

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

**First Session
(Ninth Lok Sabha)**



सत्यमेव जयते

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

*Thursday, December 28, 1989/Pausa 7,
1911 (Saka)*

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Assistance to Traditional Fishermen of Kanyakumari District (Tamil Nadu)

*63 SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the traditional fishermen of Kanyakumari District (Tamil Nadu) face great difficulty in carrying fishing operations in Arabian Sea for atleast four months in a year due to rough sea conditions; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to enable the fishermen to carry fishing operations throughout the year without any hindrance?

[*Translation*]

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Inclement weather involving squally winds and high waves is a natural phenomenon in the seas along the coast line

of the Indian Peninsula, particularly during the South-West monsoon (from the mid-May to September) and also during the North-East Monsoon (late October to late November). While the period during which this natural phenomenon occurs varies from place to place along the coast, the sea conditions during these periods are not generally conducive to safe navigation and particularly for fishing by small craft. Both traditional and mechanised fishermen along the coast generally avoid venturing into the sea during such periods.

The Government have taken the following steps in this regard:-

- (i) Provision of advance weather warning through the electronic media.
- (ii) Group accident insurance for active fishermen.
- (iii) Saving-cum-relief scheme for fishermen in order to help them in the lean season (implemented by State Government).
- (iv) Provision of shelter through construction of fishery harbour.
- (v) Installation of guide lights.
- (vi) Motorisation of traditional craft which enables fishermen to navigate speedily.

[*English*]

SHRI N. DENNIS: The fishermen in large numbers live in the southern part of the western coast of our country and they are fully depending on fishing for their livelihood. They are also poverty stricken. Anti-sea erosion walls are erected for the prevention

of sea erosion along the coast touching the sea. The sea here is very rough as it stated in the answer but it is very intense and rough in that locality for a period of about six months in a year. The fishermen cannot go for fishing, they cannot operate their fishing vessels and the utensils used for fishing during the rough season across the anti-erosion walls. On top of this if they dash against the anti-sea erosion walls, it would result in injury as also loss of fishing vessels and utensils. So, generally they are refrained from operating their vessels and going for fishing. That would only aggravate the poverty of these poor fishermen in that locality. Some remedial measures are suggested in the answer but they are of a general nature and they would give only temporary relief to them. I would like to bring it to the notice of the hon. Deputy Prime Minister that erection of protective walls through a distance of 250 metres into the sea from the sea coast in order to facilitate fishing would help the operation of fishing vessels.

May I know from the hon. Deputy Prime Minister whether such a protective wall with a facility for operation of the fishing vessels could be provided to help these poor fishermen so that they could go for fishing and earn their livelihood?

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVILAL: Rough weather, when squally winds blow, poses a lot of problems for the fishermen living along the sea-coast. Provisions of shelters through construction of fishery harbour has been made. Attention of Tamil Nadu Government has been drawn to their problems and suggestions have been sought from them so that we could take some steps in regard to their problems.

[*English*]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: What a question and what a reply! There is no relevance.... (*Interruptions*)....

MR. SPEAKER: He is capable of putting a question and getting an answer

....(*Interruptions*).....

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Sir, you have to protect us... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVI LAL: The Tamil Nadu Government has been asked to give suggestions and the Centre shall provide assistance accordingly.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI N. DENNIS: It should not entirely be left to the discretion of the Tamil Nadu Government. (*Interruptions*)

Sir, this subject comes under Fisheries and the question has been admitted. I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Deputy Prime Minister that the fishermen, due to the difficulties faced by them, are migrating for fishing to other parts of the country such as Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat. The delay in providing facility for the operation of fishing vessels would result in a large-scale migration of these poor fishermen who are residing in that locality. I would like to point out that because of the intensity of rough weather in the locality, sea erosion walls were constructed. Considering the intensity of rough weather in that locality, early provision may be made for providing protective walls for the operation of fishing vessels. In the reply, it is stated that one of the remedies suggested is providing a fishing harbour in such places. That is the long standing demand of the poor fishermen of this locality too. Provision of a fishing harbour in the west coast of Kanyakumari District at the earliest would solve many of the problems of the fishermen. May I know whether the hon. Minister would take early steps for providing a fishing harbour in the west coast of Tamil Nadu, i.e. Arabian sea coast?

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVI LAL: Some fishing harbours are being constructed by the Centre

and some are ready. Some shelters are proposed to be constructed for protection against hot winds. Fishermen cannot go about their business during stormy weather. For this purpose some schemes are being formulated....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI A. CHARLES: Sir, Trivandrum is adjacent to Kanyakumari and there is a long stretch of coastal belt in this area. The same problem prevails in the coastal area of Trivandrum also. Sir, there is a proposal for the construction of sea wall in this belt. Last year another proposal had been made for the construction of a mini fishing harbour from Pozhiyur to Chowara, which is about 15 KMs. Every year at the time of monsoon, lakhs of huts are being washed away and fishing also is not possible. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the mini fishing harbour project from Pozhiyur to Chowara, which is pending before the Government, will be taken up early atleast as a joint project between Kerala Government and the Government of India on 50:50 basis.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVI LAL: The Government is already aware of the necessity to construct fishing harbours. The proposal is under consideration with the Department of Water Resources of the Government of Tamil Nadu. We have asked them to give suggestions and then we shall consider the matter...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This is Question Hour. Please take your seats.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have called upon Mr. Deshmukh.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT: I am on a point of order...

MR. SPEAKER: No point of order during Question Hour. I will allow you to put a question.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: The Member wants answer to his question. There is nothing wrong in that....

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister wants to reply. You are not allowing him to reply.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You are not allowing him to proceed.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVI LAL: I am giving reply to your question but you are not prepared to listen....(*Interruptions*)I have already said that approval has been given for two fishing harbours in Kanyakumari and Trivandrum districts. You want to raise this matter again. You have made the Deputy Prime Minister the target of your attack.

SHRI ANANTRAO VITHALRAO DESHMUKH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the four months of stormy weather, the poor fishermen cannot venture to the sea for fishing. Will the Centre appoint a study group to chalk out a plan of action for these four months of inclement weather?

SHRI DEVI LAL: Assistance is given when cyclonic storms hit the coasts during four months every year. 50 per cent of the assistance is given by the Centre and the rest 50 per cent is borne by the State so that fishermen are able to tide over the difficult period.

[English]

Strike by Port Workers at New Mangalore Port

*64. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY. Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether the mini steel Plants in Karnataka and Kerala have stopped production for want of scrap due to strike by port workers at the New Mangalore port.

(b) how much scrap is lying in various vessels at the port and

(c) the remedial steps Government propose to take in view of difficulties being experienced by mini steel plants in Karnataka and Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN) (a) No, Sir

(b) There is no scrap vessel waiting for berth in the Port

(c) Continuous efforts are being made to settle the dispute both by the Central Industrial Relations Machinery as well as the Port Authorities

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY Mr Speaker, Sir, the workers of the New Mangalore Port are on strike since November 17 and almost 45 days are now over. Even the Chairman of the Steel Furnace Association of Southern Region has represented to the Ministry. He has sent telegrams to the Secretary, Ministry of Surface Transport and also to the concerned Labour Relations Officers. But so far no action has been taken. I would like to know whether it has come to the notice of the Ministry that the workers are on illegal strike, as alleged by the Association, and they are pressuring the users of the port to get an illegal cash payment of Rs. Seven to eight as *mamul* for each worker per shift.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Sir, the hon. Member is aware that the question relates to the hardships put to the steel plants of Karnataka and Kerala as a result of the strike. As far as this point is concerned, this has been answered. The hon. Member has said that we have not taken any action. It is not true. I would like to point out that there is a difference between other major ports of India and the New Mangalore Port, in the sense that the cargo handling operations in the new Mangalore Port are not handled by the Dock Labour Board, as in the case of other major ports. The Port Trust also does not have its own labour force in this port. There is a pool of 1,181 workers there who have an association of their own, known as the New Mangalore Port Listed Workers Managing Committee, and they conduct these cargo handling operations. There has been a dispute since mid-November. Probably there was a dispute earlier also where the workers had demanded speed money, which is certainly an illegal demand. Since then a number of efforts have been made both by the Labour Commissioner and the Regional Labour Commissioner. It is not correct to say that we have not been aware of the problem or the port authorities have not taken steps seriously. A number of efforts have been made. I am sure, the hon. Members as well as the other distinguished Members belonging to the State of Karnataka are aware as to who these leaders are. Our efforts would continue to see that the Port is made serviceable once again, but I would request the hon. Members and the new Government of Karnataka also to join us in finding a solution to this problem.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: I would like to know whether it is a fact that the output of this cargo handling at the New Mangalore Port is the lowest among all the ports in India when compared to ports like Madras, they are doing nearly 1700 and 1800 MT per day and what steps the Government propose to take to improve their performance.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: As I explained, we should try and make our efforts

to improve productivity in all ports including New Mangalore Port and I would once again request the hon. Member and his friends who are well-known and recognised leaders of the area to join us in our effort to increase productivity. It is true that Madras Port has higher rate of productivity compared even to Bombay Port and even in relation to Mangalore, I would particularly appeal to the hon. Member and his Party to join us in finding a solution for some other specific problems relating to it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: We can set up a Dock Labour Board there.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: We shall consider this suggestion

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: May I know from the hon. Minister what is the loss of earnings due to this strike and whether the Government is going to fix the norms for this speed money if it is a legal one?

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Well, there can be no norms as far as speed money is concerned, and it is an illegal demand and we cannot accept this, nor can it be quantified. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: What is the loss of earnings of the port due to this strike?

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: The Port has lost more than Rs. 50 lakhs as a result of the strike according to the information available.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Mr. Speaker, I am the one who is very much affected by this strike. For your information, almost my one unit was closed for want of this movement of traffic. Will the Minister please examine the suggestion that instead

of sending this scrap to the Mangalore Port from the MMTC, which is canalising agency, is it not advisable to send the entire scrap to Madras Port? Not only the labourers are on strike, but every time it is very difficult to transport this scrap from Mangalore due to continuous rains. Even the lorries also are not in a position to move this scrap to various places. In view of these difficulties faced by the industrial transporters, will you please advise the MMTC to send the entire scrap or imported scrap to Madras Port instead of to this Mangalore Port until it is improved?

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Obviously there seems to be some kind of a conflict of interests between the distinguished Member of Parliament and an industrialist. As a Member of Parliament I should have thought that the hon. Member would want the Mangalore Port to prosper and help other leaders in finding a solution for that problem. I am unable to accept the suggestion, but I shall certainly, if she feels strongly about it, in terms of her personal interest, look into it. (*Interruptions*)

Communal Riots

*65 SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of communal riots which took place in different parts of the country during the last six months, State-wise;

(b) the loss of life and property in those riots; and

(c) the steps to contain these riots?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) to (c). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

Particulars of Major Communal Riots that Took Place in the Country During the Last Six months.

1 Name of the State, Place and date	2 No. of persons killed	3 Loss of property
BIHAR:		
Hazaribagh (16-22.8.89)	15	42 houses/shops etc. damaged/footed.
Sasaram (17-22.8.89) (Distt. Rohtas)	10	N.A
Sasaram (Distt. Rohtas) (16-17.11.89)	5	N.A
Satbarwa (Distt. Palamu) (2.9.89)	5	6 shops looted
Sitamarhi (22.10.89 to 15.11.89)	16	400 houses burnt.
Bhagalpur (26.10.89 to 30.11.89)	404	250 houses burnt/footed.
Munger (25.10.89 to 30.11.89)	27	
GUJARAT:		
Godhara (Distt. Panchmahal) (22.10.89)	4	
MADHYA PRADESH:		
Khargone (30.9.89)	5	50 houses/shops damaged/burnt.

Name of the State, Place and date	No. of persons killed	Loss of property
1	2	3
Indore (14.10.89)	22	Rs.1.00 crore
RAJASTHAN:		
Jawal (Distt. Sirohi) (1.6.89)	2	Rs.06 lakh
Kota (14-17.9.89)	15	40 shops/cabins burnt and several vehicles damaged.
Jaipur (27.11.89 to 3.12.89)	5	150 shops looted/burnt.
UTTAR PRADESH:		
Badaun (28-30.9.89)	30	Rs. 75.00 lakhs
Varanasi (11-16.11.89)	7	3 Shops, one wooden stall and some vehicles damaged/burnt.

(c) In addition to the guidelines already issued to the various State Governments/ U.T. Administrations for prevention of communal violence and for promotion of communal harmony, material support in terms of para-military forces and equipments is provided to the State Governments as and when requested subject to their availability to assist them in effectively managing and controlling the riot situation on ground. Central Government also shares its intelligence with the concerned State Governments for prevention of communal violence. With a view to evolving national consensus on issues affecting emotional unity and communal harmony in the country, the National Integration Council is being re-constituted

It is the resolve of the Government that no efforts would be spared to guarantee full protection to the minorities and for promoting all round communal harmony in the country.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH. Sir, there is a serious problem in our country. We inherited this problem of communal riots from the British and during the last 43 years it extended to the whole of the country and to all the communities. Earlier, it was between the Hindus and the Muslims. Now, it is successfully extended to all the communities. This is the plight of the country. We think it is a crime against humanity, crime against society and a crime against national integrity.

The reply is very shocking. We agree that anybody can create it. But if some criminal people can instigate a communal riot, how can it continue for months? Our experience in West Bengal is, it can be put down in a few hours. But in Bhagalpur, it went on for 35 days, according to the reply. In Sitamarhi, it went for 23 days; in Munger it went on for 36 days. At other places, it went on at least for one week.

If the Government does not want communal riots to continue, it can put them down. (*Interruptions*) This is our experience

in West Bengal. In the light of this experience, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether in the recent riots in Bhagalpur the figure supplied was too meagre as compared to the actual happening, as much more people had been killed there. The Prime Minister had said that the State Government was responsible. We think the Prime Minister is a responsible person and he is uttering something which is of a value. I would like to know whether any importance has been attached to his statement and any action has been taken against those criminals including the criminal State Government?

