

rible situation. So, Sir, you please give directive so that the Minister makes a statement on this and the hunger strike is called off.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, he has undertaken this fast for a noble cause. The Government has already promised to solve this problem earlier. But the Government has not taken any action till today to fulfil its promise. It is a very serious matter. The Government must view this matter very seriously and the Government must come out with a concrete proposal to solve this problem and save his life.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Sir, the House is aware that bringing foreign money into India is controlled by the ... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: From your side there can be some kind of an appeal, Sir. This is a question of saving the life of a person.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I do think that.....

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, The Government should make a statement in this regard. Such situations are created in which we have to make an appeal. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: And that goes unheeded.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATERJEE (Bolpur): This is a unanimous view of the House, Sir, (*Interruptions*).....

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Though you endorse our views, the matter remains where it was: (*Interruptions*)

Or you may please ask the Government either to say yes or no..... (*Interruptions*).....

MR. SPEAKER: I agree with Shri Vajpayee's views that it is not proper to ask the hon. Speaker to make appeals every time. The Government should look into the matter and the hon. Ministers who are sitting this side should do something keeping in view the sentiments of the august House.

[*English*]

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, bringing foreign money into India is controlled by the Foreign Contributions (Regulation) Act. As soon as we become M.P. or MLA, we get the first circular saying that any M.P., any MLA or any political party should not take any contribution or hospitality of any foreign country as this is against the law. In yesterday's *The Sunday Times*, a very serious news has appeared under the heading "Secret KGB funds kept CPI out of the red", which says that in the year 1990, nearly five lakh US dollars have been paid to the Communist Party of India (*Interruptions*).

This is a very serious issue. Even an association cannot bring any money. If any association gets foreign money, they are required to inform the Government. If any individual gets, he is also required to take prior permission. In spite of that, if five lakh US dollars, which when converted into Indian rupees comes to Ninety lakhs, are given in one year, that is, in 1990, I think the Government owes an explanation. There are ninety other institutions also which have been paid such money according to the *Sunday Times* report which has taken this

information from the *Washington Post*, which again has taken its information from the US official organ *Ogonyok*.

So, it is a very serious issue and the Government must come forward with the information. They must make a statement whether such amount was allowed and also how much amount has come. We are now discussing the Budget. Everyday we are saying here that there is economic sovereignty, financial freedom. With all this talk, where do we stand? So, I demand a full-fledged statement from the Finance Minister as to how much money has come in this way from the KGB sources or the USA sources. Moreover, the CPI friends are here. They would also probably like to respond.....(*Interruptions*). I am not saying CPI (M), but earlier you were part of that. This has been coming for the last forty years. So, this is a very serious issue and I urge a full-fledged statement from the Finance Minister and also from the Prime Minister so that the House can Judge what is going wrong with this country.

Hence, I demand a statement on this.

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR (Durg): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you as well as other hon. Members of the House must have read that in addition to news agencies and newspapers working in our country, foreign agencies will also be allowed to open their agencies here.....(*Interruptions*)..... Mr. Speaker, Sir the most important thing is that the news agencies which function in our country today (*Interruptions*) are running our newspapers in a better way (*Interruptions*) I am well aware that the standard of newspapers of other countries is far inferior to the standard of news agencies and newspapers functioning in our country. You must have observed that news in those countries consists of only sex and violence. Developmental activities are not reported in them. I would specifically request the Information and

Broadcasting Ministry to explain the position to the Finance Ministry, otherwise with the entry of foreign news agencies into our country the culture, the village system, the social structure of our country will all be ruined. That is why foreign newspapers should not be given permission to enter into this country. I would like to make this request through you to the Government.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We strongly support it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, nobody can forget the newsitem which was published in April 1989 and broadcast by the All India Radio. It was news in connection with Bofors.

SHRI VJAYKUMARYADAV (Nalanda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, they should also be given an opportunity to explain their position in regard to the charge that has been levelled against the C.P.I. People influenced by U.S.A. make such type of allegations. (*Interruptions*).....

