

Their take-home salary was being reduced. I was assured that what was given to the employees of the banking sector would be extended to the insurance sector also. I do not know why the Finance Minister has become so rigid in regard to the employees of the insurance sector. When he has assured that autonomy will be given, the management to LIC and GIC were asked to negotiate with the employees and their associations, and settle the pending issues. I request the Finance Minister that the right to collective bargaining, as he has assured on the floor of the House today, be given to the employees of LIC and GIC. The management should negotiate with the employees to settle the pending issues. We have expressed our reservations.

MR. SPEAKER: I think you have expressed them very eloquently

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: I am reminded of a small couplet of the great Urdu poet Akbar Allahabadi.

Qaum Key Gham Mein Dinner Khaati Hai: C.P.M.
Hukkaam Key Saath

Dard Aapko Bahut Hai Magar Aaraam Key Saath.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I have held discussions with Shri Acharia. An opportunity for a wide-ranging debate on the insurance sector is coming up when the IRA Bill will be introduced in this House. I have already written to him and to his party leader also. Let the debate come. At that time the views that I had expressed in my letter, I will articulate in the House. He has a right to say what he wants to say. The House can debate the insurance sector. I believe, Sir, that notwithstanding their ideological and philosophical reservations on the Finance Bill and the Budget, in the heart of hearts, they support the direction of the reforms that we have taken up. And I thank all sections of the House for the broad and generous support they have given me in piloting this Budget and this Finance Bill.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (PANSKURA): I hope that the IRA Bill will have a different connotation when it comes.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed

The motion was adopted

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I must thank all the hon. Members very sincerely. For clause-by-clause discussion, we had earmarked two hours. For third reading, we had earmarked one hour. Out of the three hours allotted, we spent exactly 58 minutes to transact this business. Congratulations to all of you.

Since there is no more Government business before the Private Members Bills, I adjourn the House for twenty

minutes, as a tea break, to meet again at 3.30 p.m.

15.09 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till thirty minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.

15.41 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at forty-one minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.

(SHRI P.M. SAYEED in the Chair)

[English]

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Eighth Report

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (PATIALA). Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Eighth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions Presented to the House on the 7th May, 1997."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Eighth report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 7th May, 1997."

The motion was adopted.

15.42 hrs.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Illegal Immigrants-contd.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN. We shall take up further discussion on the Illegal Immigrants Resolution moved by Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona on the 13th December, 1996. The time allotted for this Resolution is five hours, the House has already taken four hours and twelve minutes, and only forty-eight minutes are left. Shri G.M. Banatwalla was on his feet.

Shri G.M. Banatwalla, you may please continue your speech.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is most unfortunate that the entire question of the presence of illegal migrants in the country has been politicised and a bogie is sought to be raised about for the so-called large scale infiltration in the country.

The very origin of this controversy lies in the electoral battle that was to be fought in Assam. Accordingly, a question was raised on the occasion of the by-election of

[Shri G.M. Banatwalla]

Mangaldoi Parliamentary constituency of Assam in 1978. An objection was taken to about 48,000 voters in Mangaldoi Parliamentary Constituency and to about 35,000 voters in Barpeta Parliamentary Constituency. So, we find that the origin of the entire political propaganda starts with the electoral rolls and the approaching of the by-election in Mangaldoi Parliamentary Constituency in 1978.

Sir, I must point out here that this large scale propaganda about the presence of the so-called illegal migrants in our country is going on incessantly.

This is obvious from the fact during the period from January 1986 to July 1993, nearly 2,87,000 complaints were referred to the Tribunal in Assam to determine their status as to whether they were illegal migrants. Out of this 2,87,000 complaints referred to the Tribunal, hardly 8,000 were identified as illegal migrants and in other cases, the complaints were found to be frivolous. That itself shows the politically motivated propaganda that has gone on with respect to this particular problem. Also, I have already given the official figures given by the Home Minister with respect to infiltration cases in reply to an Unstarred Question here in the House. I will not repeat them.

But then I may point out another factor. Take the electoral rolls themselves for certain periods and examine the percentage rise in the number of voters in those electoral rolls. In order not to consume too much time of the House, I may concentrate on Assam. The Assam electoral roll of 1991 had 1,18,73,952 voters. By 1996, the number of voters were hardly 1,25,87,659. So what is the increase? You talk about the large scale infiltration. You talk about millions coming in and getting registered as electors, as voters, as electing to this particular House and having their impact upon the Ministries. But then, what is the percentage rise in the electoral roll between the years 1991 and 1996? From 1,18,00,000, the number has increased to hardly 1,25,00,000 in Assam which is supposed to be the centre for all this controversy. In other words, the percentage increase in the electoral roll was hardly 6.01 per cent. I have figures here for all the States. They are there in the reports of the Election Commission.

Why should I take up the time of this House by giving all those figures which do not justify any such outcry as has been sought to be made? in Jammu and Kashmir there are certain other situations into which I do not want to go. But the percentage rise in the electoral roll between the periods 1991 and 1996 as given by the Election Commission is 5.65 per cent. However, there are various other factors into which I do not want to go. The point that I am making is that it is unfortunate that a bogey is sought to be created of large scale infiltration of the people entering the electoral roll so as to bring about, the disenfranchisement of thousands and thousands and this has been sought by those who have politically vested interests.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, as I had earlier indicated, there must not be any harassment whatsoever of the minorities, particularly, the Muslim minorities on the pretext of iden-

tification of the so-called illegal migrants.

I have already dwelt on that particular aspect and will not repeat what I have already spoken last time. But it is shocking to find that the right to citizenship in our country is not a fundamental right. That is even against the United Nations' Declaration of Human Rights.

I must take this opportunity to urge upon the Government for even an amendment of the Constitution so as to make the right to citizenship a fundamental right in accordance with the international thinking as embodied in the United Nations' Declaration of Human Rights.

People are being harassed and those who are staying here for generations and generations are harassed despite the fact that the Citizenship Act was amended in the year 1985 to provide that those who came before 1st January, 1966 to Assam are deemed to be the citizens. Now, the question was solved and those who came by 1st January, 1966, were already given all the rights of citizens by an amendment of the Citizenship Act. Those who came between 1966 and 25 May, 1971 were given all rights except, of course, the right to vote which they would acquire after ten years. But despite all these provisions, people residing for generations and generations and who were born here were harassed. Such, therefore, is the situation that we have in this particular respect.

Sir, I will not take much time and conclude by making an appeal. Let us distribute what you may call residency cards or residency certificates in our border areas. I am not talking of citizenship certificates. I am only talking of residency certificates and they should be given to each and every one who is there right now at the border so that those who come later on—if that is the case they say—can be easily identified. But at least a beginning can be made and we can think in terms of residency certificates to be given to each and every person residing in our borders. But without any harassment, manipulation or discrimination, everyone, at present, at the border should be given the residency certificates. The question of citizenship, as I said, can be decided later on according to the law. Let there be no harassment, let the law take its own course. But that also does not mean that indiscriminately the people are sought to be prosecuted under all sorts of complaints, as we have found in the case of the working of the Tribunals in Assam. A large number of frivolous complaints are brought by the people and the authorities.

Now, it is high time that we address ourselves to important questions rather than raise such bogies for only political exploitation. I suggest that in view of the circumstances which are prevailing today, the Government must firstly amend the Constitution to make citizenship a fundamental right.

Secondly, as I have already indicated earlier, you amend the Foreigners' Act in order to provide that the onus or burden of proof whether a person is or is not a citizen should lie upon the complainant or the complaining author-

ity. Today we have an obnoxious rule that it is the accused who is asked to prove his own citizenship. This is a colonial legacy that we have had because of the World War situation that was then prevailing. This particular position must go and the Foreigners' Act must be amended.

Thirdly, in view of the discrimination that is there, the complaints that are there of harassment of the genuine citizens, I must say that the Centre must not delegate its authority for the identification of the citizens and illegal migrants to any State. The matter must continue under the Central supervision, under the Central guidance, through Central guidelines and without delegation of authority to any State whatsoever.

Such is the situation today, Mr. Chairman, that not only the question has been politicised but it has also been communalised. I will not go into the details pointing out how the non-Muslims coming from Bangladesh were called refugees and the Muslims coming from Bangladesh were called infiltrators. Such distinctions were made. We are victims of the unfortunate events and developments and the attitudes that were taken towards all this. The situation must, therefore, come to an end.

With these words I conclude with my fervent appeal to one and all and specially to the Government to see that in the process of the identification of the so-called illegal migrants no genuine citizen specially those belonging to the minorities is persecuted.

With these words I conclude.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (HOWRAH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I heard in the last two occasions this particular debate on this resolution. Before I participate in the discussion on the resolution, I had the privilege to hear the distinguished Home Minister Shri Indrajit Gupta the other day while replying to a question. I do not know the reason and the logistics which provided him the strength to admit in the House that about ten million foreigners are now residing in India. Having said so on the floor of the House that ten million foreigners are in the country at the moment and also admitting the fact that the people who are to prevent their entry from across the border, are not performing their jobs very efficiently, it really gave a handle to those who have been creating a lot of hue and cry on this issue and to a great extent had communalised this campaign as Shri Banatwalla said just now.

I am sorry to say that the responsibility will be on the Government as to how to justify their own answer and to find a solution to it. I am not going into a debate. I will now narrate my viewpoints on the whole issue.

Sir, it is a fact that historically when India, Pakistan and Bangladesh were together during the days of freedom struggle, when we were all one against the British empire, our cultural, social, and political aspirations and our emotional ties were one.