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: I agree with the hon. Member that where the State Government has been firm in dealing with the communal situation, that has been controlled in no time. There is a shining example of West Bengal Government. Since the last 12 years, there has hardly been any incident. Unfortunately, it is only on Congress-I ruled States. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: In Karnataka, it had happened. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: As a Minister, you have to give a statement. You are the Home Minister. You should not mislead the House. (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER: I have called upon the Home Minister to answer. You please sit down. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: As far as Bihar is concerned, about the communal riots in Bhagalpur, I think, after 1947, it is the first incident where such a loss of life, such genocide, such atrocities have been committed and this situation has staggered for more than a month and there was complete collapse of law and order situation and our information is, as far as the number of persons killed is concerned, it is 404.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: It is much more than that. Correct the figures. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: The number of cases registered is 190. The number of cases of arson is 210 and loot 35. (*Interruptions*) With me are the figures submitted by the State Government. There, people have apprehension that many more casualties may be there. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Central Government also shares its intelligence with the concerned State Governments. May I know whether in this case in Bhagalpur, the Central Government shared the intelligence with the State Government giving prior information that this can happen and to take proper care and, secondly, whether a special team has been sent to Bhagalpur to investigate and, if so, what is the report, whether such a team was sent to find out the details of that event.

What steps have you taken to stop the inflammatory literature which instigates communal riots and whether this Ministry transferred officials and if it is dismissed some officials, how many...dismissed.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: The State Government's Deputy Commissioner and other districts authorities were found to be negligent in dealing with the situation and then the Chief Minister of Bihar Shri Satyendra Narain Sinha had ordered the transfer of those concerned officials. But on the pressure of some people at Bhagalpur I am told, the then Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi visited Bagalpur and the transfer of the Deputy Commissioner and the S.P. was stayed. It is a question of accountability as to who were responsible for this carnage. But I must say, the transfer of officials was stayed.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: From the reply, it is found that communal riots had taken place in several States during the last six months namely, Bihar, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. So far as the number of persons killed is concerned, the official figure is 542 and there has not been accurate estimate of the property lost or houses burnt etc., etc. Therefore, it is a very great shame on the part of our country that

such a large-scale communal riots took place during the last six months.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether he agrees with me that these communal riots are generally preceded by build-up of communal tensions and, in this case, during the last six months what were the reasons for build-up of communal tension and what has been the role of the previous Government to defuse that communal tension.

May I also know from the hon. Minister to what extent the Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid dispute played its part in building up the communal tension? Was it not a fact that the previous Government played the communal card to building up the communal tension in these parts of the country? Lastly, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is not a fact that the Bihar Military Police allowed a large number of minorities who were under the custody of the Military to be massacred and the Bihar Military Police did not take adequate steps for the protection of minorities. Rather, they were instrumental in the massacre. What steps the Government proposes to take against those guilty who caused the massacre in Bhagalpur?

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: Sir, I agree that since this Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid issue crept up, there has been steady increase in the communal riots in the country since 1986. If we see the graph, the increase has been there. But I must say that in some of the States, for instance, in West Bengal, in Andhra Pradesh, in Karnataka, in Haryana and I may say even in Uttar Pradesh where there is Ayodhya, except Badaun, there were no communal riots. Therefore, if the State administration, if the State Government is alert, if the State Government is committed to the principle of secularism, if the State Government makes the district authorities accountable, then I do not think the communal situation will arise. There are elements who are trying to create such a situation. But it is only where the State Governments are not alert, the communal

situation gets deteriorated. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHITTA BASU: One of my questions was about the action the Government proposes to take against the Bihar Military Police. Has the Government taken up the matter with the Bihar Government? What has been the reaction of the Bihar Government in regard to that particular massacre? What has been the reason for the building up of communal tension in the country?

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: It is a fact that there have always been some complaints, some allegations against the Police Force who have been partisan in dealing with the situation. There was a proposal with the previous Government and that proposal is with the current Government also that when such situation arises, there should be a composite anti-riot force to deal with such a situation. As far as the hon. Member's question whether we have enquired from the State Government and how far the Bihar Police was involved in this massacre, we have written to the Chief Minister of Bihar. I am happy that he has taken certain measures for the rehabilitation of the riot victims in Bhagalpur, Sasaram and Munger. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have called upon Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev. Please take your seats. I am coming to you

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, I had the good opportunity of working as a Minister of State in the Home Ministry. The hon. Minister was also a Minister at that time. With all respect to him I would like to say with all humbleness at my command, that he has misled the House. Either his home-work is very poor or he has been misinformed by the officials in his Ministry. The question is not of the last six months; but the question which was asked during the course of the first supplementary is whether during the course of the last one year there was any communal riot in Karnataka which was ruled by an opposition party. I myself went and visited the area with Shri Bommai, the then Chief

Minister of Karnataka. I went there when there was a fight between the Punjabi and Kannada speaking people. In Assam, in Nowgong District in the AGP rule Quorum was burnt inside a Masjid. In Gohpur of Tezpur and Kokrajhar districts also there were communal riots. (*Interruptions*) The CPM Members must not behave like this. Let me speak, I have got the right to speak, don't try to muzzle me.

I don't take a stand that here was no communal riot during the Congress regime or there were no lapses on the part of the Congress Government. Now, I agree there were serious lapses on the part of the Congress Government. I would like to know whether there is a rule in the Election Commission—you have mentioned about the ex-Prime Minister of the country who stopped transfers and postings—to stop the transfers. There is a rule by the Election Commission that when the election process starts no official must be transferred. The Home Minister, I am sure, knows that during the election process no official can be transferred. I would request him to clarify this and correct the statement. If necessary, in future if such riots happen, there should be a guideline from the Election Commission.

Are you going to take it up with the Election Commission that during the process of elections if any officer—whether he is in Bhagalpur or in UP or Rajasthan—is found guilty, he should be suspended and transferred?

As rightly pointed out by Shri Shri Chitta Basu, we must go into the deep-root as to why these communal riots happen? I will request—as you announced today—that let there be an enquiry by a Supreme Court Judge to find out whether BJP and others are involved in this or not. That should be enquired... (*Interruptions*)

AN. HON. MEMBER: On a point of order, Sir. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No point of order. Please take your seats.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED:

Sir, what I said in my previous reply was that in Bihar State, especially in Bhagalpur, Monghyr and Sitamarhi, the communal situation got deteriorated and got staggered.

By the account of the people there, I am told, the District administration was squarely responsible for mishandling the situation and then the Chief Minister of Bihar ordered the transfer of the Deputy Commissioner and the SSP. After the visit of the then Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the transfer of district officers was stayed. *(Interruptions)* But, I say, there have been communal incidents; may be in Karnataka there was a communal incident. But, if the State Government was firm to deal with that situation, they could have controlled it and they could have controlled it in no time. *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI LALOO PRASAD: In reply to the main question, the hon. Minister has admitted that during the last six months riots took place in Congress ruled States also. I had the opportunity of being the leader of opposition in Bihar. In Bihar alone, which is also a Congress ruled State, riots took place at more than 50 places. Riots took place in Palamau, Sasaram, Sitamarhi, Giridih, Gopalganj and the riots that rocked Bhagalpur were the most tragic and the tension in the area still prevails. There were direct accusations that Shri Girish Narayan, a Congressman had a hand in the riots that took place in Bihar. He has since been made a Minister in Bihar Government. Now Dr. Jagannath Mishra who was the State President of Congress Party which had direct hand in the riots has been made the Chief Minister of Bihar and entrusted with the task of nursing the wounds of riot victims. When communal riots broke out in Hazaribagh, the then Minister of Home Affairs had gone there. I also went there in my capacity as leader of the opposition to investigate the causes of the riots. The people belonging to minority community had direct accusations that he S.P. had a hand in the riots. At that time Shri

Satyendra Narayan Sinha used to be the Chief Minister of the State. Shri S.K. Srivastava, the then, Member of Board of Revenue was appointed to hold an enquiry into the Hazaribagh riots. Mr. Srivastava, with all its fairness, reported that the District Collector and the S.P. had a hand in the riots. I would like to know whether the Central Government proposes to dismiss the Congress Government in the State as specific charges of engineering riots have been levelled against it.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED:

Sir, as I said just now, the communal riots that took place in Bihar, whether in Bhagalpur or in Sasaram or in Manghyr or in Sitamarhi, these were unique in character and... *(Interruptions)* The Government of the State failed to control these riots. Why do you hold the poor Government officials, whether he is an S.P. or a policeman, or for that matter any other officer, responsible for the riots? The Chief Minister was not able to control the riots even in a month's time. In Bhagalpur, humanity was being slaughtered and Indian blood was being shed by Indians themselves. That scenario prevailed there for a month. A woman, who is also a daughter of this country and who was brought to Patna has lost one of his legs. Children were massacred. The Chief Minister remained a silent spectator to the happenings.... *(Interruptions)* **

MR. SPEAKER: All of you, please sit down. Nothing will go on record.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED:

He could not control it. I am of the view that some one must have been responsible for it and he should be held guilty. We are holding an enquiry to find out as to which officer, which police officer and which Deputy Commissioner is responsible for this and whose negligence it was. The person responsible for this should be punished and he will be punished.

MR. SPEAKER: I call upon all of you that tomorrow there will be a special debate

on communal situation and a debate will also be held on the motion of thanks on the President's Address. Now I have called Mr. Sulaiman. Thereafter, I shall take up the next question.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have permitted Mr Sulaiman Sait.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am coming to you.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

I request the Members to resume their seats. (Interruptions) I have now permitted Mr. Sulaiman Sait. Then, I will permit Mr. Madam Lal Khurana.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI IBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: A large-scale killing of the Muslim minority during riots cannot be taken as a law and order problem and the matter cannot be left to the State administration. (Interruptions) The Centre cannot run away from its responsibility.

MR. SPEAKER: Please put the question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI IBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: The Centre should define what its policy is with regard to controlling such large-scale communal killings. (Interruptions) Generally, the State forces, like BMP in Bihar, PAC in Uttar Pradesh fail and normalcy is restored only by deploying the Central forces, like CRP, BSF and the Military. (Interruptions) Therefore, I would like to know from the Central Government what concrete steps are they going to take for ensuring complete peace and protection of the minorities in the country. (Interruptions)

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: The Central Government cannot absolve itself of its responsibility to deal with a com-

munal situation. But it is only the State Government which has to deal with the law and order situation. (Interruptions) The role of the Central forces, especially the BSF, the CRP and even the Army had been commendable in Bhagalpur. They were responsible for saving the precious lives. The Government is thinking of long-term and short-term measures to tackle this communal situation and we are also issuing guidelines in this regard. I assure the hon. Member that in future we will not allow such a situation to arise. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister of Home Affairs said that riots took place in Congress ruled States only. Had there been any effect of the Ram Janmabhoomi issue, riots would also have taken place in Delhi and other places. But nothing of that sort happened. It means that Ram Janambhoomi issue had nothing to do with the riots. These riots were election manifested riots. Why did the riots break out after the elections and what were the reasons that riots took place in the Congress ruled States only? The hon. Minister of Home Affairs said that law and order had collapsed in Bihar. If it is so, it becomes the duty of the Central Government to take suitable action in this regard. I want to say, as you have said that a discussion on the communal situation will be held tomorrow, that communal riots also took place in Kashmir. Temples, Gurudwaras... (Interruptions)... I would like to emphasise that whether it was blood shedding of a Muslim or a Hindu, blood of both the communities is alike. As such I want to say that while a discussion on communal riots would be held, the Governments of Jammu and Kashmir and Bihar should be dismissed.... (Interruptions)

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has expressed his concern that communal riots, wherever they might take place, are not good for the country. It is true that there was perfect secularism in Kashmir, but some forces are raising their ugly heads there also, as a result of which an environment of hatred has been created. While we deal with the riot situation, whether it is Bhagalpur in Bihar or in Rajasthan, we will also deal with it in Kashmir.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Question Hour is over.

(Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS*[English]***Conversion of Defaulted Loans to Shipping Corporation of India into Equity**

*66. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to convert 50 per cent of the defaulted loans to the Shipping Corporation of India into equity; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K P UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). The Capital Restructuring proposal of Shipping Corporation of India Ltd., which is under consideration of the Government, envisages, among others, conversion of part of the outstanding loans of Shipping Corporation of India due to the Government into equity in order that the debt-equity ratio of the Company is brought to 3 : 1 as on 31.3.89.

Telephone Connections at Manali

*67. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications pending for telephone connections in Manali, district Kulu (Himachal Pradesh);

(b) the steps Government propose to take to clear the waiting list in view of importance of Manali as an international tourist spot; and

(c) the time by which the capacity of the

present exchange will be expanded?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) 89 applications are pending for telephone connections in Manali, District Kulu (Himachal Pradesh).

(b) & (c). A 400 lines electronic exchange (NEAX-61S) has been planned to be installed during the next year 1990-91 to replace the existing manual exchange of 295 lines capacity. There is no proposal for the expansion of the present exchange as it is being replaced by electronic exchange.

Bodo Agitation

*68. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are considering any new initiatives to contain Bodo agitation in Assam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) and (b). Talks are proposed to be held shortly between the Government of Assam and ABSU (UB Group) in the presence of a Central Observer. The Central Government will extend all necessary help and cooperation so that a mutually acceptable solution is reached.

Telecom Commission

*69. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to have a rethinking over the struc-

ture of the Telecom Commission; if so, on what lines; and

(b) achievements of the Telecom Commission so far in the field of new technology, electronic system and automatisa-tion of rural telephone systems?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRI SHNAN): (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

1. With a view to promote rapid develop-ment of all aspects of telecommunica-tions including technology, production and services, Government has estab-lished a Telecom Commission.
2. The Government will soon announce a Communication Policy. The Telecom Commission and their structures will implement this policy in the context of our national efforts towards self-reli-ance.
3. The achievements of Telecom Com-mission so far in the field of new technol-ogy, electronic system and automatisa-tion of Rural Telephone System are as under:
 - (i) R&D efforts of various organisa-tions have been pooled together to develop new technologies in the areas of Switching Transmission, Software Terminals and networks. Electronic Digital Private Automatic Branch Exchange (EPABX), Rural Digital Automatic Exchange (RAX), Medium Sized Digital Exchange and Large Capacity Digital Ex-changes have been developed.
 - (ii) A comprehensive plan for automa-tisation of Rural Telephone Sys-

tem have been made for imple-mentation.

- (iii) Improved transmission technology for rural areas have also been developed and is being imple-mented to open more and more Long Distance Public Telephones (LDPTs) in far flung areas.

In the context, structure and framework of this policy, the Government may from time to time, review the work of the Commission and assign specific tasks for achievements within a time frame.