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, that news item changed the course of history of the country. Even today there is a news item regarding Bofors that the Swedish Government has been told by the Government that it has no interest to go deep into the matter. I was astonished that before sending C.B.I. officials there the Government sends political notes to its counterpart in Sweden. That is a different issue. It still remains a mystery as to how much money was given, who gave the money and who took. But the newsitem that has come yesterday and today does not speak of a small amount. As my friend said, the C.P.I. received 5 lakh U.S. dollars in the year 1990. There are also

reports that prior to that, in the eighties, in a period 10 years.....

[English]

200 million dollars have been paid to the C.P.I., according to that news report and that news report has not been contradicted even by the C.P.I. spokesman who spoke yesterday. He simply says that: "We are part of the international movement".

I have with me the Statement of Objects and Reasons which was given to Parliament by Shri Uma Shankar Dikshit, who was the Home Minister in 1973, when he placed before this House a Bill known as "Foreign Contributions (Regulation) Bill, 1973" for the House's approval. What did he say?

The Statement says :

"There has been widespread concern about the unregulated receipt of funds from foreign agencies by individuals and organisations in the country. The Bill seeks to regulate the acceptance and utilization of foreign contribution or hospitality with a view to ensuring that our parliamentary institutions, political associations, academic and other voluntary organisations as well as individuals working in important areas of national life may function in a manner consistent with the values of a sovereign democratic Republic".

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the last three to four months we have been saying that the Sovereignty of India is in Jeopardy. I concede that the discussion on this issue shall continue as to how far is the sovereignty of India is endangered, but I accept the fact that the report which has been published yesterday that between 1980 and 1990, the Communist Party of India received 200 million dol-

lars. If it is true that in the year 1990 the C.P.I. received 500,000 dollars, then I can say that during the last 45 years, a party, in a way, has been working systematically to undermine the economic sovereignty of the country.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I agree that the Bofors issue was serious and that is why even today I hold the Government to be guilty. If this is true that it has told Sweden that it is not interested in probing the Bofors issue, the Government should make a separate statement in this regard. So far as the question of C.P.I.'s fund is concerned, I am not saying about C.P.I. (M), it is not in the report..... (Interruptions) It has been my opinion for years about communist movement that it is bent upon ending India's economic and political sovereignty as also the democracy. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I recall that once there was a meeting of consultative committee of the Ministry of Home Affairs on Foreign Regulation Act. Shri P. Chidambaram was the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs at that time. There was a unanimous opinion in the meeting that the Foreign Contributions Regulation Act would not do in India. Foreign Contributions have been made to several eligible individuals and the institutions in India in crores continuously which is ending democracy in India. There was a unanimous demand that

[English]

Instead of a Foreign Contributions Regulation Act, there should be a complete ban on foreign contributions to individual bodies and individuals.

[Translation]

In this matter also I do not know whether the name of CPI is there in report besides CPI. It has been written in it that it has been given to a number of individuals. I do not know the names of the parties and organisa-

tions and fronts to whom it has been given. I am of the opinion that it is the responsibility of the Government to place whatever information it has with it before the House, if the Government does not have any information, it should find out the facts and place them before the country so that it may be discussed. In my opinion this case is several times more serious than Bofors. If an attempt is made to hide it, there would be serious consequences.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, instead of replying to the wrong statement, I would like to submit that the news from Moscow published yesterday our newspapers which has been released from Washington *(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had given a notice to raise this matter and I hope I you will give me the chance to speak first because this matter is related to C.P.I. I have been a communist for 39 years. The communist party was not even formed then in Bihar. My friends and Shri Advani have said that the C.P.I. had received it. Howsoever, concocted the news may be, it does not say that C.P.I. has received it. There is no allegation in it but the allegation is that the Central Committee of the C.P.I. gave to the K.G.B. to give it to C.P.I. This is the news of that place *(Interruptions)* Please listen attentively. The word "received" is nowhere. Shri Advaniji is the Leader of the Opposition here. He said it was given there. It was given there or received here, such minor difference between "given and received" should not have come from his mouth so seriously *(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Shri Bhogendraji has said one thing that it was given to K.G.B. for giving it to C.P.I. I do not know whether it was given or not and Bhogendraji too does not know. I would like to submit through you that in comparison to this concrete evidence

