prime Minister convened a meeting of the Chief Ministers on this issue and some decisions had been taken. The issue of backlog in respect of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is not only confined to the Union Government but the State Government should also take steps to fill it. All the Chief Ministers had made a resolve that it would be filled by 31st March 1992. The need of the hour is that the

backlog in respect of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be filled by the Union Government. It is all the more necessary that the States should also fill the backlog. There should a fullfledged discussion on it in the House. In the meeting of the State Chief Ministers the hon. Prime Minister tried to know the position of filling the backlog at the state level. It is very necessary to place the outcome of the review before the House after making a thorough probe into the matter. I make the demand because every body knows the gravity of the matter. All sections of the House have given their consent to it. Some hon. Members had held a demonstration at the Rashtrapati Bhawan. If this is not done, the hon. Members would be constrained to chalk out their future strategy. Therefore, I request you that this issue should be discussed in the House at the earliest.

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karolbagh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to speak on this issue. I should also be given permission.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, when all are speaking you should also be given an opportunity. I shall give you an opportunity. You also speak.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fatehpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue raised by Shri Buta Singh and sentiments expressed by Ram Vilasji and Wasnik ji are not of their own only but of all the hon. Members. This issue does not relate only to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes but to the whole House in which we all participate. I think there is no party barrier in it and this is what the sentiments suggest. Sir, I will not be satisfied merely by presentation of figures and holding of discussions. You gave hints but I did not rise. But now I feel that mere figures and discussions would not suffice. Some concrete steps should be taken by bringing forward a legislation in the House in this regard. We should not limit our discussion to backlog of vacancies. At the same

time we should think of measures so that no backlog is created in future. We should extend the scope of our discussion to know why there was a backlog and what should be done for future. A legislation should be enacted here in the same lines an Act was passed by the Chief Minister of Bihar. According to that Act, if any officer does not fill the backlog he will be penalised and sentenced to three months' imprisonment. If we can take such a step, there will be no backlog. Sir, I will not take much time because I think the whole House is unanimous on it. It will be a great homage to Baba Sahib if a concrete step in this regard is taken by the august House. Instead of taking any other step, it would be a true tribute to him if a legislation is passed after his name.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I understand that the question raised by Shri Buta Singh is of a serious nature and the aspect towards which he has drawn our attention is much more serious than that. I cannot believe that an officer of the rank of Under Secretary or anybody holding a higher post could demote a person to the rank of Section Officer.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: 104 persons have been demoted.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: It is really a very sad and serious matter and explanation should be called for. At the time we will discuss Demands for Grants, reports of different Ministers would be received. I hope that the report of the Ministry of Home Affairs will throw light on it in detail, this year is important because it is the centenary year of Dr. Ambedkar and it is also important because the hon. Prime Minister took a decision in the meeting of State Chief Ministers to fill the backlog by 31st March. What has been the progress in this regard? Perhaps the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Welfare could give us some information. In case the report is incomplete, I would like

to submit that before taking up discussion on this issue detailed information should be given to the House so that we are in a position to express our views properly.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I became sad when I come to know about the killing of an M.L.A. or M.P. in a State or when any assault is made on such dignitaries....; (*Interruptions*) When an M.P. visits a place, he is obstructed. It is a serious matter. An M.L.A. cannot perform his duty when he is shot dead. When an M.P. is on a visit to a place and he is lathi - charged, he cannot perform his duty. Members from all sections of the House should think carefully about it as to what measures should be taken to check it. I feel that it is the duty of the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to come here and make a statement in the House in this regard, because we people are scared of this state of affairs. When we people visit a place to see something and the police lathicharge us, it does not look nice.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue raised by Shri Buta Singh that 104 Under Secretaries have been demoted to the rank Section Officers is the biggest slur on this Government. I would like that the hon. Minister of Home Affairs should come to the House and make a statement in this regard.

As a matter of fact, there are two Ministers in the Ministry of Home Affairs but none of them is present here at the moment. I submit that at least one of them who is looking after the work of the Ministry of Home Affairs should be present here so that he could give explanations whenever such issues are raised.