Withdrawal of IPKF from Sri Lanka

- *70. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA
NARSIMHARAJA WA-
DIYAR:
SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGA-
LAM:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AF-FAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) how much Indian Peace Keeping Force has been withdrawn from Sri Lanka to date;
- (b) the time by which the entire IPKF is to be withdrawn; and
- (c) whether any agreement has been reached with Sri Lanka in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AF-FAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) By the end of the year six of the eight districts of the North-Eastern Province of Sri Lanka will have been vacated by the IPKF.

(b) Government are committed to the de-induction of the IPKF as fast as practi-cable. Keeping the logistical and other fac-tors in mind, it should be possible to com-plete de-induction by the end of March 1990.

(c) Government of India and Sri Lanka are committed jointly to work out the expeditious de-induction of the IPKF.

We have proposed to Sri Lanka an early meeting of concerned officials to work out the de-induction schedule and to examine whether any acceleration of the de-induction is possible.

Visit of Sri Lankan Delegation

*71. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PURO-
HIT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high powered Sri Lankan delegation led by their Foreign Minister visited New Delhi to discuss the withdrawal of the Indian Peace Keeping Force from Sri Lanka;

(b) whether any other issue were also discussed; and

(c) if so, the outcome of the talks held?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) to (c). The Sri Lankan Foreign Minister's visit to Delhi (December 6 to 8) was for conveying the greetings and good wishes of the Government and the people of Sri Lanka to the Prime Minister and to the new Government. The talks with the Foreign Minister were on matters of mutual interest including the de-induction of the IPKF, and recent developments in the North-Eastern Province.

In the discussions Government reiterated its resolve to strengthen relations with neighbouring countries, in keeping with the commitments made in the National Front's manifesto. Both Governments were of the

view that the approach should be one of trust and cooperation and of a joint endeavour for the mutual fulfilment of obligations.

Computation of Prices for Agricultural Produce on Economic Grounds

*72. CH. JAGDEEP DHANKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan or scheme to compute the prices of agricultural produce on economic grounds and give remunerative prices to the farmers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices recommends the procurement/minimum support prices for major agricultural commodities after taking a comprehensive overview of the entire economic structure of a particular commodity including factors such as, cost of production, changes in input prices, trends in market prices, demand and supply, inter-crop price parity, effect on general price level and parity between prices received and prices paid, etc. The prices recommended by the Commission are remunerative as they cover the cost of production and also provide for a reasonable margin of profit to give incentive to farmers for investment and adoption of improved technology.

[Translation]

Payment of Remunerative Prices of Foodgrains to Farmers

*73. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to

ensure payment of remunerative prices to the farmers; and

(b) the details of the prices fixed for each type of foodgrains during the last three years, year-wise and Statewise?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) As per existing policy the Government announces procurement/minimum support prices for major agricultural commodities each season and also organises price support operations through public and cooperative agencies to ensure that the farmers receive the prices fixed by the Government. For other commodities like onions,

potatoes, ginger, etc. market intervention operations are taken up on specific requests from the concerned State Governments.

(b) The procurement/minimum support prices for foodgrains are fixed for the country as a whole. Details of the prices fixed for the last three years are placed on the Table of the House.

The procurements prices of levy rice of different varietal groups are derived from the procurement prices of the respective varieties of paddy on the basis of hulling/milling ratios as well as the processing and incidental charges obtaining in different States. Statement-I, II and III giving State-wise levy rice prices are given below.

STATEMENT-I

Procurement/Minimum Support Prices

(According to Crop Year)

(Prices in Rs. per quintal)

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Variety</i>	<i>1987-88</i>	<i>1988-89</i>	<i>1989-90</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
Paddy Common	150	160	185	
	Fine	154	170	195
	Superfine	158	180	205
Coarse Cereals (jowar, bajra, maize & ragi)	FAQ	135	145	165
Wheat"	173	183	200	
Barley'	135	145	160	
Arhar (tur)		325	360	425

<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
Moong	"	325	360	425
Urad	"	325	360	425
Gram	"	290	325	370

STATEMENT-II

Procurement Price of Levy Rice for 1987-88, 1988-89 & 1989-90 Marketing Season w.e.f. 13.10.89

(Rupees per quintal)

S.No.	State	Common			Fine			Superfine		
		1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	250.15	266.05	304.15	256.50	281.85	319.90	262.85	297.85	335.65
2.	Assam	245.85	261.45	301.60	255.95	281.30	322.10	262.30	297.15	337.90
3.	Bihar	238.85	254.00	293.00	247.40	271.90	311.30	253.55	287.20	326.60
4.	Gujarat	229.40	243.90	281.25	235.20	258.40	295.70	241.00	272.90	310.20
5.	Haryana	254.75	270.85	312.05	241.90	265.85	304.35	247.90	280.80	357.25
6.	Karnataka	235.95	250.90	289.40	241.90	265.85	304.35	247.90	280.80	319.35
7.	Madhya Pradesh	243.65	259.15	298.95	249.85	274.60	314.40	256.05	290.10	329.90
8.	Orissa	230.55	266.50	307.40	256.90	282.40	323.35	263.30	298.30	339.25

(Rupees per quintal)

S.No.	State	Common			Fine			Superfine		
		1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9.	Punjab/ Chandigarh Admn.	253.55	269.50	310.50	267.80	294.10	336.35	276.45	312.90	355.45
10.	Rajasthan	246.00*	262.55	302.95	257.95*	284.55	325.80	264.35	300.60	341.85
		244.70@			256.55@			262.90@		
11.	Uttar Pradesh	237.00	251.85	290.05	242.95	266.70	304.95	254.50	287.90	327.00
12.	West Bengal	236.60	251.60	290.25	245.10	269.30	308.35	251.15	284.45	323.50
13.	Maharashtra	—	255.35	294.40	—	270.55	309.55	—	285.70	324.70
14.	Delhi Admn.	238.55	253.55	312.05	252.00	276.75	338.05	260.15	294.40	357.25
15.	Pondicherry	230.95	245.70	283.80	236.85	260.50	298.60	—	275.35	313.40

STATEMENT-III*Basmati Rice*

1989-90

(Rupees per quintal)

1. Haryana	331.15
2. Punjab/Chandigarh Administration	329.45
3. Rajasthan	316.65
4. Uttar Pradesh	303.10
5. West Bengal	299.60
6. Delhi Administration	310.00

* Applicable to millers/dealers whose turnover exceeds Rs. 75,000/-.

@ Applicable to millers/dealers whose turnover does not exceed Rs. 75,000/-.

[English]

Food Relief to Karnataka

*74. SHRI NARSING SURYAVANSHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government submitted a supplementary memorandum to Union Government in September, 1989 seeking aid for flood relief operations;

(b) if so, the action taken by Union Government on the supplementary memorandum; and

(c) the details of the assessment made by the central team of flood damages in the State?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 9.33 crore has been approved after considering the main as well as the supplementary memoranda in accordance with the established procedure.

Punjab Problem

*75. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRI ERA ANBARASU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any initiative has been taken or is proposed to be taken by Government towards settling the Punjab Problem; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An All-Party meeting on Punjab was held at New Delhi on 17th December, 1989 under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister in which a broad consensus was arrived at appealing for a fresh approach to resolve the Punjab problem on an enduring basis within the framework of the Constitution of the Republic and without compromising the unity and integrity of the country.

JKLF Activities

*76. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the activities of Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front activities are on the increase in J&K and they recently kid-

napped the daughter of the Union Home Minister;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to deal firmly with the JKLF activities?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. There has been marked increase in the activities of JKLF from April, 1988. Their activists were reportedly involved in the kidnapping of Dr. Rubaiya Sayeed on December 8, 1989. These activities are centred around subversion, militancy and secessionist propaganda in general and in particular include forcing frequent hartals and blackout, attacks on Central and State police forces, explosions in public place, arson and looting of banks, burning of bridges, killing of political personalities and workers, destruction of public properties.

(c) The Central Government are alive to the situation. Discussions have been held with Chief Minister Jammu & Kashmir to restore authority of the Administration and peace and normalcy in the State. A Cabinet sub-Committee at the Centre has also been formed to look into the various issues on Jammu & Kashmir.

Construction of Bridge on Sheonath River in Madhya Pradesh

*77. **SHRI ARVIND NETAM:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of the bridge on Sheonath river in Durg district of Madhya Pradesh has commenced; and

(b) if not the reasons for delay in starting the work?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANS-

PORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The composite project comprising of (i) a high level bridge across Sheonath river and (ii) road approaches forming bypass to Durg town on NH 6 is included in the Seventh Plan. Alignment for the bypass and the location of the new bridge have been approved. Estimate amounting to Rs. 76.37 lakhs for the acquisition of land has also been sanctioned in September, 1987 and the technical proposal has also been approved in March, 1989. Other steps like pre-qualification of contractors, preparation of detailed estimates etc. are required to be completed before commencement of the work.

[Translation]

Drought Conditions in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh

*78. **SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the southern parts of Uttar Pradesh and northern parts of Madhya Pradesh are in the grip of severe drought;

(b) if so, whether these areas have been declared drought prone areas and if not, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the details of drought relief schemes launched to combat drought in these areas?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Due to inadequate rains during south-west monsoon period of 1989, some parts of the States of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh are reported to have been affected by drought. Twenty four districts in Uttar Pradesh and sixteen districts in Madhya

Pradesh have been affected as per reports received from these two State Governments.

(b) A list of districts covered under Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) in these two States is given below.

(c) State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh are taking relief measures like provision of employment, drinking water supply, supply of agricultural inputs, power supply and postponement of realisation of agricultural dues, etc.

STATEMENT

Names of Districts covered under Drought Prone Area Programme in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh

Madhya Pradesh

1. Betul
2. Dhar
3. Jhabua
4. Khargone
5. Shahdol
6. Sidhi

Uttar Pradesh

1. Allahabad
2. Almora
3. Banda
4. Baharaich
5. Chamoli
6. Gonda

7. Hamirpur
8. Jhansi
9. Jalaun
10. Lakhimpur Kheri
11. Lalitpur
12. Mirzapur
13. Pauri Garhwal
14. Pithoragarh
15. Sitapur
16. Tehri Garhwal

[English]

Shilanyas on Disputed Land

*79. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ:
SHRI UTTAM RATHOD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the Khasra number of the plot in Ayodhya on which Vishwa Hindu Parishad was allowed to perform the Shilanyas;

(b) whether the same plot of land is under dispute; and

(c) the latest position about the settlement of the dispute?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has identified the concerned plot as Nazul

Plot No. 586. It has been reported by the State Government that according to the competent legal opinion obtained by the State Government, the said plot is a big plot and the whole of it cannot fall within the limits spelled out by the Lucknow Bench of the Allahabad High Court in its clarificatory order dated 7.11.89. It has been further reported that the District Magistrate, Faizabad, has communicated to the State Government that the site on which 'Shila Nyas' took place is not disputed in terms of clarificatory order afore-mentioned.

2. The consolidated civil suit relating to the dispute is coming up for hearing before the Lucknow Bench of Allahabad High Court on 8.1.1990.

Repairs to Madras-Visakhapatnam Section of National Highway

*80. PROF. N.G. RANGA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any report has been obtained from the concerned authorities about the parlous condition of disrepair prevailing on the National Highway between Madras-Gudur-Nellore-Guntur-Vijayawada upto Visakhapatnam, across Pennar, Krishna and Godavari rivers, especially after the recent rainy season and November cyclonic rains;

(b) whether any estimate has been made for their repairs;

(c) whether any repair works on an adequate scale are being undertaken;

(d) if so, the amount sanctioned therefore, and

(e) the authorities entrusted with the execution of the repair works and the time by which they are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Urgent repairs have been carried out and the road is in a traffic-worthy condition now.

(b) Five estimates amounting to Rs. 312 lakhs have been received during the months of November and December, 1989 from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Estimates received from the State Government in the months of November and December, 1989 are under scrutiny and yet to be approved. No amount, therefore, could be sanctioned.

(e) The State PWD is the agency for carrying out the repair works. It is too early to indicate the time by which the works projected by the State Government would be carried out.

[*Translation*]

Capacity Expansion of Fertilizer Plants

*81. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the present production capacity of the existing fertilizer plants in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Details of the proposals of the fertilizer companies in the country are given below:-

S.No.	Name of the Company/Unit	Cost (Rs. in crores)	Main features of the proposal
1	2	3	4
1.	Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (i) Durgapur (ii) Barauni (iii) Namrup-I (iv) Namrup-II	486.39	Proposal to revamp the units was received in April, 1988 to achieve 100% capacity utilisation from the existing level of about 38%. The proposal is under examination.
2.	Fertilizer Corporation of India (i) Gorakhpur (ii) Ramagundam	66.65 102.31	Proposal to revamp and technological upgradation to increase in production of Urea from 1,82,780 to 2,15,520 tonnes per annum, reduction of pollution level and energy consumption. The proposal was received in January 1986 and is in advanced stage of consideration. Rehabilitation of the unit by replacement of defective equipment and providing captive power unit. It seeks to increase the production of urea from 1,62,000 tonnes to 2,97,000 tonnes per annum. The proposal was received in September, 1988 and is in advanced stage of consideration.

S.No.	Name of the Company/Unit	Cost (Rs. in crores)	Main features of the proposal
1	2	3	4
3.	Fertilizer & Chemicals Tranvancore Limited (i) Udyogamandal	340.14	Replacement of the old existing ammonia plants of 340 TPD by a new 900 TPD plant. The proposal was received in January, 1989.
	(ii) Cochin (Phosphatics Plant)	117.65	Debottlenecking/retrofitting of phosphoric acid plant and NP plant and balancing of sulphuric acid capacity to increase the production of complex fertilizers from 460,000 tonnes to 585,000 tonnes per annum. The proposal was received in August, 1989.
4.	Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd. (i) Phulpur, Kandla & Kalol	114.41	Revamping of the units to maintain production of 19,36,000 tonnes of fertilizers per annum for the next 10-15 years, Stricter Pollution Control & Safety Standards. The proposal was received in September, 1986 and is now under implementation.
	(ii) Aónla	607.40	The proposal to double the existing capacity of ure production from 2200 tonnes to 4400 tonnes per day was received in February, 1988.