the Bofors is nothing and whatever we have been able to say about Bofors was nothing. Whatever was there, there were serious doubts on that but country did not forgive them *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Shri Advani spoke during my speech and I sat down with pleasure. I was expecting that he would rectify the error between the words 'given there and 'received here' *(Interruptions)* I hope, he may rectify the error *(Interruptions)* What has been said about a particular newspaper ... *(Interruptions)* only a few have such courage, the courage that Mahatma Gandhi had ... *(Interruptions)* What I am saying may please be listened. Mr. Speaker, Sir, since the communist movement aims at changing the social set up, charges have been levelled several times in my life. In 1943-44 Mahatma Gandhi too had said something to some one in his ashram. Syed Habib was one of them in his ashram. he asked the then Joint Secretary, Shri P.C. Joshi and wrote to Mahatma Gandhi about the foreign money. Gandhiji entrusted the responsibility to Chakravarty Rajgopalachari, late Shri Mahadev Desai and Sarojani Naidu to investigate into the matter. The communists offered their accounts for auditing. Then Gandhiji frankly accepted his mistake saying in a letter to P.C. Joshi that he had committed a mistake. I did not expect that courage so I sat down, yet he did not speak anything.

On behalf of C.P.I. I fully refute the charge and say that it is a fabricated news which appeared in 1990 whether it was about 5 lakh dollar or one dollar. The U.S.S.R. has disintegrated today. Since the Russian leaders are puppets in the hands of America, such things are natural, why are they saying so, it is they who know it better. So far as the CPI is concerned, I would like that an All Party Committee may be constituted and Advaniji may become a Member of that Committee and accounts of all the parties

audited. The accounts of CPI are duly audited by a chartered accountant. I was also a Member of Parliament in 1973-74 and I was a party to get the move passed which Advanji has referred to and I am hundred per cent true in saying that the accounts of CPI are audited by a chartered accountant, we have complete accounts.

If Advanji is interested in knowing more, he may do so. I would like to tell him that the communist party, M.P. gets a sum of Rs. 2800 deducted every month from here towards party levy. Let Advanji try this system in his party even for some days. 5 lakh 50 thousand members of communist party pay annual levy besides membership fees. Even agricultural labourers also pay. So this news is an insult to the entire sacrifice. I don't blame the newspapers because it has published what it has got. I would like that an All Party Committee be constituted to audit the accounts of all parties. I have no objection to it. It will be a step towards reforming the Indian economy. Only then falsehood can be refuted. Therefore, I refute it and say that the Communist Party is a party of Pride for the entire nation. It has made numberless sacrifices. It has all along been a pioneer, whether it is Kashmir issue or Punjab.

He says that world communism is a matter of movement. Man like me has become communist influenced by Indian philosophy and International brotherhood. I have no enmity even with America. Still today we remember Abraham Lincoln whenever there is a danger to country's unity and we remember Washington when the question of independence arises. American workers have coloured the flag red with their blood. We have danger from the American money which is corrupting the World. Its hands might definitely be on present Russian leaders. I strongly refute it and demand on behalf of the C.P.I. that an All Party Committee be constituted in the context of the news and accounts of all the parties audited.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHUDHURY (Katwa): Shri Advanji is a very responsible and respected leader. But he makes wild allegations quoting from a newspaper report the veracity of which has not been ascertained and he harbours a kind of pipe dream in his mind that CPI (M) should also be involved in this and he is unhappy that it has not happened or that has not come out. I am very sorry.

But the point is this. The same news item came from Moscow and got publicity in our country, I believe, in October last year. Nobody took notice of that. Now, suddenly what happened was that the same news had to travel to America and in turn get flashed in such a big way. I am intrigued to understand what is behind it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Now it has become credible.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: Shri Bhogendra Jha has just now said that his Party is ready to have an All-Party investigation into the funds of all the Parties. You will remember that in this House, for long, we have been telling that many voluntary organizations are receiving money from abroad and using it for purposes which are not helpful to the unity and integrity of this country.