16.00 hrs.

I do consider today that the ties are still similar and one. They are inseparable, be it a Tamilian in Jaffna or be it a Tamilian in Chennai, their common emotional ties are unbreakable and no Constitution of the world can break that emotional tie. Be it a Bengalee in Bangladesh, or be it a Bengalee in West Bengal, their emotional and cultural ties are unbreakable. Be it a Muslim in Bangladesh, be it a Muslim in Pakistan, their dreams for this sub-continent in the days of the struggle against the British and their cultural, religious, emotional passion, are the same today also. But ironically and historically, it is a fact that the country had to get its own sovereignty and identity, right after the liberation struggle, through different courses of history which, as a student of politics and as a student of the Constitutional history of the country, we must learn and understand. As a citizen of India, I feel proud to defend my territory, the cultural heritage of this nation and of supporting the constructive contribution made by our senior leaders while framing the Constitution of India. But I cannot just ignore and take a lopsided view as to what had happened during the days of partition and after.

Let us take stock of our border States and Provinces. Jammu, Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat border with Pakistan. Whether you like it or not, if anything goes wrong in these four States, a habit has developed in this country just to doubt and cast aspersions on the Muslims of this area, as the agents of Pakistan. This insult and humiliation has been going on not from today. I can cite from the pages of a number of important features and important letters outside the House during the last decade while I was a student of college and University as to how and in what manner and language they used to suspect even the *bona fides* of the Muslims of these four States which are bordering Pakistan. If there is a war again, the spies of the Government will start finding out whether the agents might not be anybody other than the Muslims. Let us try to understand in what manner we are cheating them day in and day out.

I would like to mention that one Shri Suraj Ali Khan was a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Bengal from a Constituency called Tihatta Nadia district long back in 1967. He was arrested under Defence of India Rules being a suspect of Pakistani spy during the days of war with Pakistan and then the Chief Minister was helpless to do anything. Later on, I discovered from no less a person than the mother of Shri Sidhartha Shankar Ray that Shri Suraj Ali Khan was the co-prisoner of Shri Deshbandu Chittaranjan Das Party and Shri Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das used to go with his family for campaigning for the country's liberation struggle and he had been in India for long enough. This is the plight of things that happened to many important leaders of the minority community who stood by Gandhiji's call, responded to Gandhiji's appeal and stood by the secular fabric of the Indian National Congress. Now the partition history is one. I am coming to it a little later. The States which are bordered with Bangladesh, Tripura, Assam and West Bengal have phases of history. Phase

[Shri P.R. Dasmunsi]

(a) is the part of partition, (b) onslaught of refugees coming and going, (c) the poverty-stricken districts in the border and (d) the constant poverty both in West Bengal, Tripura and Assam border and of the border of Pakistan, the border which is name's sake border in map, the border which has a routine and national concept of the border, but the border which was neither guarded from their side with an iron gate nor from our side with iron gate.

Thirty years ago, a daily wage earner of the agricultural field, may be his name is, Shri Ramatulla Khan, could not thrive in his own part and maybe on the side of Tripura or West Bengal or Assam, the big landlords whether Hindu or Muslim, asked Shri Ramatulla Khan during agriculture season to come and work in the field and to give support to agricultural production. Shri Ramatulla Khan went and stayed there for long with his family and children. Now when the time has come to identify, we do not go to the background as to how Shri Ramatulla Khan came in.

We go straight to the child and tell like this: "Look here, your father came here as an illegal immigrant. We have enough documents because Rehmatullah used to stay in a village till 16th August 1947 or till such and such a date of August 1950 or August, 1960. You are his child and get out from here." This is the kind of an attitude we have always adopted throughout the country.

I was born in Bangladesh. I was student of Class-I at that time. I remember the day when I came out on the street, I heard a slogan in Bangladesh. At that time, I did not know anything. One fine morning, I found that some leaders came and told us that the school was closed. We ran in the street and heard some leaders who raised the slogan of "*Rashtra Bhasha*", that is, the language of the State should be Bengali, nothing else. That was finally the slogan of Sheikh Mujibur Rehman at a later stage.

One night I came out and found that there was a trouble. My father, mother and sister were staying in the House and the house with all the property was lit. The next day morning, I found that the gentleman and his brother, who escorted us safely to cross the border, were Muslims. After having successfully crossed the border, myself, my mother and my sister arrived by train at the border of India. After seven days, we gathered the news that the great Muslim family which helped us had been killed at the hands of some fanatics. I still remember it.

When I became a Minister, I went to visit their family. What a contribution they have made for promoting brotherhood! But, if some of the people came for treatment in India, could not go back and stayed for 10 or 20 days for various reasons, I had to approach somebody in the Government of India to help them. It was in 1954 or 1955. I had to ask the Government to accommodate the man who saved our lives. Suppose the situation stabilises and such a person stays in India. The point is that the law of the Home Ministry and the provisions and regulations describe that such a person is a foreigner and the authorities ask him to get out from this land. Yes, logically, he is a foreigner. But historically neither was he responsible

to escort me nor my parents responsible to bring them. The particular situation which we witnessed was a grave one. What was the situation that we witnessed on the night of 15th August, 1947? Who was responsible for that? Should I bring the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the late Mohammad Ali Jinnah and the late Mahatma Gandhi to dock for trial? Or, should I accept history and the reality as it is and accept that man's identity? Should I accept him as a fellow traveller, a friend of mine and ask him to stay here or not?

Having said all these words, still if they try to say that let us find out the genuine infiltrators, I could understand the logic. But a campaign is carried on in this country in such a manner that some people are in fear. Who are the Chakmas who are in Tripura? They are not Muslims. They are not Hindus. They are Buddhists. Why did they come from the Chittagong border to Tripura? Whenever I used to go to Tripura for election campaign, I used to see at a distance of three yards the tents of the Chakmas, the Buddhists, the poorest of the poor who could not stay in the Chittagong hill tracts because of the oppression and suppression of one regime. Well, now efforts are on to shift and transfer them. But if they are there, if some of them get married with some of our people and get mixed in our society, should we go there and ask them to get out? This is what is happening in Tripura also. I do agree that there is a reasonable fear which arose in the minds of the people in Assam and Tripura. I fully share their fear. The fear is that if the influx is more than the expected number which is invisible, the fear of losing one's cultural identity is there. The social identity of the tribes of Tripura who are the original claimants of that land is in danger. The fear of the Assamese about the Ahom culture is there. They are not only the masters but also the people who did preserve their land by shedding blood. There is a reasonable apprehension in the minds of the people who live in the Brahmaputra Valley that one day or the other they would be asked to go out. I fully share their concern.

In India, if you want unity in the real sense of unity in diversity, then we should not create any situation by which any part of India gains any kind of fear or apprehension that its cultural, social, linguistic and ethnic identity will be wiped out by a hidden pressure sooner or later. If we keep quiet on that matter, then I think we are not doing justice. I fully share your view. In that regard, the process of identification, the process of evaluation could be thought of in a different manner but the campaign which has been built up in this country is terrible.

In Mumbai and Delhi cities, any Bengali who wears a *lungi* and does a job is treated as a Bangladeshi which means he has come from Bangladesh, he is a foreigner. So, has to get out. Now, I will give an example of my own State. From my State, not less than 15,000 Muslim workers are working in Delhi in the unorganised trades like tailoring, embroidery, etc.

Diamond trade or diamond polishing work in Mumbai city is the best trade in the country. The people who are

working in these trades come from my constituency, Howrah. Out of them, ninety per cent are Muslims. By tradition, they do this work. I know them, and before Independence, their families were in India. Since they speak in Bengali—they dwell in Ravindarpur area—most of the time they are the victims. Since they speak Bengali and are Muslims, we say that they are Bangladeshi. When they are asked to give their identities, they tell their father's age and other particulars. Then they are also asked about their grandfather and great grandfather. Finally, when they are not in a position to reply, either they get a beating or they have to pay something to the police and get out. This is what is happening in this country. I know this case. I met a gentleman yesterday from this group. It is a terrible situation which is now prevailing. Will it lead us to any solution? If a Muslim speaks in Bengali, he is a Bangladeshi and if a Muslim speaks in Urdu, in a densely populated area, whose identity was not known to top leaders, an easy way is to tell him that he has a connection with Pakistan. Otherwise, he has to tell them the particulars of ten generations and if after seven generations, he is unable to tell the particulars, then he is named as a foreigner and asked to get out. This is not the correct approach. I cannot contest the statement made by the Government that ten million people are here in India as foreigners.

Now there are three kinds of foreigners. There are foreigners who are defaulters in not going back to a particular place after the expiry of visa and are hiding. A number of Indians are also staying in US after the expiry of their visas, whom we recommend time and again to go on student visas and after completion, they do not want to come back and then the Embassy enquires and so on. Such types of people are also in India. They are not only from Pakistan but also from Bangladesh.

Mr. Chairman Sir, you may recall that ten years back, we had a General Secretary in AICC called Poorvi Mukherjee. Her relatives were Hindus and they were settled for 30 years in Africa. One fine morning, they all came to Delhi saying that they cannot go back. What happened? All the Indians had been driven out from Zambia, Uganda and Nairobi within 40 days' notice. I recall that her family also came out one morning and said that they cannot go back and they settled here. According to the stricter sense of the term, they are also foreigners because Poorvi Mukherjee's family were Hindus. Maybe, Shri Banatwalla is right that we treat them with a colourful word called 'refugees'. Had he or she been a Muslim, we would have said that they infiltrated from Africa into India. What happened after and before Taliban took over Kabul? Let us analyse the situation honestly. Is it not a fact that a lot of people of Afghanistan, from the days of Tagore's writing the famous story 'the Kabuliwala', used to come to India?