[English]

Relations with Neighbouring Countries

*82. PROF. P.J. KURIEN:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR
MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any new initiatives in improving India's relations with the neighbouring countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. India is keen to build an era of cooperation and friendship in South Asia and Government is taking steps in this regard consistent with our national interests and security.

An invitation has been extended to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Nepal to visit India from the 2nd January, 1990 for a dialogue with a view to resolve outstanding problems.

A Sri Lankan delegation headed by its Foreign Minister was received by the Government. The Sri Lankan Foreign Minister called on the Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs. All aspects of prevailing situation in Sri Lanka were discussed.

Allotment of Registration with Separate Code Numbers to Motor Vehicles

219. SHRI KALKA DAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether registration number with separate code numbers are required to be allotted to motor vehicles from various Trans-

port Authority Offices in Delhi under the Motor Vehicles Act 1988 and rules made thereunder;

(b) if so, whether this provision is being implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Delhi Administration has intimated that all legal requirements having been completed, implementation of the schemes would commence from Mid January, 1990, synchronising registration system with lumpsum one-time tax collection.

Opening of Post Offices in Kerala

220. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new Post Offices which are proposed to be opened in Kerala during the current year;

(b) how many of them will be in Cannanore, Wyanad and Calicut Districts and what are the details of the proposed locations;

(c) whether representations have been received from Cannanore, Wyanad and Calicut Districts requesting for setting up of more Post Offices/Branch Post Offices in those Districts; and

(d) if so, the response of Government to each of these requests?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) It is proposed to open 6 new post offices in

Kerala during 1989-90 subject to approval by Ministry of Finance.

(b) The proposed Post Offices are in the districts of Kottayam, Malapuram, Idikki and Pathanamthitta. There are no proposals at present in respect of Cannanore, Wyanad and Calicut districts.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) These representations are under consideration.

Cooperative Societies in Delhi

221. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Cooperative Societies in Delhi have not held mandatory Annual General Meeting and elections in accordance with Rule 62 of Delhi Cooperative Societies Rules, 1973 during the last three cooperative years;

(b) whether the office bearers of many societies held office for more than two consecutive terms in violation of Sec. 30 (5) (a) of the Delhi Cooperative Societies Act 1972;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action initiated against the erring societies; and

(d) if no action has been taken, the

reasons for the delay?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (d). For the last three years, 793 cooperative societies in Delhi have not held the Annual General Meetings. In 50 societies, office bearers have exceeded two terms. In all such cases, necessary action in accordance with the provisions of the Delhi Cooperative Societies Act, 1972 and the Rules there under, has been initiated by the Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Delhi.

Amount Spent Under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana

222. SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana during the financial year 1989-90 so far, statewise;

(b) the amounts actually disbursed by Union Government during 1989-90 statewise; and

(c) the share contributed by each State Government?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (c). Requisite information is given in the statement below.

STATEMENT

Statement Indicating State/UTS Wise Details of Expenditure Incurred so far. Resources Released by the Union Government and Funds Released by the States under Jawahar Rozgar Jojana During 1989-90.

Sl.No.	States /UTS	Expenditure Incurred *	Resources Released by the Union Govt. **	Funds Released by the State
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6488.05	15455.61	3863.90
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	41.74	245.72	31.35
3.	Assam	935.84	4223.12	405.60
4.	Bihar	10631.57	30969.53	2339.00
5.	Goa	114.82	303.00	75.75
6.	Gujarat	2393.78	6363.83	1590.96
7.	Haryana	765.98	1538.11	384.53
8.	Himachal Pradesh	386.96	922.80	138.42
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	582.99	1346.19	303.00
10.	Karnataka	2986.00	9674.86	2418.72
11.	Kerala	1274.74	5255.99	1314.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	6199.96	20495.03	4705.44
13.	Maharashtra	5700.81	16555.12	1908.00
14.	Manipur	256.04	353.38	12.05

Sl.No.	States /UTs	(Rs. in Lakhs)		
		Expenditure Incurred *	Resources Released by the Union Govt. **	Funds Released by the State
1	2	3	4	5
15.	Meghalaya	65.47	366.50	35.19
16.	Mizoram	40.42	149.93	17.67
17.	Nagaland	164.40	403.99	77.76
18.	Orissa	3290.92	10124.65	2531.16
19.	Punjab	1055.78	1286.93	321.73
20.	Rajasthan	4599.17	10075.39	1517.23
21.	Sikkim	92.02	158.26	35.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	12472.13	13877.15	2075.63
23.	Tripura	232.78	433.14	108.28
24.	Uttar Pradesh	19204.01	41364.90	10341.23
25.	West Bengal	12017.06	17288.13	4285.54
26.	A & N Islands	26.01	164.80	N.A.
27.	Chandigarh	7.13	40.77	N.A.

Sl.No.	States /UTS	(Rs. in Lakhs)		
		Expenditure Incurred *	Resources Released by the Union Govt. **	Funds Released by the State
1	2	3	4	5
28.	D & N Havelli	37.71	83.80	N.A.
29.	Delhi	13.06	52.40	N.A.
30.	Daman & Diu	51.88	187.42	N.A.
31.	Lakshadweep	44.80	81.75	N.A.
32.	Pondicherry	139.99	157.80	N.A.
		92314.02	210000.00	40837.14

* Including value of foodgrains at subsidised rates

** Including value of foodgrains at central issue price

N.A. Not applicable

[*Translation*]

**Supply of Spurious Insecticides to
Farmers in Bihar**

223. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that farmers in Bihar are supplied spurious insecticides under popular brand names; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) No specific reports have been received regarding the supply of spurious insecticides under popular brand names to the farmers in Bihar. However, sample analysis statistics do reveal that about 20 to 25% samples drawn for analysis were sub-standard.

(b) The State has been advised to tighten the quality control arrangements and to strengthen its laboratory facilities to have an effective monitoring of quality of pesticides.

[*English*]

**Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Units
in Eastern Region**

224. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the growing demand of fertilizers in the Eastern Region Government are considering renovation of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation's units located in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). M/s. Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation (HFC) has an operating plant at Durgapur and a project at Haldia in West Bengal. A proposal for revamping the Durgapur plant with a view to improving its capacity utilisation to 100% at an estimated cost of Rs. 171.30 crores, is under consideration.

As the Haldia project could not be commissioned due to frequent equipment break-downs, a proposal to rehabilitate its Nitrophosphate group of plants has been approved, in principle, in the first instance. Although the demand for fertilizers in the eastern region is being met, improvement of performance of these plants will augment production and availability of fertilizers.

**Pending Claims under Comprehensive
Crop Insurance Scheme**

225. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of claims under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme pending payment and amount involved, State-wise;

(b) whether there is deep resentment among the farmers for the inordinate delay in settling their claims; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for speedy settlement of the claims and to avoid recurrence of delay in future?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) upto the end of Rabi 88-89 season, claims of Rs. 585.54

crore were payable out of which claims of Rs. 571.65 crore have been paid so far. The balance claims of Rs. 13.89 crore are yet to

be paid. The details of the claims pending for payment are as follows:

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>Total claims yet to be paid (Rs. in lacs)</i>
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30.65
2.	Assam	1.68
3.	Bihar	71.73
4.	Gujarat	62.04
5.	Himachal Pradesh	5.02
6.	J & K	64.89
7.	Madhya Pradesh	307.52
8.	Maharashtra	490.70
9.	Orissa	44.51
10.	Tamil Nadu	22.14
11.	West Bengal	287.97
12.	Pondicherry	0.04
Total :		1388.89

or say 13.89 crore.

(b) Larger budgetary requirements on account of unexpectedly high claims, the procedure involved in verification and settlement of such claims, and delayed release of State Governments' share, sometimes come in the way of speedy settlement of claims.

(c) State Governments have been advised to send yield data in time and also release their 1/3rd share expeditiously to avoid delay.

Fencing on Indo-Pak Border

226. SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of the Indo-Pakistan border (also the length in J&K, other than the inter-national border) under various sectors;

(b) the length in each of the sector

which has been selected for fencing and the date of completion of each sector;

(c) how much has been completed and the expenditure so incurred;

(d) the position about the rest of the stretches in each of the above sectors especially along the line of actual control in J&K; and

(e) in which stretches multi-purpose identity cards have been issued and when the cards would be issued in rest of the border areas?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) According to available information, the length of the Indo-Pak border in various sectors is as follows:

i)	Gujarat	:	512 Kms. (including 104 Kms coastal border)
ii)	Rajasthan	:	1035 Kms.
iii)	Punjab	:	554 Kms.
iv)	J&K	:	210 Kms. (International border)
		:	790 Kms. (Line of Control)

(b) to (d). Fencing has been undertaken in selected stretches of the border in Punjab and Rajasthan sectors. The details of sectors and lengths selected for fencing are as follows:

i)	Punjab Sector	:	120.0 Kms.
ii)	Rajasthan Sector	:	58.8 Kms.

The entire fencing of 120 Kms. in Punjab sector has been completed. Out of 58.8 Kms. of fencing in Rajasthan Sector, 56.9 Kms. has been completed as on 10.12.89 and the remaining 1.9 Kms. in Rajasthan Sector is likely to be completed by December 31, 1989. The total expenditure on fencing upto 30.11.1989 is as follows:

i)	Punjab Sector	:	Rs. 1890.46 Lakhs
ii)	Rajasthan Sector	:	Rs. 832.84 Lakhs
- Total		:	Rs. 2723.30 Lakhs

(e) The Identity Cards have been issued in Ganganagar, Barmer, Bikaner and Jaisalmer districts of Rajasthan and Kutch Banaskantha districts of Gujarat. There is no decision at present to extend it to other areas on the border.

Appraisal of Drought Prone Areas

227. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on Drought Prone Areas Programme since its inception;

(b) whether a comprehensive appraisal of the Programme was undertaken by the Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission; and

(c) the success achieved in containing recurring drought situation in various states?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Expenditure of Rs. 1085.81 crores has been incurred under the programme

since inception upto September, 1989.

(b) No comprehensive appraisal of the programme has yet been made. But Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission has now taken up an evaluation of this programme.

(c) A few evaluation studies carried out in relation to some sectoral schemes in specific districts earlier have indicated that their impact was localised.

**National Highway Development
Schemes in Tamil Nadu**

228. DR. THAMBI DURAI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the various schemes contemplated for Tamil Nadu under the National Highways Development Programme

including the financial allocations and time schedule of the proposed schemes;

(b) whether Nagapattinam-Gudalur National Highway Scheme, via Tiruchirapalli and Karur has been included in the development programme; and

(c) if so, the proposed allocation for this scheme and the likely date of completion of the work?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) The details of various works proposed to be taken during 1989-90 in Tamil Nadu under NH Programme are indicated in the statement below.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. This is a State Road and no allocation for this road is made by the Central Government.

STATEMENT

List of new works included in the Demands for Grants during 1989-90.

S.No.	Name of work	Estimated/Sanctioned cost (Rs. lakhs)	Allocation of funds as per Demand for Grants 89-90 (Rs. lakhs)	Likely date of completion as per the sanctioned letter	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Widening to four lanes of NH-45.	120.00	10.00	March 1993	
2.	Coimbatore bypass Km. 70-27/0 on NH 47	140.00	0.50	—	Not yet sanctioned
3.	Survey and Investigation on NHS	48.00	2.00	December 1990	
4.	Strengthening single lane to 2 lane Km. 40-52/8 of NH.5	100.00	8.00	—	Not yet sanctioned
5.	Widening/strengthening single lane to two lane in Km. 170/0-180/0 of NH.49	100.00	5.00	—	— do—
6.	Strengthening weak 2-lane sections Km. 70/0-133/4 of NH.4.	670.00	100.00	—	— do—
7.	Improvement to junctions geometrics, road signs, side drains, wayside amenities, protective works, realignment LA, NH-S & I etc.	200.00	20.00	March 1991	Estimates aggregating to about Rs. 70 lakhs for these items have been sanctioned.

S.No.	Name of work	Estimated/Sanctioned cost (Rs. lakhs)	Allocation of funds as per Demand for Grants 89-90 (Rs. lakhs)	Likely date of completion as per the sanctioned letter	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Tamraporani bridge at Km. 12/8 of NH 7	280.00	50.00	—	Estimate yet to be sanctioned
9.	ROB at Variambady Pyepass of NH46	200.00	50.00	—	—do—
10.	Bridge at Km. 271/2 on NH 7	100.00	50.00	—	—do—
11.	Ponnai bridge on NH 4	310.00	50.00	—	—do—
12.	ROB on Karur byepass on NH 47	87.00	40.00	—	—do—
13.	Kuzhithurai bridge at Km. 604/4 of NH 47	200.00	50.00	—	—do—
14.	Adyar bridge on NH 45	60.00	20.00	—	—do—
15.	Bridge at Km. 49/6 on NH 46	43.50	40.00	—	—do—

S.No.	Name of work	Estimated/Sanctioned cost (Rs. lakhs)	Allocation of funds as per Demand for Grants 89-90 (Rs. lakhs)	Likely date of completion as per the sanctioned letter	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Bridge at Km. 4/2 on Vellore bypass on NH 46	35.00	25.00	—	—do—
17.	Other 21 works costing less than Rs. 25 lacs collectively	134.81	160.00	—	—

[*Translation*]

Adulteration in Fertilizers

229. SHRI RAM LAL RAHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints from the States about large scale adulteration of fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). No, Sir. No complaints about the large scale adulteration of fertilizers were received by the Government of India from States. However, a few complaints of specific cases were received from the States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana and the Union territory of Delhi during 1989-90.

(c) The complaints received from the States of Bihar and Madhya Pradesh have been referred to the State Governments for inquiry and taking appropriate action under the provisions of the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985. The complaint relating to the Union Territory of Delhi was not found to be correct. In case of a complaint received from Haryana, action has been initiated against the manufacturer whose sample was found to be non-standard.

[*English*]

Improvement of National Highway Connecting Calcutta with Bangladesh Borders

230. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for the improvement of the National Highway connecting Calcutta with Bangladesh borders running through the district of North 24 Parganas in West Bengal;

(b) whether there is any proposal for construction of a permanent bridge over the river Ichhamati, at Bongaon, in place of the existing Pontoon bridge; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) The Road link from Calcutta to Bangladesh Border falls partly on two-lane National Highway 34 upto Barasat (23 Kms.) and thereafter on single lane National Highway 35 (59.8 Kms.). National Highway 34 is in a satisfactory condition and for improving National Highway 35, in the 7th plan, there is a provision for strengthening/widening of a length of 20 Kms. Widening and strengthening work has been sanctioned for 7.3 Kms. out of which 3 Kms. have been completed. Technical data for another 12 Kms. have been approved and the estimate is awaited from the State Government. Two works for construction of culverts and miscellaneous works have been approved at a cost of about Rs. 6 lakhs and progress achieved so far is 90% and 65% respectively.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The work has been included in the current year's programme and other steps like location of the new bridge, sanction of estimate for survey and investigation and clearance of technical proposal have also been taken.