AN HON. MEMBER: The VHP is there.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: I am not going into the VHP funding or so many other things. That is known. I am not going into that or who are taking money from the Heritage Foundation. But in case of an inquiry, all these are to be looked into. Did somebody from this country travel to Washington some days ago and was something conspired there that a concerted campaign against the Left - which have been fighting

for the economic and political sovereignty of India - should be unleashed in India? We raised about the Pentagon Papers in this Country. A Super-Power thinks that it is the single Super-power now. They are even planning to attack India in certain circumstances... (*Interruptions*) In some corners they had harboured that in certain circumstances they should attack India also. We raised that matter here. Then, this Super-Power had to lose its face. Now, it is conspired, that there has to be something concerted against the Left Movement in this country. It is so because if the Left is not weakened, then the communal forces cannot succeed in this country. We must understand that. Therefore, we are ready for any investigation into any fund. I am not holding any brief for the CPI. For long, we have been demanding this. We have been demanding that there should be an inquiry into the funding of all the political parties and how they are getting. Let there be an inquiry into this matter. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the B.J.P. leader Shri Lal. K. Advani has levelled a very serious charge on the Communist Party of India. It is highly alarming if political parties or a voluntary organisation or a religious institutions get money from abroad. I fully support Shri Bhogendra Jha's views that it should be investigated and an All Party Committee constituted. It should not only audit the accounts of the C.P.I. but also of all the parties, of all the voluntary organisations and of all the religious institutions to find out the source from where these organisations have received money from abroad.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the way this issue has been raised in the House and the way Advaniji has termed it many times serious than Bofors, I would like to say in this context that both the Congress and the B.J.P. are one of

Bofors issue and an attempt is being made to dilute the Bofors issue..... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman & Nicobar Islands): Sir, this is purely a motivated attack. This is very bad. This cannot be tolerated. How can they make such allegations. They are making wild allegations. It cannot be accepted. This is purely a motivated attack.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir I am saying it in all seriousness that it is a well planned effort to humiliate and disrepute one's ideology. The news published in the Washington Post has not been authenticated and raised here. Neither I am Communist nor a supporter of communism but the concept of communism has received recognition at the international level. It is not concealed from the country that U.S.S.R. has been providing assistance for the publicity and propagation of Marxist literature which Advaniji is going to raise here. But if the money is provided for the working of a party, voluntary organisation, or religious institutions then it should be certainly investigated so that truth can come to light... (*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

SHRI NIRMAL KATI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): Please give me a chance because it involves the Communist Party.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Sir, I support the suggestion and the proposal made by Shri Bhogendra Jha that there should be an inquiry into the fundings of all

the political parties by an impartial committee.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Including the so-called voluntary organisations funding.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: It is apparent that this criticism and attack is being concentrated on the Left Forces in this country. Sir, there is no doubt about the fact that- **
(*Interruptions*)

MR.SPEAKER: I am not allowing statement regarding any foreign Head of a State to go on record. That is very important.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling): Is this a part of the record?

MR.SPEAKER: Yes, it is. And it is being removed and it should be removed. -

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHITTA BASU: It should be taken with a pinch of salt.....

MR.SPEAKER: Well, it has not been spoken at all. Why take it with a pinch of salt.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: My Congress friends should also understand that when they are raising this kind of allegation against some other party, they should also remember that there are on records report of Mr.Moynihan. I just mentioned the name of Mr.Moynihan. I do not like to enter into the context that it contains. Therefore, it is necessary that, in the interests of the democracy, in the interests that our democracy survives, there should be a thorough enquiry, comprehensive enquiry by an impartial body into the funding of all the political

parties including the CPI, CPM, BJP, RSP, Congress and so on. Therefore, all the political parties' accounts are to be subjected to inspection, to scrutiny any to examination (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTEERJEE (Dum Dum): I have been in the communist movement for the last 52 years... (*Interruptions*)