I would like to submit that the senior Ministers present here should take note of it and inform the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that he should come to the House and make a statement in this regard. Policies and programmes of the Congress before and after

independence and the provisions made in the Constitution for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be safeguarded. It will be shameful and create apprehension of the provisions of the Constitution are not followed. It is shameful to the members of all parties. I feel the hon. Minister of Home Affairs should come here and give an explanation in this regard.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): Sir, a reference has been made to backlog.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, is it less than a discussion?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: We are consuming some time in making comment and not discussing. We know and we have been told repeatedly that the country is in a bad shape and that we all of us have to share the burden. We all know that when we use such expressions that all of us have to share the burden, we really mean that the poor, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes have to share it more than the rest of the society. Sir, we know that there is unemployment and the backlog of unemployment also is increasing every year instead of getting reduced. And the Finance Minister does not say that they will, at least, be able to employ as many people as they offer themselves to the labour market this year itself. Now, this is very much oppressing in relation to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. There was an assurance that before the Financial Year was over, the Minister would see to it that all the vacant positions were filled up. I congratulate Shri Buta Singh. At least, he has been able to draw the attention.

MR. SPEAKER: Show some courtesy to her Members also.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I will show consideration for you also, Sir!

MR. SPEAKER: I must thank you for it!

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: He has dared to draw the attention of the House that an assurance given in a sokemn manner before this House has not been fulfilled. Therefore, from all sections of the House, we demand that there must be a statement about the present situation with regard to the absorption of backlog. Secondly, what steps are going to be taken immediately to clear the backlog?

MR. SPEAKER: I am going to allow two or three Memebrs from this side and two or three Members from that side. Let me dispel the apprehension which might have been created because of this discussion. When hon. Members approached me, I have said that we would certainly look not it. Let it not be an issue, before the House. It can be discussed in the House and there is no difficulty in discussing it. We will decide as to how it will be discussed. It is not the preactice of the House to bring these matters on the floor of the House. There is a method of doing these things. You have to give a notice and once a notice is given, we consider it.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: Even for this, we are grateful to you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RATILAL VERMA (Dhanduka): Mr. Speaker, we feel sorrow in our hearts. I would like to thank you for the opportunity you gave me to express it. All the Prime Ministers who came to power gave assurances to fill up the reserved quota, but the reserved seats were not filled up, and the Prime Ministers kept changing. In every daily newspaper this headline appears that the quota reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes shall be filled up.

Even though advertisements are given thrice in newspapers, the seats are not filled up. After that, posts in that quota are deserved. In such a state, the people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are deprived of the opportunity to get jobs. They are recruited to categories 'C' and 'D'. But they are not recruited to the vacant posts in categories 'A' and 'B'. 31st March has also gone. I hope that till the end of April all the vacant posts in the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes category will be filled up. Young men possessing B.Ed., M.A. and L.L.B. degrees are running from place to place in search of a job and fed frustrated. Some young men have committed suicide because they could not get a job. Even if they are selected anywhere, they are posted at far off places to harass them. They have to face many difficulties over there. It is my request that you should look into these matters.

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the last 44 years many times the issue of the upliftment of this section of the society has been discussed, but nothing concrete has been done. Atrocities should not be inflicted upon the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and they should be given due benefits of the reservation. Many a promises have been made regarding this. These promises were made by the previous Government as well as have been made by the present Government. Shri Sita Ram Kesri said that the entire backlog shall be cleared till 31st March. Though he has expressed his concern but he could also not do anything for them. We met *..... 106 M.Ps. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record. Come to the other point please. Reference to Rashtrapati will not go on record.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALKA DAS: Sir, the Prime Minister also convened a meeting of the N.I.C. and in that he had promised that his Government would clear the backlog by 31st March but here the condition is such that as far as joint responsibility is concerned, one minister makes a promise, another negates it, and denies any knowledge of it. This issue is not being taken seriously by the Government. I would like to give a warning to this Government through you that for the last 44 years it has been deceiving these people and this section of the society but that cannot continue for a long time.

You are well aware that the members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, to whichever party they belong, are putting this pressure upon this Government that it should work for the upliftment of these people and for the sake of clearing the backlog which they had promised but the Government is not giving any attention to this. Instead of clearing the backlog they have reverted 104 under Secretaries belonging of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes to the post of section officers in the Baba Sahib centenary year. We are celebrating this year as the year of justice but the greatest injustice in this year is being done to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled tribes. At places, the pictures of Baba Sahib Ambedkar are being broken, at some places atrocities are being inflicted upon them. To celebrate this year as the year of justice is just an eyewash and in a way, an attempt to throw dust in their eyes. I would like to tell you that how they can not before us as they have been doing the last 44 years. The young men who belong to the Scheduled Castes do not have any faith left in this august House and in this Government. If some steps are not taken very soon, then flames of dissatisfaction which are flaring up very high will put the country in a very difficult situation.