Fall in Price of Onion in Maharashtra

231. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the onion prices have come

down from Rs. 250/- to Rs. 90/- per quintal in some districts of Maharashtra;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have received any proposals for purchase of onions under the Market Intervention Scheme to save farmers from heavy losses; and

(d) the details of the time bound programme launched in this regard?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) The onion prices which were ruling in the range of Rs. 60/- Rs. 286/- per quintal depending upon the quality of onion during the first fortnight of November, 1989 came down to the level of Rs. 40/- Rs. 146/- per quintal during the first fortnight of December, 1989 in some districts of Maharashtra.

(b) The State Government has reported that there has been a bumper crop of onion on account of adequate back-up services and favourable climate.

(c) and (d). The Central Government have not received any proposal for purchases of onion under the Market Intervention Scheme. However, National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) is making commercial purchases of onion in Maharashtra according to its requirements.

Jawahar Rozgar Yojana

232. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). The Jawahar Rozgar Yojana is under review and there are proposals for restructuring the programme to achieve the objectives of employment guarantee.

Modernisation of Telegraph Office at Jajpur (Orissa)

233. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for upgradation, modernisation and addition of more TP machines as well as connections to different Stations of Telegraph Office at the Sub-Divisional Headquarters of Jajpur (Cuttack District of Orissa);

(b) if so, the details there of and steps proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(c) the names of the stations to which Jajpur Telegraph Office is proposed to be connected directly in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) The existing Teleprinter circuit at Jajpur Telegraph Office is adequate to handle the present traffic. However, this Telegraph office is proposed to be connected to the electronic Store and Forward Message Systems as part of Telegraph Modernisation programme.

(b) A 32 Line Store and Forward System is planned for installation in Cuttack.

(c) Most of the important cities and towns of the country on the Store and forward Network will become available to Jajpur Telegraph Office on direct links on installation of the Store and Forward Systems.

**Postal and Public Call Office Facilities
In Rural Areas of Orissa**

234. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to diversify and extend postal facilities in the remote rural areas of Orissa State;

(b) whether in spite of public demand for a long time, the opening of Branch Post Offices at Barunia (Barchana Block) Pubasahi (Dasarathpur Block) and providing PCO facility at Bidyadharpur Branch Post Office (under Dhanmandal Sub Office) have not been done; and

(c) if so, the time by which a decision will be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Proposals for opening of Branch Post Office at Barunia (Barchana Block) and Pubasahi (Dasarathpur Block) are under examination.

The case for providing PCO facility at Bidyadharpur Branch Post Office (under Dhanmandal Sub Office) has been examined and it was found that the provision of facility on subsidised basis at the above Post Office is not justified as per the existing policy of the Department of Telecommunications.

(c) Proposals for opening of Post Offices will be finalised in due course.

**Arrest of 'Fugitives from Law' in
Pakistan**

235. SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM: Will

the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of apprehending and repatriating "fugitives from law" is under discussion between the CBI of India and FIA of Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of Government of Pakistan in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). In the third round of India-Pakistan Home/Interior Secretary level talks held in Islamabad in May, 89, a decision was taken for cooperative arrangements between FIA of Pakistan and CBI of India on apprehending and repatriating 'fugitives from Law'. In pursuance of this decision, a meeting has been held between FIA and CBI in August 89 and decisions relating to strengthening of the communication facility between the two agencies, arriving at a connotation of the phrase 'fugitives from law', preparation and adoption of a format for exchange of information and submission of names of 'fugitive from law' to each other and follow up were taken.

Both FIA and CBI agreed that information relating to 'fugitives from law' furnished in the agreed format will be acted upon promptly and steps taken for handing over of such 'fugitives from law' in the manner indicated at the Islamabad Talks of May, 1989.

**Proposal to Allow Free Travel to
Students by Delhi Transport Corporation**

236. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to allow free travel in Delhi Transport Corporation buses in Delhi to all students on the basis of their identity cards; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Do not arise.

Statehood to Delhi

237 SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to grant complete Statehood to Delhi with a legislative assembly;

(b) if so, the broad features of the new set up; and

(c) the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) to (c). The Committee submitted its Report to the Government only on the 14th December, 1989, and it is presently under examination.

Promotion of Prawn Cultivation In Karnataka

238. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great scope for promoting prawn cultivation in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether Government have set up any prawn hatchery in Karnataka; and

(d) if so, the results achieved so far?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). The estimated potential for development of brackishwater aquaculture in Karnataka is about 8,000 ha. For judicious utilisation of these resources for promotion of prawn farming a Brackishwater Fish Farmers' Development Agency (BFDA) has been set up in Uttara Kannada district during 1988-89, with jurisdiction to cover Dakshina Kannada district also. This BFDA would bring under prawn farming about 50 ha. area per annum on full development by providing the requisite financial, technical and extension support to the beneficiaries.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Integrated Brackishwater Fish Farm Development', a prawn hatchery has been sanctioned during 1989-90 at Kumta in Uttara Kannada at a total cost of Rs. 33.25 lakh for producing 10 million post larva-20 of tiger prawn per annum. Construction of this hatchery is in progress.

Construction of Fishing Harbours along Karnataka Coast

239. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken up the construction of some fishing harbours in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of fishing harbours

commissioned so far;

(d) the amount of central assistance released to Karnataka for the construction of fishing harbours; and

(e) the details of the progress made in

the construction work?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the fishery harbours sanctioned for Karnataka are given below:

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Harbour</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)</i>
1	2	3	4
1.	Karwar	Uttara Kannada	29.60
2.	Malpe	Dakshina Kannada	426.00
3.	Honnavar	Uttara Kannada	75 00
4.	Mangalore	Dakshina Kannada	99 95
5.	Tadri	Uttara Kannada	687.82

(c) The following fishery harbours have been commissioned.

Karwar

Malpe

Honnavar

(d) Plan-wise release of Central assistance to Government of Karnataka for the construction of fishery harbours is given below.

<i>Plan</i>	<i>Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)</i>
4th Plan	40.90
5th Plan	184.03
Annual Plan 1978-79	95.53
6th Plan	62.50
7th Plan	41.26

(e) The fishery harbours at Karwar, Malpe and Honnavar, have been commissioned. The fishery harbours at Mangalore and Tadri are under construction. The progress of works at Mangalore fishery harbour is 50 per cent. The fishery harbour at Tadri is nearing completion.

Digital Transmission between Cities in India and Pakistan

240. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to introduce digital transmission between some cities of India and Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the details of different cities in both the countries identified therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICA-

TIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Amritsar and Lahore.

Regularisation of Extra Departmental Employees

241. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problem of the extra departmental (ED) postal employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to regularise their services?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) From time to time Extra Departmental Agents have made two major demands. These are (i) payment of pro-rata wages to EDAs and (ii) absorption of ED Agents in the Departmental cadres. A Committee went into the working of the Extra Departmental System including the remuneration to be paid to them. Taking into account the recommendations of this Committee various categories of Extra Departmental employees have been equated to corresponding categories of Departmental officials and they are allowed pro-rata wages based on their workload and the hours of work they have to put in. As regards the second main demand relating to the absorption in the departmental cadres, it may be stated that all vacancies in Group 'D' cadres and 50% of the vacancies in the cadre of Postmen are filled from the ranks of ED employees by means of an

examination. Thus preferential treatment is already available to them in recruitment to Group 'D' and Postmen Posts.

(c) Does not arise.

Punishment to Communal Rioters

242. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps Government propose to take to punish the criminals of all communal riots including those who took part in Delhi riots in 1984?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): Action is taken by the concerned authorities in accordance with the law of the land in such matters. Details about the action taken against November '84 rioters in Delhi is as follows as on 15th December, 1989:

1.	Number of case	—	225
2.	Casts resulted in conviction—		11
3.	Cases resulted in acquittal—		75
4.	Cases discharged	—	7
5.	Cases decided other wise— withdrawn, consigned to Record Room etc.	—	14
6.	Cases pending	—	118

President's Assent to State Bills

243. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of the Bills pending, as on 1

November, 1989, with Union Government
for President's assent, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): A
statement giving the details of the State Bills
received for the President's assent and
pending as on 1 November, 1989, is given
below.

STATEMENT

S.No.	Date of receipt	Name of the Bill	Present position
1	2	3	4
ANDHRA PRADESH (4)			
1.	24.2.87	Andhra Pradesh Exhibition of Films of Television Screen through Video Cassette Recorders(Regulation) Bill, 1987	Pending with State Government since 10.5.88
2.	27.4.89	Andhra Pradesh Forest Produce (Fixation of selling price)	Received President's assent on 10.11.89
3.	27.10.89	The A.P. Agricultural Indebtedness (Relief) Amendment Bill, 1989.	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
4.	1.11.89	Motor Vehicles (AP Amendment) Bill, 1989	Under examination in consultation with the concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
ARUNACHAL PRADESH (2)			
5.	8.9.89	The Arunachal Pradesh Ancient Monuments Archaeological Sites & Remains Preservation Bill, 1987.	Under examination in consultation with the concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
6.	4.7.89	The Arunachal Pradesh Prevention of Corruption Amendment Bill, 1989	Under examination in consultation with the concerned administrative Ministries /Departments.

S.No.	Date of receipt	Name of the Bill	Present position
1	2	3	4
ASSAM (6)			
7.	9.6.87	Assam Fixation of Ceiling on Land Holdings (Amendment) Bill, 1986.	Pending with State Government since 6.1.89
8.	15.6.87	The Assam Physically Handicapped Persons (Employment in Factories) Bill, 1986	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
9.	16.11.87	The Assam (Prohibition of Transfer of Agricultural Land to Non-Agriculturists) Bill, 1987	Pending with State Government since 12.7.89
10.	20.3.89	The Assam Industrial Establishments (Conferment of Permanent Status) to Workment Bill, 1985.	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
11.	26.7.89	The Guwahati Metropolitan Development Authority (Amendment) Bill, 1989.	Received President's assent on 10.11.89
12.	8.8.89	The Assam Highways Bill, 1989. BIHAR (4)	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
13.	6.10.87	Bihar Debt Relief (Amendment) Bill, 1987	Pending with State Government since 20.2.89
14.	17.2.88	The Motor Vehicles (Bihar Amendment) Bill, 1988.	Under examination in consultation with the concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
15.	17.2.88	The Bihar and Orissa Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1988.	Pending with State Government since 5.6.89

S.No.	Date of receipt	Name of the Bill	Present position
1	2	3	4
16.	4.10.89	Bihar Land Reforms Amendment Bill, 1989.	Pending with State Government since 5.10.89.
		GOA (5)	
17.	19.10.87	The Goa Change of Name and Surname Bill, 1987.	Pending with State Government since 7.7.88
18.	1.7.88	The Goa Essential Services Maintenance Bill, 1988.	Received President's assent on 28.11.89
19.	1.7.88	The Goa Industrial Development (Amendment) Bill 1988.	Pending with State Government since 18.8.89
20.	6.4.89	The Goa Prevention of Defacement of Property Bill, 1988	Pending with State Government since 11.10.89
21.	9.5.89	The Goa Public Men Corruption (Investigations and Inquiries) Bill, 1988	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
		HARYANA (5)	
22.	22.4.87	The Indian Electricity (Haryana Amendment) Bill, 1987.	Pending with State Government since 9.12.87
23.	9.5.88	Kurukshetra University (Amendment) Bill, 1988.	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
24.	9.5.88	Maharishi Dayanand University (Amendment) Bill, 1988	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
25.	17.4.89	The Indian Electricity (Haryana Amendment) Bill, 1989.	Pending with State Government since 18.5.89.

S.No.	Date of receipt	Name of the Bill	Present position
1	2	3	4
26.	3.5.89	The Haryana Urban Development Authority (Amendment) Bill, 1989.	Pending with State Government since 13.10.89.
27.	11.2.87	HIMACHAL PRADESH (1) The Essential Commodities (Himachal Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 1986.	Pending with State Government since 23.3.89
28.	10.8.84	KARNATAKA (5) The Karnataka Education Bill, 1983.	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
29.	20.6.86	The Karnataka Fishing Harbour Terminal Authority Bill, 1986	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
30.	30.6.87	The Karnataka Tax on Entry of Goods into Local Areas for Consumption, Use or Sale therein (Second Amendment) Bill, 1987.	Pending with State Government since 6.10.88.
31.	2.6.88	The Karnataka Resettlement of Project Displaced Persons Bill, 1987	Pending with State Govt. since 6.11.89.
32.	5.4.89	The Land Acquisition (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 1989	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.

S.No.	Date of receipt	Name of the Bill	Present position
1	2	3	4
KERALA (2)			
33.	11.9.89	Kerala Land Reforms (Second Amendment) Bill, 1989	Under Examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
34.	12.10.89	Kerala Casual Temporary and Badli workers (Wages) Bill, 1989	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
MADHYA PRADESH (1)			
35.	4.12.87	Madhya Pradesh Ayurvigyan Parishad Vidheyak, 1987	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
MAHARASHTRA (1)			
36.	4.8.87	Maharashtra Agriculture Lands (Ceiling on Holdings and Valodatory Provisions) (Amendment) Bill, 1987.	Pending with State Govt. since 15.12.88
MANIPUR (6)			
37.	11.12.87	The Manipur Exhibition of Video Films (Regulation) Bill, 1987	Pending with State Govt. since 20.7.88
38.	6.12.88	Manipur Lotteries Control Bill, 1988.	Pending with State Govt. since 12.9.89
39.	6.12.88	Manipur Public Libraries Bill, 1988.	Pending with State Govt. since 2.5.89.