MR.SPEAKER:I will give you chance. Wait for some time.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roseria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the importance of political parties is the same as that of Gangotri to Ganga. It becomes difficult to keep the water of Ganga clean if Gangotri itself is polluted. In such situation if it becomes an issue of discussion in the power circle that foreign funds are being received, I think it is very dangerous for the unity and integrity of the country. I have come to the conclusion from the statements of Shri Bhogendra Jha Shri Saifuddin Choudhury and Shri Advani that a person joins any social organisation for three purposes. Some people join politics for the sake of principles, some join it as a profession and some join it for fashion. Ideologists always suffer between those who join it as profession and those who join it for fashion. Through you I demand from the House as to which political parties or social organisations are receiving funds from foreign countries, which have become puppet in the hands of foreign countries which are lowering the dignity of the country. Constitute an all party committee. Members and leaders of all political parties are present here, therefore, if any member wants to oppose it, he should do so here. If the Government has courage, an All Party Committee should be constituted to look into the accounts of all the

parties to find out the source of money, whether it is Indian money or foreign money.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, secondly, I would like to request Advaniji not to underestimate the gravity of Bofors scandal. Indirectly when he says that this issue is more than Bofors, it means he wants to underestimate the Bofors skulduggery and treason committed in this scandal. Therefore, spare the Bofors scandal. We support it on behalf of the Janata Dal and demand the constitution of an All Party Committee to audit the accounts and find out the source of money of political parties.

[*English*]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, perhaps, I should begin with a statement that I have been in the communist movement for the last 52 years. And I am proud that the communist movement has inherited the traditions of Shir Bhagat Singh and of the Andaman Prisoners and many others who have been sent to the gallows for the freedom of the country. It is from that glorious past that I am provoked to stand up and I have to respond to what has come from that side of the House. I do not blame him; even Shri Advani, who is now visible amongst us, for not knowing what the Communist movement stands for? One of the basic tenets of Marxists movement, all over the world, is that a country can only be transformed when the internal forces have so matured that the country can be transformed. No element of outside force can do that for the country. The belief that outsiders can do something for a country is from a different perspective altogether. It comes from Pepsi Cola to Chile; it comes from IMF-World Bank to Peru; it comes from the imperialists who believe that the outside agencies are the major engine of transformation, which transformation is really nothing less but colonialism in a country.

What we say is this: the demand has been made; let us investigate not only in

terms of financial integration of the various political parties with the countries abroad; let us also try to discover all kinds of connections. We do not want to talk about patriotism and destabilisation in the country. We know that Mahatma Gandhiji was killed. The effort was to destabilise the country and that also soon after we achieved the independence. We know which kind of politics, morality and inclination have led to the killing of Bhapuji. We also know what are the forces which are trying to destabilise our country including the Government's funds which are being opened in Ayodhya. Every drop of the blood of the Communists in this country will try to see that the country is not destabilised. It has been rightly pointed out that since we are not raising the questions of economic sovereignty and since we are not raising the questions about the condition of the people of our country, not everybody is happy, in the world outside as well.

It is a fact that frequent reference is being made from that side also that the world has ceased to be bi-polar. It was mentioned that we should recognize that there is one super power; in order to satisfy that super power, it is necessary to kill the Left; to kill the Communist movement everywhere in the world. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I draw your attention - as has already been drawn - to the interesting thing which is that these things did not come when Mr. Gorbachev was there. This came, when the Soviet Union is disbanded. And now the information from the erstwhile Soviet Union comes via Washington. This is the kind of link that is being established and that link knows that if there is any power, any movement which challenges that kind of link, that is the Communist movement and the Left movement, worldwide. And therefore, this kind of issues are being raised in a manner

to sideline all our issues in the country.
(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No, this cannot be a regular speech.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Therefore, Sir, I stand up to condemn with all my strength, the raising of such issues without demanding for a probe by the Members of Parliament, into the activities all the parties and how they are connected without side agencies.