The people from Afghanistan, who were poverty stricken, used to come with sweets, grapes and *kishmish* to the streets of India and go back. Tagore's famous story 'Kabuliwalla' was based on that. The generation after generation used to stay in India. Tagore justified that being

a Pathan Muslim, the Kabuliwala fell in love with the daughter of a Brahmin in India. When that girl grew up, the Kabuliwala came out from jail and went to his wedding and said, "I am still here because your face resembles the face of my daughter who is in Kabul." Tagore said it. Should I take all the Kabuliwallas as foreigners? Suppose they are here for the last four or five generations. Maybe their sixth generation was in Kabul. Is it right or is it wrong? The people who have been in Tibet right after Dalai Lama have come to India and are here. Should somebody take a view that we should also not tolerate the Tibetans?

I come to the sensitive point about the Muslims which is now being debated in the country. What is your arrangement with Nepal? Right from the days of the British till this day, is it not a fact that our Gorkha Regiment is an Army with the best fighting Jawans who are recruited from Kathmandu, that is, those who came from Sikkim Valley, who come from Bhutan, who come from the Kumaon region of India, who come from various parts of hill areas and substantially from Nepal. Subash Ghising has rightly pointed out the issue. I want to have an explanation. What do you mean by the Gorkha identity—not the Nepal Gorkha identity? Do the Gorkhas who belong to India or to some outside country? Do the Gorkhas not belong to India? Are they only confined to Darjeeling? Are the Gorkhas, who are in the Indian Army, foreigners? It is history. Let us accept it. You are not discussing for the Gorkhas. You are not discussing for the Tibetans. You are not discussing for the Hindus who have departed from Africa. You are not discussing for the Afghans. You are not discussing for the Chakma Tribes. I am sorry to say that our whole attention in the country is towards Muslims. It is so because it suits us. If I can hit them more, it suits me to get a communal feedback from other sections. It may benefit us temporarily. It will bring disaster. Do not mix up the issue of ISI with this issue. If anybody is engaged in espionage activity, whether it is the ISI planted from Islamabad, or the CIA planted from Washington, whether it is somebody else like Mossad from Tel Aviv, there is no question. The nation has a responsible Government. It should not have any sympathy for him irrespective of his religious identity. Let us not mix it up with those who are coming as their agents.

If the Muslims are the only agents, then I would like this House to read the statement of former Home Minister, Shri Gulzari Lal Nanda in India, issued here perhaps in February, 1964, that is, after China attacked India. While all the Communists were detained in jail and when a question was raised about how many had been there and what were the reasons, a reply was given by Shri Nanda. That is already on record. Let us not question the identity of an agent in terms of religion. An agent is an agent. It is the duty of a responsible patriotic Government to fight the agent with all possible means.

Now, I come to the question of fear and threat to cultural and social identity. It is a fact. Dhubri and Goalpara regions of Assam and border districts of West Bengal are having very fertile land due to agriculture, due to tea plantation,

[Shri P.R. Dasmunsi]

and due to many other activities for years together. Our ethnic brotherhood from this side and that side might have brought people who stay for long years and may still be coming and going. A check, a scrutiny, a kind of residential card, or as Shri G.M. Banatwala has said, a mechanism could be found. I do not mind it. It can be done. After having a successful experiment in one or two districts, if you find that there is a genuine case, do it. My request to you is that if you want to scrutinise infiltrators and foreigners in the matter of residential card in West Bengal or Assam or Tripura, please do not leave it to their Government because somebody from those States, who are not effective, will take an objective view.

For the purposes of checking if you want to send somebody to Jammu and Kashmir, or Rajasthan or Gujarat or Punjab that is those who have border with Pakistan, then send somebody from States other than these States, send somebody who are not affected. They would have an objective approach to the whole issue. At the same time I would also like to defend the concept of unity in diversity. This concept cannot be encouraged and maintained if we intentionally keep quiet and sit idle and only become mute spectators to the destruction of somebody's cultural heritage.

A lot of my Bengali brothers and sisters are residing in Assam. When I go there I find the finest of the fine things in the culture of Assam. I read a few documents of the Assam *Sahitya* Sabha and I got an impression as if the Brahmaputra itself was roaring. I am proud of their culture. The dance drama of Tagore and the Bihu dance of Assam are two great assets. If a Bengali girl performs a Bihu dance, I feel, she has got integrated into the basic culture of Assam. I feel proud of that. If I find her to stay away from that, then I feel that she is not doing the right thing. This is Indian culture and this is how we should accept it.

Let us take the example of Tripura. It, of course, is a very selective case. Once again my heart goes to Tagore. He has composed a number of poems and dance dramas on Tripura's cultural identity like *Bisarjan*. Here he has depicted the identity of the tribal people who reigned supreme in their land.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am aware of that.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: The Bengali population in Tripura is only 30 to 40 per cent. Now, if they do not properly honour basic culture of Tripura and accept that then it would be an insult to them. The nation must create a process for the integration of the basic cultural identities. To cite the example of my own State, the people from other States irrespective of their cultural belongings have identified themselves with the rest of the population in Bengal.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, during the *Durga* puja festival you would come across Muslims who are secretaries of the local *Durga* puja committees. They issue the cards. I can show you hundreds of such cases. They have accepted

the culture there. It is not as a matter of religion but they consider it as a matter of culture, as a matter of get-together, as an occasion to understand each other.

Sir, therefore, the Indian Citizenship Act requires a total review in its historical perspective. After the partition, a few words created a situation in the border. People came and they also went back. The second aspect is of natural compulsion. It was stated here that the mother was killed in Dhaka, the sister was kidnapped in Multan and the brother was hit in the Chakma trap and the rest of the family stayed back here. Should we be inhuman to them? Should we drive them out irrespective of their religion and say, 'go there and get butchered'?

Sir, the third point that I would like to make is about introduction of the residential card system in the broader districts. It is a very good idea. I do not mind about your deciding the range. Check the police records of those who have come here some 15 years back and find out whether any new families have come in or not. If you discover that some new families fall within this category then you decide on the base year. If you find that they do not fall in this category and they are also not the agents of any foreign conspiracy, then negotiate with the concerned foreign Governments and find out in what manner they could be deported to their respective homelands. Otherwise, if you communalise the campaign in the name of foreigners straightway then it would be a great injustice done to them and it would not help in the maintenance of unity of this nation.

With these few words, I conclude.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (CALCUTTA SOUTH): I do not know with what intentions this Resolution has been brought before the House. From what Shri Dasmunsi or Shri Banatwala have said, our apprehensions are very clear. They have rightly pointed out that to identify one particular community, this Resolution has been brought before the House. The previous speakers have said that we have to control infiltration. Of course, it is obviously in the interest of the country but we should understand our problems also. We should understand the problems that we faced at the time of our Independence movement. The Resolution clearly says that after 1975 whoever has come into our country from outside is an infiltrator. This particular question came up in the House and even the Home Minister said that more than 10 million foreigners, that is infiltrators, are now in India.

Shri Indrajit Gupta is a very good speaker but he has totally failed as the Home Minister. I do not know from where he has collected these figures. What is the authenticity? Please, let the House know the authenticity of the figures. Who are the foreigners and how they have identified more than 10 million people as foreigners? According to 1991 census we are more than 80 billion people. As a Home Minister, he owes certain responsibility.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): Sir, I

do not think it is proper to say all these things because the Home Minister is not present here. If he was present here, he would have clarified the position.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, she can say it.

[Translation]

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI: Whatever he said, is on record ... (Interruptions)

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA (KANPIJR): When the Home Minister was speaking, I asked him.

[English]

What is the basis? He said, 'the intelligence report' and this must be a part of the record. This is what he exactly said.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It does not matter. Even if the Home Minister is not here, you are representing him. Madam, you may continue.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: When the Home Minister has made a statement in the House it becomes the property of the House. Let him come and clarify it. How can he say that more than 10 million people are foreigners? Out of 90 billion population of India, how can he say that more than 10 million people are foreigners or infiltrators? Is it not wrong on the part of the Government to issue such a statement and to communalise the issue? How can he say all these things without finding out its authenticity? One of the Members has rightly pointed out that at that time it was clarified whether the figure was 10 million or 10,000 and the Home Minister said that it was 10 million. This is on record. You cannot deny the fact. The Home Minister belongs to my State but I have never seen this type of an irresponsible Home Minister before. It is most unfortunate. I am saying all these things because I have great regards for him. No doubt he is a good speaker, he was a good Leader of Opposition but he cannot speak like this without studying it properly. As a Home Minister, he cannot behave like that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Within five minutes the time allotted for this Resolution is going to be over. Is it the pleasure of the House to extend the time by one hour? There are seven more speakers.

[Translation]

SHRI ILIYAS AZAMI (SHAHBAD): I want to say a few words on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not the time to say a few words. Now the question is about extending the time.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it the pleasure of the House to extend the time of this Resolution by one hour?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: I have to make a request. Six hours have been spent on the discussion. Even then many resolutions of the Members are remaining. If you issue directions/orders to the members not to take much time and not to take about anything except resolution then it will do good.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are the new member. There is a record time of two-three resolution here.

[English]

Mr. Dixit was here. He spoke for more than two hours. I was presiding over at that time. A ruling is there. It is a Private Members' time and if the Member wants to speak, a reasonable time is given. Two or three hours is not unreasonable.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: This is my request.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You leave it to the judgement of the Chair.