That is why I would like to request you that this Government should bring out a white paper on this budget and promote those 104 people Under Secretaries again and clear the backlog and have a complete discussion in this house on this subject.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): Sir, I took notice of the discussion. I would really like to clarify two points. The first one is about the backlog.

The first recruitment drive for clearing the backlog was started during Rajiv ji's time and 50,000 vacancies were cleared for the first time by the Rajiv Gandhi Government. After that we have had two special recruitment drives to clear the backlog. Second one was in 1989-1990 and the third one is on. The third one was launched immediately after we came to power.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: What is the meaning of backlog? (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Let me say what I want to say. (*Interruptions*)

You give notice of a separate discussion. I am not going into this. I am saying that the number of jobs required to be filled to clear the backlog have been identified and the work is on.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: You are the Minister in charge. Do you know how much is the backlog?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: You give me notice for this. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I would

like to say that the hon. Minister for Welfare has given an assurance in this House as far as 31st March is concerned and today you are on 1st of April. It is going to take a little time to collect the figures and give you the exact picture. In one day I cannot possibly collect figures from all the subordinate offices all over the country. The drive has been on. You will have to give us time to put figures together and then come to the House. That is one point.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore): 31st March was the date given.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: 31st March was the date for completing the drive but not for producing figure. I am a human being. I cannot do it in one day.

The second point that I want to clarify is about the question of 104 Section Officers who have been reverted. Let me be very clear.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: They were Under Secretary and not Section Officer.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Yes, Under Secretary. Sir, promotions were made by us. They were promoted and it was then done on the clear direction of the Supreme Court.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: You are totally wrong. It is the direction given by the Ministry and not by the Supreme Court. *(Interruptions)*

You are telling alone *

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Don't say I am telling..... I am telling the truth. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I have made my point. *(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER: That should be expunged.

MR. SPEAKER: That will be expunged.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I am bringing the facts before the House. We went back to the Supreme Court and said that while we have cleared a list, we have to include 22 per cent Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes when we make promotions.

They clearly said that pending our final disposal of this list before the Court, no other promotion shall be made. And, you first clear yourself of the charge of contempt of this Court and then come back and appeal. So, we had to revert them and we have then filed the appeal as directed challenging the orders given that they (SC/ST) should not be promoted independent of the list. It is pending before the Supreme Court. I cannot say more.

Sir, I wish to repeat again that I am not in the habit of to the House and I have presents the facts as they are.

MR. SPEAKER: No. Leave it. That is all right.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir,.....

*(Interruptions) **

MR. SPEAKER: What he is saying is not going on record.

*(Interruptions) **

MR. SPEAKER: Don't argue unnecessarily. Only what Shri Rao is saying will go on record.

*(Interruptions) **

SHRI BUTA.SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to say something on what the hon. Minister has submitted. There should not be any wrong impression created in the country.

The judgement of the Supreme Court which the hon. Minister has mentioned is nothing to do with the promotion of 104 officers. What the Supreme Court Judgement says is that the Government should lay norms for the future so that on merits, the officers would be selected but those who have been selected should not be affected. This is a wrong interpretation given by the hon. Minister. Therefore, I would say that, let us not block the way of these 104 officers.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia): Mr. Speaker, Sir, now it is a very serious matter. A matter is raised in the House. It is a matter of such a serious nature, where a section of the population who have been exploited and oppressed for centuries and that certain promotions were made.

I do not know what are the difficulties of the Government to fulfil those promotions or in not fulfilling those promotions. The hon. Minister made a statement here. She said that she has been impeded by the decision of the Supreme Court. The hon. Member Mr. Buta Singh, who was the Home Minister of this country for quite a long time and also Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, have contradicted it. This matter cannot be left as it is. Because, this will give a very wrong signal to the whole country. After all, what do you want to achieve by this? This type of behaviour in the Parliament, especially from the Treasury Benches, is going to create enough apprehension and doubt in the minds of people who are already sensitive and agitated. If you see from Tripura to Tamil Nadu, the whole tribal belt is restive. Do you want to make them more restive and more violent? Do you want them to take to arms? The Government should make a statement with responsibility. I shall request the hon. Minister for Human Resource Development that at least in these matters, being a senior Minister, he should intervene. It is not a question of any Party.

MR. SPEAKER: He will not have the information of other Ministers.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: All right, by the evening, they should clarify the position. Take the case of Nitish Kumar. He has just now mentioned something. Since yesterday, the Bihar matter is being discussed. I shall not go into the merit of the case. The Home Minister is keeping mum about it. Rumours are on. Accusations are being made from one side or the other but the Home Minister does not come out with facts or with any statement. Is it the way to deal with a sensitive matter? It is because, it may cause riots in Bihar tomorrow. So, something should be done by the Government.