S.No.	Date of receipt	Name of the Bill	Present position
1	2	3	4
40.	16.5.89	Manipur Fisheries Bill, 1989.	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
41.	11.9.89	Manipur Societies Registration Bill, 89	Pending with State Govt. since 1.12.89.
42.	11.9.89	Manipur Home Guards Bill, 1989.	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
		MEGHALAYA (2)	
43.	4.2.87	The Meghalaya Urban Planning and Development Authority Bill, 1986.	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
44.	25.2.88	The Meghalaya Medical Council Bill, 1987.	Pending with State Govt. since 18.7.88.
		ORISSA (3)	
45.	20.12.88	Orissa Essential Services (Maintenance) Bill, 1988.	Pending with State Govt. since 10.7.89
46.	7.6.89	The Orissa Minerals (Prevention of theft Smuggling and other Unlawful Activities) Bill, 1988.	Received President's assent on 6.11.89
47.	28.6.89	The Orissa Land Reforms (Amendment) Bill, 1989	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.

S.No.	Date of receipt	Name of the Bill	Present position
1	2	3	4
RAJASTHAN (1)			
48.	23.5.84	The Jodhpur University (Change of Name and Amendment) Bill, 1984.	Pending with State Govt. since 5.4.89
SIKKIM (2)			
49.	1.11.89	Sikkim Alienation of Land (Regulation) Bill, 1989	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Depts.
50.	1.11.89	Sikkim Transfer of Land (Regulation) Bill, 1989.	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Depts.
TAMIL NADU (9)			
51.	16.2.83	The Tamil Nadu Recognition of State Register of Practitioners of Indian Medicine Bill, 1983.	Pending with State Govt. since 9.6.83.
52.	17.5.83	The Tamil Nadu Tax on Entry of Goods into Local Areas for consumption, use or sale therein Bill, 1983.	Pending with State Govt. since 14.7.88
53.	2.8.85	The Tamil Nadu Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 1985.	Pending with State Govt. since 21.10.86
54.	29.5.86	The Madras Race Club (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) (Amendment) Bill, 1986	Under examination consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.

S.No.	Date of receipt	Name of the Bill	Present position
1	2	3	4
55.	30.6.87	The Tamil Nadu Motor Vehicles (Cancellation of Driving Licence for wilful obstruction of traffic during strike/demonstration protest) Bill, 1987.	Pending with State Govt. since 20.11.89
56.	30.5.89	Hindu Succession Tamil Nadu Amendment Bill, 1989.	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
57.	9.6.89	The Dr. M.G.R. Medical University Tamil Nadu (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 1989.	Pending with State Govt. since 1.9.89
58.	9.6.89	The Tamil Nadu Cultivating Tenants (Protection from Eviction) Bill, 1989.	Received President's assent on 24.11.89
59.	12.6.89	The Land Acquisition (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Bill, 1989.	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
TRIPURA (2)			
60.	28.11.88	Tripura Inland Fisheries Bill, 1986.	Pending with State Govt. since 20.2.89
61.	1.8.89	Tripura Agricultural produce Markets (Second Amendment) Bill, 1989.	Pending with State Govt. since 30.11.89.

No.	Date of receipt	Name of the Bill	Present position
1	2	3	4
UTTAR PRADESH (2)			
62.	16.5.88	Uttar Pradesh Regulation of Buildings and Use of Land (Nuclear Installations) (Amendment) Bill, 1988.	Pending with State Govt. since 20.6.89.
63.	26.10.89	The UP Laws (Extension of Territories Transferred from Haryana) Bill, 1989.	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
WEST BENGAL (10)			
64.	22.11.83	The Trade Union (West Bengal Amendment) Bill, 1983	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
65.	21.5.84	The Calcutta University (Amendment) Bill, 1984.	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
66.	4.11.86.	The Land Acquisition (West Bengal Amendment) Bill, 1986.	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
67.	16.8.88	The Code of Criminal Procedure (West Bengal (Amendment) Bill, 1988.	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
68.	5.6.89	The Rabindra Cultural Institution (Taking over of Management) (Amendment) Bill, 1989.	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
69.	27.6.89	The Bengal Medical (Amendment) Bill, 1989.	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.

S.No.	Date of receipt	Name of the Bill	Present position
1	2	3	4
70.	30.6.89	The Great Eastern Hotel (Acquisition of Undertakings) Amendment Bill, 1989.	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.
71.	30.6.89	The West Bengal Medical Council (Temporary Suppression) (Amendment) Bill, 1989.	Received President's assent on 1.12.89
72.	27.9.89	The Industrial Disputes (West Bengal) Bill, 1989	Received President's assent on 25.11.89
73..	11.10.89	The West Bengal Mazdoor Tindal Leader, Godownmen and other workers (Regulation of Employment and Welfare) (Amendment) Bill, 1989.	Under examination in consultation with concerned administrative Ministries/Departments.

Panel to Clear Ship Purchases on the Spot

244. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a panel to clear ship purchases on the spot; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). The Government set up in April, 1987 a Ship Acquisition Licensing Committee Chaired by Secretary (Surface Transport) to consider and recommend ship acquisition proposals by Private Sector shipping companies. This Committee meets every month and normally decision of the Government is communicated to the applicant company within 45 days.

As far as clearance of ship purchases by Public Sector shipping companies is concerned, the procedure prescribed by Government for Public Sector Undertakings is being followed.

Reservation of Berths at Ports for Maritime Cellular Vessels of International Shipping Lines

245. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering proposals for the immediate reservation of berths at the ports for maritime cellular vessels of International Shipping Lines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). The following 24 cities and towns in Karnataka are likely to be provided with S.T.D. facility during 1990-91:-

PORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). A proposal has been received from Madras Port Trust requesting for Government's approval for a Scheme for providing reservation to mainline vessels of international as well as Indian Shipping Lines. The salient features of the scheme are:-

- (1) The Shipping Company will have to intimate 90 days in advance the specific date of arrival and will have to pay the reservation fees in advance;
- (2) An agreement will be entered into between the Port and the Shipping Lines in which the latter will have to guarantee an annual throughput;
- (3) Additional gantry cranes will be provided on extra payment;
- (4) Scheme will be on an experimental basis for one year.

S.T.D. Facility in Karnataka

246. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cities in Karnataka which are likely to be provided with S.T.D. facility during 1990-91; and

(b) the names of those cities?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). The following 24 cities and towns in Karnataka are likely to be provided with S.T.D. facility during 1990-91:-

Ankola, Arsikere, Bailhongal, Basavakalyan, Challakere, Chikkodi, Gokak,

Honnagar, Hunsur, Jamkhandi, Kurta, Kushalnagar, Karkala, Kollegal, Mulky, Moodabidri, Maddur, Pavagada, Padubidri, Sira, Srirangapatna, Sankeshwar Shahabad, Yadgiri.

Public Telephone Booths in Delhi

247. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of public telephone booths in Delhi;

(b) how many of those have STD facility;

(c) the total income from these booths annually;

(d) whether Government propose to increase public telephone booths in the capital; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). The total number of public telephone booths in Delhi as on 30th November, 1989 is 5279. Out of these, 41 have STD facility.

(c) Rs. 2,00,21,815/- for the year 1988-89.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. It is proposed to improve the position substantially in the coming years.

Linking of Manali with Delhi by STD

248. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to link Manali with Delhi by STD; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Manali is proposed to be planned for S.T.D. facility during the Eighth Plan period.

Modernisation of Postal Services

249. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to expand and modernise the postal services in the country during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) if so, the schemes drawn up, if any, in that regard, State-wise;

(c) the amount earmarked or estimated for implementing those schemes in that plan period; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) *Modernisation*:- The Department of Posts has some proposals to modernise the services through use of technology.

(b) *Expansion*:- Preliminary exercises have been carried at the Departmental level to project the expansion of the postal network during the Eighth Plan. Specific schemes can be formulated only after this preliminary approach of the Eighth Plan is approved by Finance Ministry and Planning

Commission, and the objectives and strategies are spelt out.

(c) Modernisation has necessarily to be a continuous process. However the magnitude of investment required for the next 5 years for the programme now under consideration would be approximately Rs. 220 crores.

(d) In view of (c) above, does not arise.

Establishment of Krishi Vigyan Kendra in Jhunjhunu District (Rajasthan)

250. CH. JAGDEEP DHANKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan for establishing a Krishi Vigyan Kendra in Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Sanction has been issued to the Vice-Chancellor, Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner for establishing a Krishi Vigyan Kendra at Village Buhana, Jhunjhunu on 12.10.1989.

Pakistan support to Terrorist Activities in J&K

251. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ:
SHRI ARVIND NETAM:
SHRI DINESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take up with the Pakistan Government the matter regarding their support to the terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir State; and

(b) if so, when and at what level?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) and (b). There have been three rounds of talks between Union Home Secretary and Interior Secretary of Pakistan on various issues including issues relating to terrorism. The next round of talks is likely to be held in near future.

[Translation]

Increase in the capacity of Almora and Pithoragarh Telephone Exchanges

252. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the capacity of Almora and Pithoragarh Telephone Exchanges in U.P. during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the extent to which this capacity would be increased; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) In case of—

i) Almora: No Sir.

ii) Pithoragarh: Yes, Sir.

(b) In case of;

i) Almora: No addition.

ii) Pithoragarh 100 lines.

(c) At Almora, the exchange is of im-

ported variety and further import of this type of equipment has been dropped. Indigenous Digital Electronic Exchange system has now been developed and the existing exchange will be replaced by indigenous equipment depending upon availability.

Amendment to New Motor Vehicles Act

253. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received requests from various organisations for amending the new Motor Vehicles Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are contemplating to amend the Act in the light of those requests; and

(d) if so, the specific provisions proposed to be modified?

THE MINISTER FOR SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISSH-NAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Numerous requests and representations have been received.

(b) Suggestions received are given in the statement below.

(c) and (d). Government will closely examine all relevant aspects and suggestions received by the Govt. in this regard.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Section No.</i>	<i>Brief Subject</i>	<i>Suggestion</i>
1	2	3	4
1.	2 (14)	Definition of "Goods Carriage"	Suggestion is that the cranes should be exempted from the purview of this section.
2.	2 (18)	Definition of "Transport Vehicle"	Suggestion is that the road rollers should be exempted from the purview of Motor Vehicles Act.
3.	7 (1) (a)	Issue of Learner's licence for heavy goods vehicle on possession of experience in driving light or medium motor vehicles for specified periods.	Modification has been sought for issue of heavy goods vehicle licence without insisting on experience in driving of light or medium motor vehicles.
4.	9 (5)	Where an applicant does not pass the test of competence, he shall not be qualified to reappear for such test in the case of first three occasions before the period of one month from the date of last such test and after first three tests before the period of one year from the date of last such test.	Suggestion is that such a candidate be allowed unrestricted opportunity until he passes the test.
5.	41 (6)	Assignment of registration marks consisting one of the groups of letters followed by code number of registering authority and figures.	Suggestion is that old system of registration be continued on the ground that too many numbers would be difficult to remember in the event of accident.

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Section No.</i>	<i>Brief Subject</i>	<i>Suggestion</i>
1	2	3	4
6.	41 (14)	Duplicate certificate of registration is to be issued by original registering authority.	Suggestion is that the provision be provided for issue of duplicate registration certificate by any authority after obtaining necessary verification of information from the original authority.
7.	47	Assignment of new registration mark on transfer of vehicle to other State.	Suggestion is that persons subjected to frequent transfers be exempted from the provisions of this section.
8.	52	Permitting the issuance of certificate of fitness of transport vehicles by authorised service stations.	Suggestion is that such authorised stations should be prohibited to carry out repairs job and should confine its activities only to the testing of vehicles.
9.	55	Cancellation of Registration-When vehicle has been destroyed or rendered permanently incapable of use, owner has to report the fact to the registering authority who in turn would cancel the registration certificate.	Suggestion is that when vehicle is found to be plying under bogus registration number, provision should be made in the Act for confiscation of such vehicles.
10.	59	Empowering the Central Govt. to fix the age-limit for different types of motor vehicles	Suggestion is that this provision should be deleted.
11.	71	Procedure for grant of a stage carriage permit by the Regional Transport Authority.	Suggestion is that the permits should not be granted as a matter of course and liberally and that as previously and regard should be paid to the road capacity and other relevant factors.

Sl.No.	Section No.	Brief Subject	Suggestion
1	2	3	4
12.	88 (8)	Validation of permits for operation outside region in which the permit is granted.	Suggestion is that Section 88(8) should be modified to provide for grant of special permits even to idle vehicles.
13.	88 (10)	The ceiling on holding of permits by individual and companies shall not exceed 10 and 20 respectively.	Suggestion is that the ceiling on personal holding of permits by individual and companies should be enhanced/restrictions removed.
14	91	Restriction of hours of work of drivers to 8 hours in a day	Suggestion is that there should be no restriction on the number of hours for driver's duty.
15.	93	Agent or canvasser is required to obtain licence, from State Authorities for his business.	Suggestion is that this provision should be deleted.
16.	113	Limits of weight and limitations on use.	Suggestion is that fixed payload of 10 tonnes above the unladen weight be permitted.
17.	114	Power to have vehicle weighed, and off-loading of cargo which is in excess of permissible weight.	Suggestion is that such power should not be allowed especially in respect of hazardous goods which cannot be off-loaded, if such vehicle found to have been carrying excess load.

Sl.No.	Section No.	Brief Subject	Suggestion
1	2	3	4
18.	129	Wearing of protective headgear compulsory for drivers/pillion riders of two-wheelers.	Suggestion is that it should be optional and not compulsory.
19.	130	Duty of driver to produce licence and certificate of fitness-on demand from Police Officer.	Suggestion is that the officer other than Motor Vehicle Inspector should not be authorised for the purpose.
20.	136	Inspection of vehicle, when involved in accident, by a person authorised by the State Govt.	Suggestion is that private licenced garages should also be authorised to inspect accidental vehicles.
21.	190 (2)	Fine of Rs. 1000 on the first occasion and Rs. 2000 on the second occasion if vehicle violates the standards of road safety and pollution etc.	Suggestion is that the quantum of fine should be reduced substantially.
22.	194	Driving vehicle exceeding permissible weight limits-Fine upto Rs. 2000 for first occasion and Rs. 5, 70 for second and subsequent offences.	Suggestion is that the amounts of fines should be reduced.