The time is extended by one hour. Mamata ji, you may continue.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I will not take much time of the House because I want that all Members who want to speak do get an opportunity to do so.

I am raising this because this is an alarming issue. The House is very much concerned and the people in the country are very much concerned about the statement made by the Home Minister. I challenge the Home Minister that if he has a proof of authenticity for his statement, he should submit a paper showing the list saying that at least more than one crore foreigners are staying in India. I challenge that the Home Minister come out with the list in the House and tell the House who those people are. What does he mean by foreigners? Was he calling the Indians foreigners? Or was he calling the foreigners as foreigners in the real sense of the term? The Home Minister has to clarify that point. He has to authenticate his statement. One does not create history just by saying something.

Shri Dasmunsi has already spoke about our cultural heritage and our similarities and I do not want to go into detail. It is a fact that under Nehru-Liaquat Ali pact many people came to India before 1971 after the partition of Bangladesh and India because we were in India before Independence. After that it is because our country was divided, people came over here. Even now there are problems being faced in the border areas. Without taking care of the border problems we cannot blame those people. You have to see the problems of the people. What have the Government done in the border areas? All kinds of illegal activities are going on in the border areas. Smuggling, looting, and killings are going on in those areas. The Government is not able to control the problems in the border areas. The Government is not able to ensure that

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

the funds allotted for the border areas are spent for those areas.

When the Election Commission asked for issuing voter identity cards to everybody in the border areas, nothing was done. The Election Commission had spent a lot of money on this and Identity Cards had been issued. But they have not been utilised even for the election purposes. There are some poor people who do not know much about our law because our law is a hightech law. There are some poor people who are not educated enough to know how to register their names even for citizenship. Is it not funny that for getting a citizenship certificate one has to go to a Government officer? An MP cannot issue such a certificate and an MLA cannot issue it. People at the local level cannot issue such certificates. A Government officer is allowed to issue these certificates. How is it possible for these poor people to record their names for citizenship? What is this voters list for? They have already enlisted themselves in the voters list. Their names are there in the list as Indian citizens. They had voted in the Parliamentary election, in the local body election and in the legislative elections. What is the meaning of it if people come and say now that all of them are infiltrators?

If anybody is responsible for this situation, it is the Government. These people cannot be thrown out of the country just because they belong to a particular community. We should not forget the contribution of Muslims, Sikhs and Christians all over the country in our freedom movement. This is the Golden Jubilee year of our freedom movement. Can we forget the contribution of Bahadur Shah Zafar? Can we forget the contribution of Shah Nawaz Khan? We cannot. It reminds me a small couplet of Bahadur Shah Zafar which he said before his death. History says that Tantiya Tope asked Bahadur Shah Zafar to do something for the country.

When Bahadur Shah Zafar wanted to do something for the country, his two sons died.

[Translation]

It is given in the history. You may know that Bahadurshah Jafar was beheaded. Bahadur Shah was taken to Burma. Before one month of his death, he wrote an urdu couplet.

Kitna Hai Badnaseeb Hai Jafar, Dafan Key liye,

Do Gaj Jamin Bhi Na Mili, Koocha-E-Yaar Mein!

[English]

So, we should not forget the contribution made by these people also.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (CHANDIGARH): What about Shahabuddin?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Why are you comparing Shahabuddin with Bahadur Shah Zafar? I appreciate that you are an intelligent person. I appreciate your concern. After Independence, Pakistan asked even Shah Nawaz Khan to come to Pakistan but he said that he fought for

India and he will live and die in India as an Indian. So, we should not forget all these facts.

Sir, with the connivance of police and administration smuggling and looting of arms and ammunition are going on in the border areas. I am sure the Home Minister is aware of this fact. What action did he take? He did not take any action. Even the goods, like potatoes and rice produced in our country are smuggled out to Pakistan, Bangladesh and other countries with the result that those goods are not available in our own country. You are not able to control smuggling. You have only one point programme viz., to finish the minorities which is not proper. They are also our brothers and sisters.

Why I am saying all these things because nowadays I am not getting any opportunity to speak in this House. Now, it is a Private Member's Resolution, so I have got an opportunity to speak. I am grateful to hon. Chairman for allowing me to speak.

Sir, yesterday, Shri Akbar Ali Khandekar, Youth Congress President from Hooghly District came and met me. He told that he had married a Hindu girl. He asked me whether it was proper for him to marry a Hindu. I said that he had done a correct thing. I encouraged him. Sir, even now also, there are some reservations between the Hindus and the Muslims, the Sikhs, and the Christians. Why should we not consider ourselves a human being? We do not consider ourselves a human being. We consider ourselves as a Hindu or a Muslim or a Sikh or a Christian. We do not consider ourselves as Indians. That problem is very much there. That is why we are divided. Being a majority community is it not our responsibility to protect the interests of the minorities? That is why my humble submission would be that we should not consider minorities as our enemies. They are our friends. They are contributing a lot for our country. The Hindus, the Muslims, the Sikhs, and the Christians want to live together, and want to keep this country together. It is because if we are united the country will be strong, and if we are divided the country will be weak. Therefore this message should go from here to the world that we are united.

If you take the minorities collectively, they are educationally backward. If you take them individually, there are so many people who have risen to the highest level. They are highly educated. They speak very good English. They have gone abroad. The Government have set up a Minorities Commission also. As far as employment of Muslims is concerned, their percentage is only one. I want to know whether the Government had studied this fact or not. The Government have a Common Minimum Programme. Only because of this, some of these people go to Dubai or some other countries to earn their livelihood, and you are saying that they have infiltrated into our country. Why have you not taken any action in this regard? There are also some *madarsas*. There are one or two universities. Why do you not encourage Urdu language? You are not encouraging Urdu, because you do not want that the Muslims should be educated. The Muslim women are also

not getting proper education. Their socio-economic condition has to be changed. In this regard, the Government must help them so that they can come forward. They should not be dependent on somebody.

Everybody is dependable on someone but I think, everybody should stand on his own feet. Considering the socio economic conditions of the minorities, the Government has to think over the matter. Some people are urging for their reservation also. If other people ask for reservations, why can the minorities not ask for reservation? What is wrong in it?

Sometimes we appease them also. We are also responsible for this. That is why, this is right time, I think, the Government should take some proper steps so that they should not feel that they are isolated from the mainstream. Please try to help them so that they should be very much in the mainstream.

There are some problems in the Northeastern region. You will appreciate the insurgency problem. Because of insurgency problem, every day the life and security of the people in that part is not secure and their survival is at stake. The Home Minister should take proper steps.

Regarding infiltration, I am asking this question to the political leaders and Members of this House also. Is it not a fact that because of vote politics, we also exploited such communities, such castes? Who have created this caste politics, religion politics? Why are we divided ourselves on casteism and religion? It is because of the vote politics. Everybody wants to win the election. For winning the elections, every political party is trying some way to exploit the situation. That is why, poor people have become the poorest and the rich people are going richest. This is the situation. What has the Vora Commission said? Why has the Government not taken steps? The Vora Commission has said very rightly that one section of politicians, one section of bureaucrats and one section of Mafia gang are in nexus and are operating. After the public interest litigation case, the Supreme Court ordered that there must be independent committee who will look into the matter and take action against the corrupt people for breaking the nexus. But until and unless this institution is set up, the Supreme Court itself said, the President of India in consultation with the Prime Minister, the Speaker of Lok Sabha should set up the high powered committee which would go into details to break this nexus and take action against the smugglers and the corrupt people. But till today, the Government has been taking no such action. I have got a reply from the Minister regarding the Vora Commission report. I asked, what action you are taking after the Vora Commission has submitted its report. I have got the reply. No action has been taken. In this Parliament, we say something but no action is taken. Without taking action, how can a country survive, I do not know.

That is why, my submission will be, according to the verdict of the Supreme Court, the Government should initiate setting up of a committee so that this nexus should be finished. We do not want to say, you put up anti-

nationals who would destroy the country. You take action against all this. But they are under the shelter of some political parties. West Bengal is a very progressive State. At least, my city, Calcutta is a cosmopolitan city. So many people are staying there. But you know, there are some terrorists coming from different parts of the country. They are also using West Bengal, Calcutta as a free zone. You know, so many lootings, so many killings and so many things are going on. This type of thing is going on in this country.

I would request that instead of identifying a particular community to be thrown out from the country, you take action against the corrupt people, against the terrorists, against the suppliers of arms and ammunitions. I do not know about the Purulia arms dropping. I have raised so many times to tell us in details actually who are the people behind the scene. You said, Anand Margis, without going into the details. But I am challenging the Home Minister. I have all the documents with me. The Home Minister was aware of the fact. Even the State Government was aware of the fact.

The Government or the Ministry of Home Affairs have got some information from the State Government but they want to hide it. The Intelligence agencies of the Government are a total failure. Tomorrow it will come up.

I think, the Committee on Assurances noted down all these points and had submitted a report regarding Purulia Arms Drop case. It states how the Home Ministry is trying to suppress the case. I would like to submit that if the Government cannot stop all these things, it cannot stop infiltrators.

I would like to remind the House that we are very much concerned about infiltration but it does not mean that we should identify only a particular community and start accusing it. We should work together. We are one in this country and we should consider this country as one umbrella and work together as brothers and sisters under it. We have to work unitedly so that this country survives. People who are guilty and people who are involved in corruption cases should be punished. Action should be taken, under Indian Penal Code, against those people who are involved in terrorist activities. But my humble submission to the Government is that no particular community should be isolated in this country and that something should be done for the minority communities and they should also be taken into confidence.