Another issue which I digress is this.

One hon. Member said that he has been beaten. Mr. Madan Lal Khurana, my friend, said that he is maligned. I shall not go into that. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall request you to call that member in the Chamber, call the leader of the Opposition and find out what has actually happened.

MR. SPEAKER: No. He showed me. I said that: "You don't uncover yourself."

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: He was doing it here. I stopped him. I do not care for other Members. Is it the way we are going to behave? It is not the Government's side.

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee yesterday was telling us about it. I said that we should hear each other with certain amount of restraint and reservation.

A Member has been beaten by the police rightly or wrongly. I do not want to go into it. If he comes here, all of a sudden, some people spring up and say, he is maligned. All right, if this is going to be done, tomorrow, you may be in the same position.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): In this matter, you call facts and the file in your Chamber and solve the problem.

MR. SPEAKER: I am trying to solve the problem.

[*Translation*]

Look when I am on my legs then kindly listen do me. If any such topic has been raised then some kind of a conclusion should emerge. One member has given a statement and secondly the hon. Minister has said that these are the facts. Now it is for us to see that whether these are correct or not. For this, there are certain rules and under these rule we can see that what is the right position. But along with that we have to keep

this thing in mind that this matter has been raised without giving them any prior notice.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Now if you will speak again and again, then no conclusion shall emerge. I know that if a senior member like Chandra Shekhar has raised any issue then we shall go to the root of this problem. I shall urge upon the other members to give the names of those people who have been demoted, and I shall inform the Minister that he may furnish the names of the people who are connected with this case.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Khurana kindly be seated. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as Mr. Chandra Shekharji has just said, I would like to say further that whether any member was beaten up or not, I was not present at that time, but the way he has been bandaged. I would certainly say the he should get a X-Ray done. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Khuranaji, kindly sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: I would like to say that whatever. Mr. Madanlal Khurana has said is not true.

[*English*]

This is irrelevant.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this should be examined, it is a very serious matter. (*Interruptions*) a man

who is injured is showing his wounds and they say that an X-Ray should be done. This does not behave such a senior member like Shri Madan Lal Khurana. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I would rather believe the member. You do not have to doubt him. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: My suggestion is that during this hour, one hour discussion should be held to determine as to what type of proceedings should be conducted during this hour.

[*English*]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDO (Vijayawada): Through you, I draw the immediate attention of the Government to a most important and burning problem of very low prices that are being offered to the tobacco growers in Andhra Pradesh; the VFC tobacco is grown only in Andhra Pradesh.

Now 75 per cent of the V.F.C. tobacco is being grown in A.P. The hon. Minister of Commerce is also here. He came to Guntur also some time back and assured the farmers that they would get very reasonable price, in any event, not less than the price which they had got last year.

The erstwhile States of USSR have indicated their requirement of 28 million kgs of tobacco, but the orders are placed for 15 million kgs of tobacco only at present. It is because of that the prices have come down, there is a difference of merely Rs. 8 to Rs. 9 compared to the last year.

I urge upon the Government to immediately use their good offices and see that the

balance 15 million kgs order is also placed on the exporters, which will help the farmers to get higher prices for their tobacco.

You were very much there; and you assured and farmers that you would be visiting the auction place also during the present season.

Through you, I urge the Government and the Commerce Minister to make a statement in the House and come to the rescue of the tobacco growers of Andhra Pradesh.

13.00 hrs.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARI KISOHORE SINGH (Sheohar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it seems that the Government is having some sort of special love with Sweden. The Bofors issue is still going on and we are going to discuss it even today. But I would like to draw your attention to another Bofors scandal. It is distressing that instead of giving orders to the Public Undertakings like the B.H.E.L. and the Chittaranjan Locomotive Factories, the Ministry of Railways and the Ministry of Railways and the Ministry of Energy of the Government of India are giving orders frequently to a Swedish firm Asean Brown Baberi. In this connection, many kinds of rumours are spreading that the Ministry of Railways did not give orders for the supply of electrical locomotives of 6000 Horse Power, to the B.H.E.L. though the Technical Committee of the Railway Board had found the B.H.E.L. fit for this business. But instead these orders were given to a Swedish Company. Similarly, this Swedish Company got orders for the supply of gas turbines worth Rs. 1800 crore from the N.T.P.C. What is the reason thereof? While the Minister of Industry has himself said again and again and such facts are coming to light that few orders are left with the B.H.E.L. Under what conspiracy are these things being done. While the Public Sector