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Section No.</i>	<i>Brief Subject</i>	<i>Suggestion</i>
1	2	3	4
23.	201	Penalty for causing obstructions to free flow of traffic-penalty upto Rs. 50 per hour for disabled vehicle remaining on road.	Suggestion is that this fine is unjustified since it is beyond control of operator to remove the vehicle immediately and that the provisions should be modified.
24.	202	Power to arrest without warrant for committing an offence under Sections 184, 185 and 197.	Suggestion is that provisions should be withdrawn as it is against principles of personal liberty.
25.	206	Power to police officer to impound documents.	Suggestion is that this Section should be scrapped and police officers should not be given the powers

[*English*]**India-Nepal Bilateral Talks**

254. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRIMATI M. CHAN-
DRASEKHAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nepal has recently proposed for fresh talks to solve the bilateral issues;

(b) if so, the level at which the talks are proposed to be held;

(c) whether in this context, any fresh proposals have been received from Nepal on various issues; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At the level of Foreign Ministers.

(c) and (d). No, Sir, Does not arise.

[*Translation*]**Violence during Elections**

255. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of violent incidents which took place during the recent General Elections;

(b) the State-wise details of such incidents; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in order to check the recurrence of such inci-

dents in the coming Assembly Elections?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Law and Order being a State subject, the concerned State authorities are to take appropriate action to check the recurrence of violent incidents in the forthcoming Assembly elections.

[*English*]**Assistance to Coconut Growers of Kerala**

256. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new scheme is being formulated for helping the coconut growers of Kerala and for the development of coconut cultivation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the impact of the support price scheme on the domestic price of coconut?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. The following schemes have been proposed for Kerala in the Eighth Five Year Plan for coconut development.

1. Production and distribution of 1 lakh T x D hybrid coconut seedlings per annum.
2. Establishment of Demonstration-cum-seed production farm in an area of 40 hectares.

3. Expansion of area under coconut in 2500 hectares.
4. Integrated farming in small coconut holdings in 50,000 ha.
5. Promotion of drip irrigation in coconut holdings by installing 3,000 drip irrigation units.
6. Removal of root wilt disease affected palms in northern Kerala.

(c) The introduction of price support scheme for copra had a salutary impact in pushing up the price of copra. During the current year upto November, 1989, National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) procured 2503 metric tonnes of copra in Kerala and 125 metric tonnes in Andaman & Nicobar Islands at the support price of Rs. 1500 per quintal. The prices of copra were ruling at between Rs. 1590 to 1640 per quintal in the first fortnight of December, 1989, in Kerala.

Pending applications for telephone connections in Kerala

257. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applications for telephone connections pending in Kerala at present;

(b) whether Government have any scheme for speedy clearance of the pending applications in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) The total no. of applications for new tele-

phone connections pending in Kerala as on 1.12.89 is 139267.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Additional equipment to the tune of 4.2 lakh lines has been proposed for Kerala for the period 1990-95. This will enable conversion of several small exchanges to medium sized exchanges and medium sized exchanges to larger exchanges. Consequently, it will be possible to reduce the waiting time for telephones. The planning objective of the Department of Telecom is to make telephones available on demand by 1.4.95 in all exchanges below 5,000 lines capacity. For larger exchanges the average waiting period is expected to be reduced to one year by 1.4.95. The implementation of the proposed plan is subject to adequate allocation of financial and material resources in time.

Modernisation of Telephone Exchanges

258. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for the rapid modernisation of telephone exchanges in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme;

(c) the number of manual exchanges out of the total exchanges in Kerala; and

(d) by what time these exchanges will be phased out completely?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Modernisation Plans of Telephone Exchanges proposed in the draft 8th Plan are:

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to look after their interests?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) and (b). Government are aware of the arrival of refugees from Sri Lanka in the recent past. Of the 1095 refugees who have arrived between 26th August and 12th December, 1989, 952 have been admitted in the transit camps at Mandapam and Kottapattu in Tamil Nadu. These refugees are being provided normal relief facilities aggregating to Rs. 700/- per month per family; these include an element of cash dole, clothing and subsidised ration. The remaining refugees have not sought admission in camps.

Public Telephones in All villages

262. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether public telephones have been installed in all the villages of the country; and

(b) if not, whether there is any plan to this effect and the target date thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) It is planned to provide a telephone in every gram panchayat village during 8th Plan subject to the acceptance of this Plan by the Planning Commission.

Development to Small Ports in Kerala

263. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals have been

received from Kerala Government for the revival/development of small ports at Azhikkal in Cannanore District and Beypore and Calicut ports in Calicut District of Kerala;

(b) if so, the response of Union Government thereto;

(c) whether there is any specific comprehensive plan of Government to revive/develop small and medium ports along the Kerala coasts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and allocation for the same?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government was informed in February, 1988 that due to existing constraint of resources, the Central Government was not in a position to bring more minor ports under the scheme of Central assistance.

(c) The Central Government has not drawn up such a plan. The development of minor ports is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Governments.

(d) The Government is quite responsible to suggestions to improve port facilities all along the Coast.

Opening of New Telephone Exchanges in Malabar Region of Kerala

264. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of new telephone exchanges which have been opened in the Malabar Region of Kerala during 1989;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to look after their interests?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) and (b). Government are aware of the arrival of refugees from Sri Lanka in the recent past. Of the 1095 refugees who have arrived between 26th August and 12th December, 1989, 952 have been admitted in the transit camps at Mandapam and Kottapattu in Tamil Nadu. These refugees are being provided normal relief facilities aggregating to Rs. 700/- per month per family; these include an element of cash dole, clothing and subsidised ration. The remaining refugees have not sought admission in camps.

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(b) if so, the response of Union Government thereto;

(c) whether there is any specific comprehensive plan of Government to revive/develop small and medium ports along the Kerala coasts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and allocation for the same?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government was informed in February, 1988 that due to existing constraint of resources, the Central Government was not in a position to bring more minor ports under the scheme of Central assistance.

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(a) the particulars of new telephone exchanges which have been opened in the Malabar Region of Kerala during 1989;

(b) whether Government propose to open any more exchanges in this region; if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of telephone exchanges in Cannanore and Wyanad Districts of Kerala which have been expanded/modernised during 1989; and

(d) whether Government have plan to develop the telephone system in Cannanore and Wyanad Districts?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) Five new Telephone Exchanges were opened in Malabar Region during 1989. The details are given in Annex.

(b) Eight new Telephone Exchanges are proposed to be opened during 1990 in

Malabar region. These are: Cheeral, Erumamund, Chemprod, Vilangad, Pang, Karulai, Badadka and Edathanatitukar.

(c) 17 exchanges in Cannanore and 2 exchanges in Wyanad Districts were expanded during 1989. The details are given in Annexure.

(d) 14 exchanges in Cannanore and 8 exchanges in Wyanad are proposed to be expanded/modernised during 1990. The details are given in the statement below.

In addition to above, telephone exchange in Payyannur, Taliparamba and Payyangadi in Cannanore and Kalpetta and Sultanbattery in Wyanad Districts are proposed to be expanded as C-DOT, MAX-I exchanges during the 8th Five Year Plan. However, all the above programme is subject to the availability of equipment.

STATEMENT

(a) New Telephone Exchanges opened in Malabar during 1989.

1. Calicut ICP Crossbar	5000 lines
2. Korome MAX-III	25 lines
3. Panthalloor MAX-III	25 lines
4. Therthally MAX-III	90 lines
5. Thanaloor MAX-III	90 lines

(c) Exchanges expanded in Cannanore and Wyanad districts during 1989.

Cannanore District:

1. Cannanore MAX-I	5100 - 5700 lines
2. Munderi MAX-III	45-90 lines
3. Mathil MAX-III	35-45 lines
4. Pannor MAX-III	90-200 lines MAX-II

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 5. Manakkadavu MAX III | 45-90 lines |
| 6. Peringome MAX III | 25-45 lines |
| 7. Malur MAX III | 35-90 lines |
| 8. Iritty MAX II | 200-300 lines |
| 9. Valakkai MAX III | 45-90 lines |
| 10. Perumpadavu MAX III | 45-90 lines |
| 11. Alacode MAX III | 90-200 lines MAX II |
| 12. Ettikulam MAX III | 35-45 lines |
| 13. Payyannur MAX II | 900-1100 lines |
| 14. Cherukunnu MAX III | 900-300 lines MAX II |
| 15. Sreekandapuram MAX III | 90-300 lines MAX II |
| 16. Kolangad MAX III | 45-90 lines |
| 17. Kuthuparamba MAX II | 300-500 lines |

Wynad District

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Karthikulam MAX III | 45-90 lines |
| 2. Ambalavayal MAX III | 45-90 lines |

(d) Exchanges in Cannanore & Wynad districts proposed to be expanded/modernised during 1990.

Cannanore District

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Cannanore | 5700-6900 lines |
| 2. Irikkur | 90-512 PORT ILT |
| 3. Kuthuparamba | 300-500 lines |
| 4. Mattool | 90-512 PORT |
| 5. Tellicherry | 4500-5000 |
| 6. Vengad | 35-90 lines |

7. Edakkad MAX III	90-300 Lines MAX II
8. Kittyanthara	90 to 512 PORT
9. Thoovakkunnu	90-512 PORT
10. Payyangadi	300-500
11. Anjarakandi	300-400
12. Mattannur .	200-400
13. Peravoor	90-512 PORT
14. Pulingome	90-512 PORT

Wynad District

1. Korome	35-90
2. Kalpatta NEAX	900-1000
3. Sultan Battery	400-500
4. Pulpally	200-400
5. Meenangadi	300-400
6. Manamthody	200-512 PORT
7. Panamaram	90-512 PORT
8. Noolpuzha	35-128 PORT

Allocation and Expenditure on West Coast Canal

265. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total allocation for the West Coast Canal;

(b) the places between which the work on this Canal has commenced; and

(c) the total expenditure already incurred

on the Project?

THE MINISTER FOR SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) The allocation made during Seventh Five-Year Plan in respect of various schemes relating to West Coast Canal is Rs. 64.37 lakhs.

(b) The hydrographic survey and techno-economic study on the Cochin-Quilon stretch have been completed. Preliminary investigation on navigability of Kottapuram-Cochin

stretch has also been completed. Further detailed hydrographic surveys and techno-economic studies on the Kottapuram-Cochin stretch and also on the Quilon-Trivandrum stretch have commenced. Studies would also be undertaken of the Kottapuram-Badagara reach.

(c) The total expenditure upto November, 1989 incurred on the works undertaken is Rs. 30.96 lakhs.

Declaration of National Highways in Kerala

266. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:-

(a) whether Government propose to declare any more roads in Kerala as National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether work on Calicut, Mahe and Tellicherry bye-passes has commenced;

(d) if so, the target dates fixed for completion of the works; and

(e) the allocations made for these projects?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). Cochin-Madurai road, a part length of which falls in Kerala, was declared as a new National Highway in February 1989. Proposals to declare more roads as National Highways, which include the Tellicherry Mysore and Calicut-Mysore roads, connecting Karnataka and Kerala are under consideration.

(c) to (e). Calicut bypass (28.12 km.) is divided into four phases. Land for phase-

1 (7.25 km.) has already been acquired, and estimate for its construction will be sanctioned shortly when the target for completion will be fixed. Land acquisition estimates for phases III and IV of this bypass have also been processed for sanction and the same for Phase II is under scrutiny. Construction work in these three phases will be taken up after completion of the land acquisition. There is a provision of Rs. 130 lakhs in the current year's budget for construction and land acquisition of this bypass.

Land acquisition estimate for Tellicherry Mahe bypass (11 km.) is under preparation by the State P.W.D., for which there is a budget provision of Rs. 20 lakhs in the current year's Plan. Target date for construction of the Tellicherry-Mahe bypass will be fixed after the land has been acquired.

Expansion of Nagpur Telephone Exchange

267. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing capacity of the Nagpur Telephone Exchange is frozen;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to expand the capacity of the Nagpur Telephone Exchange during the year 1990; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the expected waiting list likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) No. Sir

(b) and (c). Yes Sir. Capacity of Nagpur exchange is proposed to be expanded by 4500 lines during 1990, from 10,000 to 14,500 lines. By this, the present waiting list will be cleared.

- fully for OYT category.
- upto 15.4.88 for special category and
- upto 15.10.84 for General category.

Moreover, in the 8th Five Year Plan, further expansions are planned so as to limit the average waiting period to about one year.

Karnataka-Maharashtra border dispute

268. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the border dispute between Karnataka and Maharashtra has been resolved;

(b) if so, what extent;

(c) whether Union Government propose to implement the Mahajan Commission report fully; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) to (d). The recommendations of the Mahajan Commission did not evoke the necessary measure of acceptability and the differences between the two State Governments concerned in the matter have been persisting. The Government of India have been of the view that this dispute can be resolved only with the willing cooperation of the State

Governments and towards this end the Central Government will be glad to extend all possible assistance to them.

Modified Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme

269. SHRISHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of the modifications made in the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (i) from Kharif 1980 and (ii) from Rabi 1988-89, so far, on small, marginal and other farmers, State-wise; and

(b) the reaction of farmers to these modifications?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). The Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) was implemented with effect from 1.4.85. The modifications made in the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) from Kharif 1988 are:-

- i) that the sum insured would be limited to Rs. 10,000/- per farmer irrespective of the quantum of loan taken by the farmer.
- ii) the total sum insured would be limited to 100% of the crop loan. Besides, from Rabi 1988-89 in addition to these changes, indemnity for various crops was altered as per the following:-

<i>Category</i>	<i>Variability in yield</i>	<i>Indemnity</i>
Low	Upto 15%	90%
Medium	16% to 30%	80%
High	Above 30%	60%

A statement containing the statewide details of number of farmers covered including small & marginal farmers, area covered (in hectare) and total sum insured in various states during Kharif 88 and Rabi 88-89 season is given below. The CCIS has since its inception been beneficial to the farmers. It has provided financial support to the farmers in the event of a crop failure due to

occurrence of natural calamities, thereby restoring their credit worthiness for getting loans for insured crops for the subsequent seasons. The number of small and marginal & other farmers, the area covered and sum insured during Rabi 1987-88, Kharif 1988 & Rabi 1988-89 may be seen in the following table:-

	<i>Small & Marginal Farmers</i>			<i>Other Farmers</i>		
	<i>Rabi</i>	<i>Kharif</i>	<i>Rabi</i>	<i>Rabi</i>	<i>Kharif</i>	<i>Rabi</i>
	<i>1987-88</i>	<i>1988</i>	<i>1988-89</i>	<i>1987-88</i>	<i>1988</i>	<i>1988-89</i>
	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
1. Total No. farmers covered	1716000	1724000	714000	411744	939946	159250
2. Total area covered (hectare)	1741000	1705000	755000	1495468	3530483	257768
3. Sum insured (Rs. in lakh)	34105.84	22054.27	13272.12	13438.09	32734.37	3137.72

STATEMENT

Sl.No.	Name of State/U.Ts.	Kharif, 1986			Rabi 1988-89		
		No. of farmers covered	Area covered (in hac.)	Total sum insure (Rs. in lac)	No. of farmers covered	Area covered (in hac.)	Total sum insured (Rs. in lac.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	346928	566512	9800.74	55236	105600	1759.39
2.	Assam	8544	5942	142.94	9915	5611	133.96
3.	Bihar	116220	121364	2461.39	387273	489778	8797.57
4.	Goa	581	199	5.26	225	186	1.36
5.	Gujarat	405735	1495443	15286.12	—	—	—
6.	Humachal Pradesh	4191	5144	39.88	—	—	—
7.	J & K	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Karnataka	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Kerala	20888	32299	552.65	16626	23603	469.30
10.	Manipur	—	—	—	—	—	—

SI.No. Name of State/U. Ts.