I do not want to speak in detail because there are so many Members who want to speak on this. With these words I conclude and thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving me an opportunity to speak on this subject.

[Translation]

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI: Mr. Chairman Sir, instead of delivering a speech I would like to say one thing. The hon. Home Minister has said in this house that one crore illegal immigrants are residing in our country. He has said an

[Shri Iliyas Azmi]

important thing. If this is a fact, then I challenge him to place the list of one lakh immigrants within two months in this House or tender his resignation. He has made such an irresponsible statement. He said that one crore immigrants are residing in the country. I am not asking for list of one crore people. Let him show the list of only one lakh immigrants.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you spoken on this resolution?

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI: Yes !

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then why are you speaking again ?

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI: He had revealed this thing during Zero Hour after I had spoken.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: But there is a procedure in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI: He had said this thing during the Zero Hour. I had spoken before the Zero Hour. I do not say that I have not spoken earlier. The Home Minister of this country has said this thing. I challenge him to place the list of 1 lakh immigrants with names and addresses in this House, or else resign from the post.

SHRI S.P. JAISWAL (VARANASI): Otherwise, will you resign?

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI: I did not make any irresponsible statement ... (Interruptions) Let him resign ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (MUMBAI SOUTH CENTRAL): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this issue/question has been taken up in this house on regional basis where as this is a national issue. Bangladesh came into existence in the aftermath of Indo-Pak war of 1971. Thousands of our soldiers sacrificed their lives but it was later deemed as only a Political Sacrifice. Lakhs of intruders have infiltrated in the country and are living in Delhi, Mumbai, Assam and several other areas of the country. They are engaged in illegal trades. The largest number of bogus ration cards have been issued in Mumbai and two years back, news regarding issuance of bogus ration cards had appeared in the news papers. An enquiry had also been conducted in this regard. They were all Muslims from Bangladesh.

KUMARI MAMATA BANARJEE: Those who issued the cards, they must be held by the public servants ... (Interruptions)

SHRI S.P. JAISWAL: No ... interrupted you while you were delivering a speech. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mamata ji, let him speak.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: The Commission of Delhi Police had issued a statement in this regard and a statement had also been made in this House in this regard. He had said that the riots that took place in Delhi was the handi-work of Bangladeshi infiltrators. Bangladeshi Muslims involvement was proved in the riots that took place in Mumbai and Calcutta. There is no record about their origin, trade or identity. We should maintain the records and we should repatriate these infiltrators.

I will not say much because this is my third resolution. If second resolution will be taken up then I will get priority. ... (Interruptions)

With these words, I support the resolution moved by Shri Drona.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yours is the shortest speech.

Now, I call upon Shri Ramesh Chennithala to speak.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (KOTTAYAM): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is one of the very important Resolutions which is under discussion.

This illegal migrants issue is agitating the minds of all sections of the society. I do not want to look at it as a caste issue or a creed issue. No democratic country can afford to have illegal migrants on a large scale.

If the hon. Home Minister of India is correct that the population of illegal migrants in our country is more than ten million, can India afford ten million migrants? With this huge number of illegal migrants, I want to know whether our country's unity, integrity and freedom are safe. I would like to know whether our country's freedom will be safe if such a huge number of illegal migrants are settled down in our territory. This poses a lot of questions before the administration, before the country, and before the public at large.

As the hon. Home Minister has rightly said in an answer to the question, the Centre cannot do anything because as per the Foreigners' Act, the State Governments and the Union Territories are entrusted with this job. It is the duty of the State Governments or the Government in the Union Territories to get into the details of the illegal migrants, detect those people who are staying without any valid passport or any visa, a case should be registered against them and try to have all legal measures to evacuate them from our territory.

Sir, India is a country where we have, as my hon. colleagues had rightly mentioned, all kinds of traditions. We have a composite culture. We have a culture to absorb all kinds of religion and civilisation. India has got a unique character of assimilating all kinds of characters, all kinds of religions, all kinds of castes, and all kinds of civilisation. But we have to see one thing. I do not know why this issue is being given the colour of a religion or a creed, or a caste. Of course, if anybody is looking at it on that

line, then I oppose that. During the partition of India and Pakistan, some kind of relationship with the people of Pakistan and India was always there. Nobody can deny it because once we were together, blood relations were there and even now the people are going to Sindh, Lahore and other places to see their relatives. They have a common heritage. Cultural similarity is there. And the language and the customs are similar. So, a composite culture is visible in these areas and we cannot differentiate between the relationship of the people who are staying abroad in other countries. But the most important thing is unity, integrity and independence of our country.

We should not differentiate between caste or creed. This is the main problem of Assam and it has arisen in other parts of the country also. The other day I saw on the TV that people from Tripura were going back to Bangladesh, their own homeland. It is a good thing. So this is an issue which, for the last so many years, has been discussed in various forums. We have to find out some solution to this problem. We cannot say that a person is belonging to a particular community, therefore, he should be discriminated. This is a bad thing. We cannot accept that. The only point is that the interest of those people who had applied for the citizenship of India and those people who wanted to live in India, should be protected. They should be given citizenship.

I know a number of cases. I can cite any number of examples where there is an inordinate delay in sanctioning citizenship. For example, when the people whose parents are in Malaysia or in Colombo, want to come back to India after a long time, they will apply for a legal citizenship. It will take years. There is an inordinate delay. All types of red-tapism can be seen. Proper inquiry is not conducted in a stipulated time. So, this delay should be condoned. If they are genuine people, if the law is satisfied with their cases or if the officials are satisfied by verifying all the particulars, then citizenship should be given to them.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you have also experienced these difficulties. You also know it personally. In earlier days, the people from Kerala, Tamil Nadu and all other Southern States went to Malaysia and Sri Lanka seeking jobs. After some time, they settled there. When their children wanted to come here and settle in India, they are facing this type of difficulties. The law of the land permits giving citizenship. But unfortunately, the people who are entrusted with the implementation of the law, they are creating trouble and they are creating inordinate delays in sanctioning the citizenship. Those who are genuine, they are denied citizenship in different parts of our country.

So, I urge upon the Home Ministry to see that the genuine people who are applying for citizenship of our country should be given citizenship and the delay should be condoned. Their rightful interest should be protected. I do not want to go into the details of it.

Colluding with the police, colluding with other international *Mafia* gangs and others, a lot of migrants who are

coming to different parts of India are creating trouble. India now became a part of the Golden Triangle. Drug trafficking is going to pose enormous disaster for the younger generation of our country. The Golden Triangle outfits are trying to cartel drug trafficking in these areas, viz., India, Bangladesh and Pakistan. India is used as a passage for drugs to these different developing countries in the South Asian region. They are creating a lot of problems for younger generation and for the generations to come. So, this should be checked.

If we examine this in some areas, we find that these people who are coming to India without any valid passport or visa, are indulging in drug trafficking and other terrorist activities. This should be checked. Our Intelligence Agencies, military and other para-military forces should be vigilant in checking this type of infiltration.

There are a lot of examples. A lot of stories are coming up in different newspapers and other mass media about the drug trafficking, terrorist activities, looting and other illegal activities which are taking place. So, our agencies, our para-military forces and our Intelligence Agencies should be made more effective and more vigilant to check this menace of terrorism.

Sir, the Centre should be very serious.

17.00 hrs.

On the other day, when the hon. Minister of Home Affairs was replying to your question, he said that the Centre cannot do anything. He showed his helplessness. He said that according to the Foreigners' Act, it is the duty of the Union Territory and the State Governments to check all the illegal migrants.

My suggestion to the Central Government is that there should be a periodical review after every three months of the arrival of illegal migrants, for the people who have applied for the citizenship of our country. The Central Government should be more vigilant in the case of illegal migrants. There should be a periodical review and from time to time instructions should be given to the State Governments. If there is any default, the Central Government should take immediate and stringent steps in this regard. Then only this problem can be solved.

Today, the world over, this is a serious issue. It is prevailing not only in India but the American Senate had recently passed an Act to check these illegal migrants to their country. They are also putting a lot of restrictions for giving visas, passports and other documents. As far as United Kingdom and other advanced countries are concerned, they are very much alert in respect of illegal migrants. So, this issue should be taken a very serious note of. This is not an issue of mere illegal migrants. This will increase terrorist activities and also help in drug trafficking. Moreover, these illegal migrants are creating trouble even for the freedom of the country.

So, these are very serious issues which are to be taken

[Shri Ramesh Chennithala]

note of. The problems which we can see in Assam, Jammu and Kashmir and in the North-Eastern States should be viewed in a separate manner. Of course, there are certain genuine issues. Those issues should not be viewed on the basis of caste, religion or any other consideration. I know that there are genuine issues and those issues should be settled separately.

17.03 hrs.

(SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA *in the Chair*).

There are ethnic problems and those problems are to be settled in a different way. But if we see in a large perspective, at any cost, we should not encourage illegal migrants. As per the law of the land, we should not allow it. We should restrict it for the unity and integrity of the country. We should take care of all these aspects for the freedom of the country. But, at the same time, we cannot discriminate and we cannot see these issues on the basis of caste, creed or religion.

Sir, I do not want to take much time of the House. I think, the time has come when the Centre should take this issue in a very serious manner. There is a very callous attitude on the part of the Government. I do not know as to why this callous attitude is there. So, the callous attitude of the Central Government and of other intelligence agencies is causing a lot of danger to our country. I think, the time has come for a serious review of the whole thing. The time has come for a fresh look on this issue. I think, no democratic and developing country can allow these types of activities to grow in our country.