SHRI GURCHARAN SINGH DADAHOOR (Sangrur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in my constituency Sangrur, engineers of a factory have been killed. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs had assured the House that lives and property of people would be protected. In spite of his speech, killing of innocent people is still continuing. A few days back many people were killed in Ludhiana, after that innocent children, women and men were killed at Mandi Ahmedgarh in my constituency at night the day before yesterday.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government gives Rs. 1 lakh as compensation but that compensation do not bring deceased back to life. The situation is so serious that the people will start evacuating cities. Punjab will be ruined. Through you I would like to request the Government that some new policy and programmes should be made for Punjab and the lives of people should be saved.

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY (Alipurduars): Sir, the proposal mooted by Shri Bhogendra should be accepted keeping in view the liberal policy of the Government which has opened the gates of the country for foreigners. In such a time the accounts of all political parties should be audited by an All Party Committee. Sir, it is necessary in the sense

that the gates of country are open for the World Bank and all the foreigners.

It is necessary for the integrity of the country also. At present any political party may create communal roits, may create any other conflict or may fan our regional feelings. Therefore, it is very essential to audit the accounts of all political parties and an All Party Committee should be constituted for it.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I wish to raise a very important issue before this House. I am sure that all secular elements will view this with great concern. I refer to the demolition of structures located in the lands which have been acquired by the U.P. Government in Ayodhya. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Sir, what happened to it? The entire House has made a unanimous demand that an all party committee should be constituted? What happened to that committee?

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Sir, the spokesman of C.P.I. denied promptly and said that this report is baseless. I think it is not good if we take it as a closed chapter here after mere discussion. After all there is a law under which if any person receives even five dollars.

[*English*]

he owes it to the government to explain as to where from he got those five dollars.

[*Translation*]

And here serious allegations have been made about which either Government should come to the conclusion that they are quite

baseless and they have no truth and if they have an iota of truth, it should tell the House about that. There is a proposal that a joint committee be formed to audit the accounts of all the parties.

So far as my party is concerned, we have been telling for years that the accounts of parties should be audited if improvement is to be brought about in the India's body politic. I am not in favour of it if the committee is to be constituted to hush up the matter of and if committee is to be constituted to gag someone, then I have no objection.

This question is about foreign funds. If there is prima-facie evidence or prime facie suspicion of foreign funds about any party, I am ready to get it investigated and my party has not the slightest objection to it. But in this matter a clear and categorical allegation has been made publicly against C.P.I., which has been refuted by them. Therefore it is the responsibility of the Government either to inform the House after inquiring it fully that it is baseless or arrangement should be made to inquire into it. I have no objection to an all party inquiry but the Government cannot keep mum it should say something.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a news item in the paper, we had a long debate and discussion. I do understand the feelings of many Members on the question of funding of political parties, auditing, collective, or all party committee to look into the matters. All these are important to the fundamental issue of funding of political parties. We are having a discussion of all party leaders on electoral reforms, when, I am sure this topic will also rise, in its own way. At the same time, if the Speaker wishes, the

Government is most willing; we could discuss this matter because there is a strong feeling about the source of the news also. There are equally strong feelings that this might not be true at all. The Government has not yet got any confirmed report on the matter. Therefore, we would request the Speaker — we could have a meeting, later, of all the leaders, if he feels appropriate, to decide as to how to go about this matter. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Sir, lately Shri Advaniji has not made it clear about the all party committee. But, we demand - whether the Congress Party is in position of not - that there should be a proper investigation about the allegations. (*Interruptions*) Let the Government also inquire about that separately. (*Interruptions*) Let the Government inquire about this report separately and there should be another all party committee to inquire about this. I think the accounts of all parties must come - not only of political parties, but also of different fronts, organisations, also of different religious organisations and also of private trusts. These should also come under the purview of this. (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: When this report has come, it will be discussed in the House. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): It should be looked into separately. Only the charge which has been levelled should be looked into. The report should be presented here. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my submission is that the House should discuss that issue. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.