[Translation]

SHRI S.P. JAISWAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a resolution pertaining to criminalization of politics. Please allow me to move my resolution and take up this resolution for discussion later.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It can not be allowed during the debate.

SHRI S.P. JAISWAL: Now a days criminalisation of politics is increasing ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S.P. JAISWAL: Your resolution is very important but please allow us to conclude discussion on this resolution first you are empowered to do so. Please allow me to move it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will look into the possibility of allowing it before six o'clock.

[English]

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (MUMBAI NORTH-WEST): Sir, you can have the discussion on this resolution next time. In between whatever Bills or resolutions are to be brought before the House, that can be done. They are only introducing. They are not participating in any debate. If the House can afford it, it can be done.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (PANSKURA): I think this will come in the way of this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We cannot take it up unless this is concluded.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Sir, I have one request to make. The discussion has taken for more than one hour now. But from this side not a single speaker has been given an opportunity to speak. I would request the Chair to recognise this side.

MR. CHAIRMAN: After Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee I will call two Members from your side.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Thank you for giving me the chance. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have read the resolution very seriously. I will tell you about one of the meetings that I attended in Delhi itself. At that time there was a drive for forcing out the so-called illegal migrants. As soon as I went there, a number of people, whom I myself know, have come to meet me. They are from Midnapore district. I even knew their fathers and their relatives. They came and said: 'Didi, they are calling illegal migrants!' Naturally this is a sad situation. Obviously, they are very much Indians. The difficulty is that India was divided in an artificial manner by the British. That is why the problem has to be taken differently from that of the other migrants in other countries of our sub-continent.

What did Rabindranath Tagore writes about our sub-continent?

*Oh! my heart, awake on the shore of the great men of the holy land of Bharat. Here, we had the Aryans, non-Aryans, Dravidians, Chinese, Shakyas, Hoons, Pathans, Moghuls who got mingled in one soul. The West has opened its doors today. All bring gifts from there and there is give and take. We will all mix together. Nobody will go back. from here—the great land of Bharat.

All these were in one body. This is India. This is what he said. He further said:

*This is the real picture of our mother India. It is an integration of so many cultures, so many religions and he said none will go back. That does not mean that they can live here in peace. This is the spirit in which we should really judge this matter.

I am not saying that there are no foreign agents here. No. There are some foreign agents. But then if we take every Muslim as an ISI agent, that will not help.

About the riots Shri Sarpotdar said that it was the Muslims who mainly went in for riots in Bombay and other areas. So far as I am concerned, after the demolition of the Babri Masjid, during the riots in Calcutta, for three days and three nights I was all the time on the streets with curfew pass. I had gone to the Hindu areas and also to the Muslim areas. I found both kinds of people. In certain

*Translation of speech originally delivered in Bengali.

areas the Muslims were trying to protect all and in certain other areas the Hindus were trying to protect all. This is our culture. It has to be maintained at any cost.

Therefore, I feel that some of the problems that have been raised by Shri Ramesh Chennithala are very important, like the citizenship etc. I think we should take it pretty seriously. I would like to say one thing. This is a problem in which surely the Government has a role.

But Government alone cannot solve this problem. We must create an atmosphere where we can live in peace with our all neighbours. Therefore, I say particularly in Bangladesh, after the water treaty, a new situation has been created. We must take full advantage of the new situation created in Bangladesh and should not try to pass any resolution which will give a wrong message. Therefore, if there are foreign agents, they should surely be found out from whichever country they might have come. At the same time, we should try to be friendly with one another and through that process protect our country from all harm that may come from other quarters.

[Translation]

PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' (JALESAR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the resolution brought by Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona regarding extradition of illegal immigrants and infiltrators. I would like to be very brief. I did not listen to speeches delivered on the first day but I was fortunate enough to listen to my senior leaders. The infiltration has multidimensional impact. But unfortunately, it has been linked with religion somewhere, and somewhere with the country or emotions. Before going ahead, I would like to tell you a story. Two friends went to jungle. One of the friends asked the other if perchance he come across a lion, what he would do. The second friend replied that he would just take to his heels. The Second friend asked if the lion chased him, then what would he do. He replied that he would jump into the river. The first friend asked if the lion also jumped into the river, what would he do. He replied that he would swim across the river. The first friend asked what would he do if the lion also swam across the river. His friend replied that he would climb up the tree. Then again he was asked as to what he would do if the lion also climbed up the tree. At this point the later retorted asking his friend whether he was with him or the lion. Likewise, I would like to ask those who are opposing this Bill whether they are with the country or infiltrators? Those who are guided by their emotions while supporting the infiltrators, would they have the same emotions incase robbers broke into their houses and pleaded for asylum? On the one side, we unitedly went to throw them out of the country and on the other, the persons who voted in favour of the diversion of the country and against the unity of the country and also snatched away a portions of important district like Silhat from us during 1947, now say that they should be allowed to stay in India on any ground, be it social values, cultural or human grounds. I fail to understand this double standard. Perhaps, I have said it earlier also that we have a tendency that we do not care

for a member of our family suffering from cancer but we feel concerned if our neighbour suffers from influenza; and we try to call the renowned doctors. It is something very strange. This important question is related to illegal migrants. This is no question of social, religious or cultural relations. Those who had been anti-India so far, they should be apposed if now they want to settle in India and they should be ousted at any cost. India, Pakistan and Bangladesh have almost the same culture. If these persons opposing motion are affectionate to the infiltrators, then they should go and live with them in their country. But if the hon. Home Minister has told a lie,—though I have heard that the word 'lie' "Jhooth" is unparliamentary—with regard to the number of infiltrators, who have caused lot of difficulties to the people, then what is need of extending the support to them? The House is misled. There would not be a bigger lie if there are not more than 25-30 lakh infiltrators in the country and the hon. Home Minister tells this number to be come crore. What is compulsion in accepting the untruth, getting annoyed and still supporting it? I fail to understand this situation. There should be a limit, at least in the matters concerning the country.

I would like to say, one more thing in very brief. I would like to recite a couplet, specially for Banatwalla ji—

"Watan ki jo haiat sunane lagengen,
To patthar bhi ansu bafiane lagenge,
Kahin bhid mein kho gai admiyat,
Use dhoondhne mein jamane lagenge."

Leave aside all other complexities created by these illegal migrants, the most important point is that they are migrate when Bangladesh was formed in 1971, 40,000 youth of the country sacrificed their lives. But at that time nobody demanded that Bangladesh should not be formed as it was a part of our country and it was parted by chance, there should be no difficulty in reuniting it with India. But at that time, the ideal of Rama was recited and it was said that we are handing over Bangladesh in someone else's hand just as Rama had handed over the reigns of Lanka in the hands of Vibhishana after killing Ravana but how are the people of Bangladesh are behaving today? The question should be pondered over whether they are coming here with good intentions? This should also be looked into whether this is not posing a threat to our integrity? Whenever they form a majority, they would start demanding a separate nation posing threat to the sovereignty of the country. Please tell me whether the sovereignty of the country is safe in the face of infiltration? Why so much protection is being provided to infiltrator in our country? Previously only people use to infiltrate in the country but now, even aeroplanes infiltrate and they drop goods too. I fail to understand as to why we are doing like this? It has an adverse impact on our economy.

If the statement of the hon. Home Minister is to be taken as true though my colleague is talking of two crore fifty lakh illegal migrants while the number of illegal migrants

[Prof. Ompal Singh 'NIDAR']

as stated by the hon. Home Minister is one crore—there is a great difference between the two figures—but Rs. 25 are being spent per day per person, it means an expenditure of Rs. 25 crore is being incurred by India per day on one crore migrants. This is the expenditure being incurred on their sustenance but the expenditure which is incurred on their treatment, education, transport etc. should also be reckoned. The illegal migration is not only adversely affecting our economy but our social equilibrium also being disturbed the repercussions of which we are witnessing from time to time.

I would like to beg pardon from Mamataji but Congress has been doing this work for the last fifty years in the country. It has been treating the infiltrators as its vote bank and in their protection infiltration has increased during the last 49 years. I cannot understand as to how the U.F. Government will be able to wipe out that stigma of one year? They are not much to be blamed in this regard but I do agree that when we are blamed for underlying religion based politics then Congress party can also be blamed for being instrumental in creating all these problems. That need not to be proved. They will soon be penalised for their wrong doing...*(Interruptions)*

One thing more.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Whatever you want to speak, you can but please do not discard us ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR': I am not discarding you. I have never said such a thing. I have been giving a patient hearing to your speech and tolerating it but it seems that some of our friends can tolerate the Outsiders but not us while we are also the people's representatives like them ...*(Interruptions)* I fail to understand that you are tolerating the outsiders. The migrants have become so much affectionate that all their acts become tolerable while we sit beside you and have not done any sin still we are not liked by you. What can this humanity, culture or 'Samskara' be termed? This should be made clear that this country is not a Dharmshala where anybody can come and stay with or without paying rent. This is a Country, a nation and it has certain ethos. When a family is divided, people separate their sons and do not go to ask even their well being. Still such people talk of a all embracing culture and that too in the name of migration and protection. In fact they play the politics based on the concept of building vote banks. They have seen people so far with a view point of vote, not with a view point of nation. I would like to add two-three points in this regard. I, through you, heard Shri Banatwala with raptness. He said that it had become a political issue but it is not a political issue. It is a question of pride of the country and if the infiltration went on increasing like this, be it in crores, lakhs or in thousands, the likely results are not good. He stated that 48 thousand votes in Mandaldoi and 35 thousand votes in Barpeta were increased during 1978. This number may seem less but if it is even one per thousand, still it is much since even a little number of people can destroy the whole nation while

it is a matter of 48 thousand and 35 thousand besides there are some more people with every voter. It is neither a propaganda nor Shri Dronaji has put allegation on any religion but has mentioned the name of the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Alright. Now please conclude.

PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR': Mr. Chairman, Sir, I shall conclude very soon though I am not in the habit of making hurry. One more point was raised here that how would you oust the people whose fathers and grand fathers have been residing here. I have a question in this regard that when a disease turns into an epidemic, will it be eradicated or encouraged? If that question is important then this question is also important. Let the disease not develop into cancer and cancer into an epidemic. This should be considered.

One more point was raised here that when Muslims come here, they are termed infiltrators but when Hindus come they are said to be migrants. Only therefore, I said that this feeling should also be seen as to who supported the division of the country and who opposed it. If a Hindu supported the bid of division and he comes here, he should not be accepted. Likewise, if a Muslim has supported this act and he happens to come here, he should also not be accepted. Here their feeling of patriotism for our Country in the major consideration. One who supports us is ours but one who opposes us, how can he become ours?

Sir, respected Munshiji had stated that the people of India, Pakistan and Bangladesh are emotionally one community, wherever they live be it West Bengal or Bangladesh. Likewise, the Muslims living in Bangladesh or Pakistan have similar feelings. I would like to quote only one example that had they been one, such a large number of rape and murder cases would not have taken place during 1971 in Bangladesh. Around 52 lakh murders took place in Bangladesh during 1971. These points are easy to be stated and seeming very good but these are not ground realities and practical. Therefore, we will have to think over it.

Sir, One more point was raised here that Hindus migrated from Uganda were settled here. Like wise where they migrated from Uganda were settled here. Like wise when they migrated from Kenya, they were settled here. I would like to state that not only Hindus but all the people of Indian origin, be they Hindu or Muslim, migrated here. Shri Chennithala stated two-three good things and he was also supported by Mamataji but I would like to say that the Govt. will have to take a strict action and chalk out a plan to oust the infiltrators, be they from Bangladesh or any other country, otherwise this problem will surface again and again and the problem will not be solved and this country will be over powered by the infiltrators and the remaining people will have no right to speak for their identity. With these words, I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA (TEZPUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the subject-matter of this Resolution is a

matter of utmost concern to the people of Assam and indeed to the entire people of the North-Eastern States of India. That is why perhaps a lot of references have been made in this debate to the problems in the State of Assam. Today, Assam has been turned into a veritable inferno. There have been killings, kidnappings, extortions, encounters and you have galore. Every day, such incidents are increasing in the recent weeks, especially after the installation of, what is known as the unified command structure.

Under the unified command structure, which has been operating today in Army, the responsibility for combatting insurgency, that is, responsibility for country-insurgency operations, has been entrusted entirely to the Assamese, and the State Government, in a way, has totally abdicated its responsibility. Now, the borderline between insurgency and law and order is very very thin. Therefore, today, almost the entire law and order responsibility has been entrusted to the Army. This is unprecedented. This is something unique and never heard of. There is a democratically elected Government and the primary responsibility of the State Government is maintenance of the law and order. But today, this responsibility has been given away to the Army with disastrous consequences. There has been no cooperation from the police forces with the Army. There has been inadequate cooperation from the civil administration. Therefore Army is fending for itself and in that process, committing a lot of mistakes and errors. Newspapers in Assam today are replete with stories of rapes and murders. The human right activists are up in arms against the Army.

The Army is not trained for this kind of anti-insurgency operations. Army is not trained to fight the citizens of its own country. Therefore, there are bound to be mistakes and there are black sheep everywhere and certain percentage of the Army personnel must be indulging in certain undesirable activities. But that is being blown up by the human rights activists and by the Press. As a result, the good name of the Indian Army is being tarnished in the State of Assam.

Why has all this been happening? The genesis of all these problems in Assam lies in the phenomenon of illegal immigration. No there has been this partition of the country putting it asunder and creating almost four parts within one united country. We have seen the Berlin Wall—Brendenberg Gate. The things there used to be controlled very strictly. I have seen the 38th Parallel the Panmunjong Gate—in Korea where even birds are not allowed to fly from North Korea to South Korea. They are killed. But that is the kind of strict control that is being exercised for movement of population between the borders. But what is happening in India. In Farraka and in Murshidabad, I have personally seen cases where the wedding procession is moving from India into Bangladesh because the bride's house is in Bangladesh whereas the bridegroom's house is in India, that is, in Bengal. And with drums, pipes and all that, the wedding procession is merrily going across the border and solemnising the marriage on the other side of the border. This is happening because the partition itself was artificial.

On top of that, there has been a huge porous border. It is not possible to control the border physically at all the points. Since the people have identical culture and religion the movement is only natural and no amount of military or administrative control can stop this kind of movement.

The Foreigners Act, 1946, provided that a police officer could detect the foreigner who enters illegally without a visa and he had the power to deport him. But it was found that because of identical culture, language, features, religion, etc., if illegal immigrants from Bangladesh comes into Assam and were to be treated under the same Act of 1946, then it is bound to result in gross injustice to some of the genuinely indigenous people. That is why, the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunal) Act was promulgated in 1982 under which the onus of providing that an entrant into our country is illegal has been placed on the complainant.

Sir, you are ringing the bell, but this is a matter that concerns Assam and a lot of references were made to Assam, so, I thought you would give me a little more time.

What are the causes of this immigration? We talked about the IMDT Act and other Acts. I will not go into those details.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hazarika, we shall have to extend the time because we have already exhausted the time.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA: I would only refer to one major point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall we extend the time by half-an-hour?

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA (KANPUR): There are two more speakers. The Minister has to intervene then. And I have also a right to speak in the end.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think 20 minutes are enough.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA: Is there any more speaker after me, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are two more speakers, one is from this side and the other is Mr. Namgyal. The Minister's intervention is there after which we will have the reply. We also wanted to take up another important Resolution. So, you may please conclude.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA: If I have to conclude then at least I would not like to ignore mentioning one major point and that is the economic angle that is involved in illegal immigration. Bangladesh has a population density of 749 square kilometers as against the population density of Assam which is 284. It is claimed by the Home Minister that there are about ten million refugees in India. I presume that most of them would be in the State of Assam. This is happening because of the common border, because of the identical language, culture and all that, and most of all it is due to the economic factor. Bangladesh is one of the most impoverished countries in the world. Due to the low population density in Assam, the economic

[Shri Iswar Prasanna Hazarika]

condition in that State is somewhat better than theirs and therefore, they are moving into Assam. Therefore, there is a need for us to think about things which would help in the kind of an economic integration of the entire north-eastern region so that Bangladesh could also come up economically because physical and artificial control is not a solution. So, I would like to urge upon the Government that some kind of a sub-regional groupings under the SAARC should be formed covering the countries of Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, North-eastern India and Myanmar. This could be an economic zone with a lot of economic activities integrated into it so that the States in this part of the country could integrate with the neighbouring countries and achieve a kind of progress which would bring them at par with each other. If that happens then, I am sure, the immigration and influx of people from Bangladesh would be reduced.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a good suggestion.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA: Sir, finally I would like to submit that the State of Assam had to bear the brunt of this so-called immigration. I would like to submit that it is also the responsibility of the Government to share the burden of the Government of Assam not only in fighting insurgency but also in accelerating the process of economic development in the State. Our hon. Prime Minister in Punjab had announced that the nation would share the debt burden of Rs. 8,000 crore of the State of Punjab. The circumstances being the same a similar dispensation also needs to be given to the State of Assam.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, you please take your seat.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA: Therefore, I would once again urge upon the Government that a similar dispensation, as has been proposed for the State of Punjab, should be given to Assam as well.

[Translation]

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA (UDHAMPUR): Mr. Chairman Sir, I rise to support the motion moved by Shri Drona ji. In a way Kashmir has become a laboratory for intruders. Pakistan had tried to restore the infiltration activities in 1947, 1965 and 1971. Then, since 1989 till date the atmosphere of insurgency is prevailing in Kashmir. Shri Makbool Dar is sitting here, who himself is a sufferer of the out come of infiltration. If the hon. Home Minister is to visit his house, at least 100 security personnel accompany him, only then he can enter his house. Thousands of youths have been killed in Kashmir. Four thousand people have been forced to become homeless. We very well know the meaning of infiltrators. A country infiltrates its citizens to another country with a particular aim and today the situation in our country has cropped up as a result of infiltrators. Some people have settled there, followed by the arms and ammunitions and after it the entire Kashmir is burning today.

Mr. Chairman Sir, today it has been discussed here. Unfortunately the question of Hindu and Muslim is being

raised. None has said that the Muslims should be thrown out. But I would like to submit this much that Banatwala Sahib is present here and I have a news paper clipping of 1995. There were 1900 Indian Muslims in Saudi Arabia. The authority there had thrown them outside within a single night. Later on 20,000 Bangladeshi Muslims were sent back by an aeroplane. At that time none had spoken against it and when we discuss it that the illegal migrants in our country should be thrown out, then there is much hue and cry. Yes, it is alright that if the people come legally from outside, they may come, stay here for some time and go back. But the one who comes with a motive to change the structure of this country demographically then I would like to submit that we have seen the results of it in Assam and North East. What is going on there? Where there is infiltration, why problems crop up there? We know that the motive of the infiltrators is very clear. Therefore, my submission to you is that we should look towards it and the question of Hindu or Muslim should not be linked with it. We should clearly say that a foreigner is a foreigner. My submission is that today nobody from our country can illegally enter America or Canada.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN (COOCHBEHAR): The Muslim is called an infiltrator but a Hindu is called a refugee.

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: You are adding it yourself. I would not like to discuss it but I am speaking from the point of view of my party. It should not be associated with Hindu or Muslim. The foreigner will have to be called a foreigner. The one who has come with a particular motive to our country can not be our guest. There should be a clear view regarding it.

Mr. Banatwala has said that they should be issued identity card and registration card from today onwards. It is surprising. The people in Assam have been crying for the last 20 years. Mamata ji has challenged the statement of the Hon. Home Minister. She comes from Bengal. He must be knowing that it is the report of his on Government that in 1991, 50 lakh such persons were identified, which were called foreigners. Today 1997 has been passing. More than one lakh people have come to West Bengal to settle down. I would like to submit this much only. In this regard that we will have to seal our border. Till date efforts are being made to see that the people may not enter but a determined efforts has not been made in this regard. We have seen that the Pakistan border from the side of Punjab has been sealed. The issue of sealing the border of Jammu and Kashmir has been raised. You will be surprised to know that as we started sealing the border we have spend three crore rupees during the last year, all the material was put there but Pakistan started firing. When the Centre Government asked, about it, they said that it should be stopped and fixed backwards. The firing started again. The Centre Government ordered to stop it again. The expenditure of Rupees seven crore had been wasted. The whole of the material, which we had put at the border was taken away by the Pakistanis. The foreigners, which have been identified here should be considered seriously. The foreigners should not live here. Efforts were made that our border. ... (Interruptions)

Specially, my submission to the Hon. Home Minister who is present here is that many times in the meeting it has been discussed that vested interests of the people deputed on the border are created. The issue has been raised with regard to the B.S.F. How, such infiltration takes place? The army personnel seized 40 thousand A.K. 7 rifles in Kashmir. How is it going on? The vested interests are created in those who are deputed on border. That is to be broken. Their vested interest should not be created. There should be security in every respect on the border. The infiltrators came to our country should be repatriated forcefully. I want to submit this much only. I fully support this proposal.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI): The Hon. Member has said that he would like to know from Banatwalla ji. If you permit me, I put forth the reply for his information.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please give him in writing.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why do you want to know from Banatwalla ji?

AN. HON. MEMBER: He is a senior leader.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You meet him and know the facts from him.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (LADAKH): Mr. Chairman Sir, the issue of immigration is very serious, and all of us should be detected and what should be the future plan.

Our colleagues from Assam have raised the issue regarding their state. It is really a serious issue. I had a chance to visit Assam in 1983 during election. Wherever we went, we were told by the people that this issue of immigration is taking a serious turn and a solution to this should be found. The terrorists have been spreading terror in the state for last seven years. I would not like to point out the way they reached there but even now the infiltration is going on and I think that Nepal is being used as a conduit for this purpose. They board the flight from Pakistan to reach Nepal and there is the soft border between Nepal and our country. The language and culture of Pakistan, Bangladesh and ours is identical. It becomes difficult to detect these people. You might have seen that the terrorists who came to Punjab, in that case also Nepal was used as conduit and even in Kashmir they are coming via Nepal. We have old treaties with Nepal since the Britishers time. I am not against it that the Nepalese come here or we may go there but a proper way out of it should be found. There should be some identity system through which it can be detected. The Nepalese come here to settle down. What has happened in Sikkim? There are 70 percent Nepalese and the bonafide citizens of Sikkim are less than 30 percent. Why the Bhutanese are crying? Though we are not concerned with it. It is an independent country but the issue of migrating of Nepalese through our country there has become a big political issue and has taken an ethnic shape. We will have to ponder over all these issues. I think that there should be some identity card system. The identity card which we are preparing for the voters should be a

all purpose identity cards as the 100 percent population of Pakistan has identity cards. Ours is a big country. God knows if it will be possible or not. If identity card can be made for electoral use in our country then there should be problem with regard to it also. There should be the provision in it that the identity of voting does remain alongwith the issuing of age certificate, giving special ration or if someone wants to purchase items at controlled price then he can make use of it. We strongly feel that it has become impertinent in our country. We live in the border areas. The people live upto the actual line of control in the border areas but some times we as well as the workers find it difficult to reach there since the identity card is not there. Therefore, I propose that if this provision can be incorporated and implemented in the entire country then there is no harm in it. It is also not impossible. It has become a big issue for our country. We must have a check on it and the illegal migrants should be sent back and those who are entitled to live here be that a Muslim, Christian or a Buddhist should live here. I think that there is no other way. With these words, I conclude my speech and the Government should ponder over this issue seriously.

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me the chance. The Resolution moved by my friend, Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona generally seems to be very innocent Resolution because it is the question of illegal immigrants. Nobody prefers that some illegal persons should enter in our country and we shall have to bear the economic and political burdens.

But I have gone through the political version of the Mover that he has made here and of the other Members sitting opposite, my BJP friends and Shiv Sena friends. From this, it is very clear to me that through this Resolution, they would like to hit somewhere else. It is not illegal immigrants of general nature, not of Nepalis, not of Bhutanese, not of Hindus but they would like to mention particularly the Muslims who have come to this place. Mr. Chaman Lalji, I think you have heard the name of Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee. That is a good occasion for me to speak here about him.

[Translation]

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: I had gone with him from Ravi to Kashmir jail.

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: They may be Bihar Muslims, Bengali Muslims, those who are coming to India and for that purpose, they are not illegal. They might have had legal passports; They may be Indian Muslims. Even then, you are claiming that they are Bangladeshis. What has happened in Maharashtra; what has happened in Bombay, now Mumbai? What has happened in Nagpur? What has happened in UP in your regime? You branded them as illegal immigrants.

Let us go back to the 1950s. Here, in this august House,

[Shri Amar Roy Pradhan]

Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee asked Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the then Prime Minister: What will happen to those people who stay in Pakistan; whether they will lose everything though we have got kith and kin relations with them? The question was asked by Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee. After all this, what is the reply of the then Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru? He said, due to the partition, those who are in the other side of the country, in Pakistan, are our brothers and sisters; they are our kith and kin. They have got the right to come over to India. Do you like to forget all these things? You have forgotten all these things. Now you would like to proceed only with the communal slogan. Do not forget that today you are in BJP; before that you were in Jan Sangh.

Before that they were Hindu Mahasabhai. They were the people who were responsible for India's partition. It is not only Muslim League but also Hindu Mahasabha which was responsible for India's partition. It is Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Shri Advani. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Sir, I have a point of order. He has taken the name of a person who is not a Member of this House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Pradhan, you should not refer to a person who is not a Member of this House.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: I was just referring to them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, you cannot do that.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: All right, Sir, I withdraw that.

Translation]

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Mr. Chairman Sir, remind him of 1942 and 1962. What have they done at that time. Was it in the interest of the nation ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Sir, they cannot deny it that they were responsible for the partition of India. At the time of partition of India, they should think, what had happened in the country. The country had been divided.

[Translation]

SHRI S.P. JAISWAL: Is it not a fact that you had supported the Britishers in 1942? Can you deny it? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Jaiswal ji, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: I too fought for the country. I was in jail at that time because of the fact that I did not support partition of India.

[Translation]

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: We would like to know only this much from you as to why Shyama Prasad Mukherjee had resigned from the cabinet of Pandit Nehru? What were the reasons, please tell ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

What was the reason?

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Sir, I am not going to deal with all these things. If the hon. Member likes to talk to me, I am prepared to do that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Pradhan, please confine to the Resolution.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Right Sir. ...*(Interruptions)* That is quite different ...*(Interruptions)* Definitely, I shall have to explain the position to the Members of this House ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI S.P. JAISWAL: Please tell, why have you been so much eager to support the English.

You have got made the ration cards of the Bangladeshi citizens in your constituency ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Sir, with your permission I would like to say that Geetaji was right in saying that we have forgotten Rabindra Nath Tagore ...*(Interruptions)* We have a rich cultural heritage and we have a history but we have forgotten all these things. It is the culture of India. It is the Hindus, it is the Muslims, it is the Sikhs, it is the Chinese, it is the Parsis, who have mingled up here in India and that is the culture of India. We believe in Swami Vivekananda

I would like to state what Swami Vivekananda said. He said:

"Jibe daya kare jai jan

Sai jan sabechche iswar"

[Translation]

One who takes pity on animals, who is he? Is it the pupil? He is God only. The one who serves the poor is God. He is all in all.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: The Muslim League and the Hindu Mahasabha, both were responsible for the partition, they know it.

Regarding the illegal migrants, what is the position? In this connection I would like to say that we have become enemies to each other. The fundamentalism is going up

because of the activities of the Muslim League and the Hindu fanatics.

18.00 hrs.

So, Sir, my earnest request is that ...(*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, Now the time is 6 p.m. ...(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, he can continue his speech next time. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Amar Roy Pradhan, are you concluding your speech now?

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: No, Sir. Please give me ten more minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Amar Roy Pradhan, you can continue your speech next time.

Now the House stands adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Monday, May 12, 1997.

18.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, May 12, 1997/Vaisakha '22, 1919 (Saka).