Kharif, 1986

Rabi 1988-89

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			No. of farmers covered	Area covered (in hac.)	Total sum insure (Rs. in lac)	No. of farmers covered	Area covered (in hac.)	Total sum insured (Rs. in lac.)
11.	Meghalaya		2679	5827	38.13	—	—	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh		262988	748574	3418.30	—	—	—
13.	Maharashtra		1251712	1557210	16615.46	219660	225809	1495.35
14.	Orissa		186845	457921	2788.83	—	—	—
15.	Rajasthan		—	—	—	—	—	—
16.	Tripura		4092	2462	24.53	298	525	6.62
17.	Tami Nadu		—	—	—	43219	79483	1362.91
18.	Uttar Pradesh		—	—	—	—	—	—
19.	West Bengal		352543	236586	3714.41	140798	81973	2382.88
20.	A & N Islands		—	—	—	—	—	—
21.	Delhi		—	—	—	—	—	—
22.	Pondicherry		—	—	—	—	—	—
	Total		2963946	5235483	54788.64	873250	1012768	16409.84

Note: (—) denotes States not participated

Special Thrust Programme for Increasing Production of Foodgrains and Oilseeds

270. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) when the Special Thrust Programmes and increasing production of foodgrains and oilseeds were initiated and the total expenditure incurred so far under these programmes;

(b) the guidelines for selecting the farmers for providing assistance, percentage of Scheduled Castes and Schedule Tribes farmers and also of the small and marginal farmers amongst the beneficiaries, State-wise; and

(c) the success achieved as a result of these programmes in increasing the produc-

tion of rice, wheat, maize, gram, arhar and oil-seeds?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) The Government of India had taken up the following Special Thrust Programmes for increasing production of foodgrains and oilseeds in the country:

1. Special Rice Production Programme (SRPP)
2. Special Foodgrains Production Programme (SFPP).
3. Oilseeds Production Thrust Programme (OPTP)

Year of commencement and funds released so far in respect of the above programmes are indicated below:

(Rs. in Crores)

S.No.	Programme	Year of commencement	Amount Released	Remarks
1.	SRPP	1985-86	68.21	* Includes
		SRPP for 1989-90		
2.	SFPP	1988-89		also as from 1989-90
	a) SFPP (Rice)		*84.00	SFPP (Rice) & SRPP have been unified.
	b) SFPP (Wheat)		18.08	
	c) SFPP (Maize)		7.20	
	d) SFPP (Pulses) (gram & arhar)		3.94	
3.	OPTP	1987-88	70.31	
Total			252.64	

(b) Under the Special Foodgrains Production Programmes for Rice, Wheat and Maize, the State Governments have been advised that while providing assistance on inputs to the farmers, the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and small and marginal farmers should be covered first and if the funds are available thereafter, the others may be given the benefits under these programmes. The scheme are implemented through the State Government and the beneficiaries are selected by the panchayats who maintain the details at panchayat level.

(c) As a result of the successful implementation of the Special Trust Programmes, production of rice, wheat, maize, gram, arhar and oilseeds has increased significantly in the SFPP States leading to the overall increased production of foodgrains and oilseeds in the country as may be seen from the table given below:

Production of crops in SFPP States prior to and after the implementation of the programme

(Production in lakh tonnes)

S.No.	Crops	Prior period of SFPP Average production (three years)	After SFPP Estimated Production (1988-89)
1.	Rice	563.34	673.39
2.	Wheat	426.20	517.31
3.	Maize	40.81	53.97
4.	Pulses		
	a) Gram	41.15	49.62
	b) Arhar	22.05	25.41
5.	Oilseeds	118.06	178.00

Implementation of Land Reform Measures

271. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a programme of action for speedier implementation of land reform measures is under formulation to improve the access of the rural poor to land;

(b) if so, when the exercise was started and the items proposed for inclusion in the programme; and

(c) the action suggested to State Governments in advance in relation to each of these items till the programme of action is finally formulated and forwarded to them?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). With a view to improve the access of rural poor to land, a Programme of action involving speedier implementation of some land reforms measures was drawn up in May, 1989. The items proposed for inclusion in the programmes were:

(1) Conferring ownership rights on

landless rural poor in respect of homesteads occupied by them;

- (2) Unearthing of farzi land transactions undertaken to evade ceiling laws;
- (3) bringing oral tenants/sharecroppers on record;
- (4) verification of possession in respect of SC/ST allottees of land;
- (5) reservation for women in future allotment of land;
- (6) measures for expenditure distribution of surplus ceiling land at present locked in litigation.

(c) Land being a State subject, State Governments were addressed for their views on the proposed programme, inclusion of any more items in it, methodology to be followed for its implementation, the likely problems to be faced and the estimated financial expenditure etc. While brief explanatory notes on each item were enclosed with the letter to State Governments, no advance action was suggested.

Programmes Financed through CAPART

272. SHRISHANKERSINH VEGHELA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the programmes which are sanctioned financial assistance through the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology;

(b) the number of voluntary organisations which have received such assistance so far and also the amount sanctioned; State-wise and programme-wise;

(c) the outcome of the above programmes, State-wise; and

(d) to what extent financially or otherwise, the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana has affected the above programmes, State-wise?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) The programmes which are sanctioned through Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) are indicated in the statement I below.

(b) CAPART has been set up with effect from 1.9.1986. A statement giving the number of voluntary organisations and the financial assistance given to them by CAPART upto 30.11.89, programme-wise, is at Statement-II. Similar information, State-wise, is given in statement III.

(c) The projects sanctioned in different States to voluntary organisations are at different stages of implementation. The implementation of these projects has resulted in integrated rural development in the areas where the schemes have been sanctioned.

(d) The Voluntary Organisations implementing programmes for employment generation-cum-asset creation will continue to get assistance as they did in the case of RLEGP earlier through funds placed with CAPART under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY).

STATEMENT-I

Programmes which are sanctioned financial assistance through the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology

1. Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP)
2. Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 3. Promotion of Voluntary Action in Rural Development (PC) | 6. Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP)/Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) |
| 4. Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) | 7. Organisation of Beneficiaries of Antipoverty Programme (OB) |
| 5. Advancement of Rural Technology Scheme (ARTS) | 8. Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) |

STATEMENT-II

Number of voluntary organisations and the financial assistance given to them by CAPART upto 30.11.1989—Programme-wise

	<i>No. of Agencies</i>	<i>No. of Projects</i>	<i>Amount Sanctioned</i>
CRSP	244	426	9,30,46,499
ARWSP	139	256	10,26,63,997
PC	84	153	12,63,67,404
DWCRA	236	360	6,11,27,186
ARTS	67	95	4,03,52,914
RLEGP	182	329	13,75,13,862
OB	574	715	2,48,55,942
IRDP	64	104	1,56,03,219
Total	1,590	2,438	60,15,31,024

STATEMENT-III

Number of voluntary organisations and the financial assistance given to them by CAPART upto 30.11.1989—State-wise

	<i>No. of Agencies</i>	<i>No. of Projects</i>	<i>Amount sanctioned</i>
Andaman & Nicobar	**	**	**
Andhra Pradesh	127	177	4,72,97,765
Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	1,21,750

	<i>No. of Agencies</i>	<i>No. of Projects</i>	<i>Amount sanctioned ,</i>
Assam	27	40	53,96,780
Bihar	150	222	4,37,23,448
Chandigarh	1	1	8,02,500
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	**	**	**
Delhi	41	58	1,18,82,421
Goa Daman Diu	**	**	**
Gujarat	65	97	5,45,83,622
Haryana	21	30	32,70,361
Himachal Pradesh	15	22	31,71,626
Jammu & Kashmir	4	4	3,99,918
Karnataka	55	94	3,16,05,450
Kerala	70	96	2,59,80,154
Lakshadweep	**	**	**
Madhya Pradesh	46	77	1,16,37,336
Maharashtra	128	195	8,90,73,214
Manipur	63	80	90,68,265
Meghalaya	2	3	8,27,400
Mizoram	3	3	18,44,891
Nagaland	1	1	7,52,777
Orissa	68	107	1,88,01,136
Pondicherry	3	5	3,88,396
Punjab	5	7	18,81,726
Rajasthan	55	109	3,24,98,694

	<i>No. of Agencies</i>	<i>No. of Projects</i>	<i>Amount sanctioned</i>
Sikkim	**	**	**
Tamilnadu	164	252	5,40,24,354
Tripura	1	1	1,11,100
Uttar Pradesh	276	405	6,54,68,969
West Bengal	198	351	8,69,16,971
Total	1,590	2,438	60,15,31,024

Treatment of Agriculture at par with Industry

273. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to treat agriculture at par with industry; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme drawn up for providing infrastructural facilities, allocation of funds etc., for agriculture?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). At present there is no proposal under consideration. However, agriculture will be given very high priority in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Inclusion of Non-Loanee Farmers under Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme

274. SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Group constituted by Government to conduct the review of the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme,

while considering the case of covering the poor/marginal farmers under the scheme, recommended for a separate scheme for non-loanee farmers;

(b) whether Government have considered the recommendation made by the Group; and

(c) if so, whether it has been accepted by Government and if not the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) The Group recommended that a separate scheme be framed for non-loanee farmers, to be operated on an experimental basis, at an appropriate time.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The proposal for inclusion of non-loanee farmers was deferred as it was not found feasible for implementation at present, because of large financial implications and administrative problems.

Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir

275. SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) date-wise steps taken to get the words "Secular and Socialism, Unity and Integrity" added to the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) the outcome thereof?
THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

<i>Date</i>	<i>Events</i>
1	2
3.1.1977	Constitution (Forty-second Amendment) Act brought into force.
18.3.1977	The Government of Jammu and Kashmir gave their concurrence to extend the Constitutional Amendments to the state with the condition that certain sections should be brought into effect w.e.f. 21.3.1977 itself.
November 1977	The new Government in Centre decided to nullify many amendments carried out to the Constitution by Forty-second Amendment Act by bringing in another. Constitutional Amendment Act and therefore not to act on the concurrence of the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir.
4.1.1978	Decision not to act on their concurrence conveyed to the State Government.
April, 1978	Constitution (Forty-third Amendment) Act was enacted which omitted certain provisions of Forty-second Amendment Act.
20.6.1979	Constitution (Forty-fourth Amendment) Act, 1978 brought into force
12.10.1983	A revised and consolidated reference was made to the State Government.
9.11.1983	Reminder to State Government.
24.11.1983	State Law Secretary informed that the matter under consideration of the Government.
12.3.1984	Reminder to State Government.
16.3.1984	State Law Secretary informed that a Cabinet sub-Committee has been constituted on 7.3.1984 to examine the matter before final decision is taken by the State Government.

1	2
10.8.1984	Reminder to State Government
6.9.1984	
9.10.1984	
3.1.1985	
19.2.1985	
17.6.1985	
20.11.1985	
31.12.1985	
11.2.1986	
21.12.1987	Home Minister wrote to the Chief Minister, Jammu and Kashmir to examine the matter expeditiously and convey the concurrence.
13.1.1988	Reminder to State Government
12.1.1988 (Received in Desk on 14.1.1988)	The Chief Minister, Jammu and Kashmir informed "this matter, has no doubt, remained under our consideration for quite some time. We will, however, convey our views shortly".
10.8.1988	Reminder to State Government
06.1.1989	
04.4.1989	
10.7.1989	
26.10.1989	
15.12.1989	

Indian Nationals in Jails of Different Countries

276. SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian nationals languishing in jails in different countries as on date, country-wise and the number of defence personnel out of them in each case;

(b) the number of cases taken up by Government with the concerned countries for their release, country-wise; and

(c) the number of Indian nationals released by each country during each of the

last three years and the current year so far?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). Information as on 26.12.1989 available in respect of 56 countries is given in statement I below. The list of countries where there are no Indian nationals in jails as on the same date is given in statement II. In respect of the remaining countries, information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(b) All cases of Indian nationals detained in foreign countries are taken up by our Missions with the concerned local authorities as soon as information regarding

such detentions are available with a view to (1) securing their release and ensuring that our nationals are not in prison for an unreasonably long time without trial; (2) ensuring

that the prisoner receives adequate legal assistance; (3) obtaining consular access to the prisoners; and (4) protecting the legitimate interests of the prisoners.

STATEMENT

Sl.No	Name of Country	Number of Indian nationals languishing in jails as on date	Of which number of Defence personnel	Number of cases taken up by Government for their release.	The number of Indian nationals released			
					1986	1987	1988	1989
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Afghanistan	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.	Argeontina	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
3.	Australia	3	—	75	37	14	23	11
4.	Austria	12	—	12	10	7	11	9
5.	Bahrain	132	—	132	—	532	972	433
6.	Bangladesh	147	—	147	140	71	178	64
7.	Belgium	1	—	1	21	57	74	48
8.	Bhutan	89	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Burma	12	—	12	—	—	14	1
10.	Cyprus	—	—	—	—	—	3	4
11.	Denmark	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
12.	D'jibouti	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
13.	Egypt	12	1	—	—	—	—	1

Information being obtained from local Govt.

Sl.No.	Name of Country	Number of Indian nationals languishing in jails as on date	Of which number of Defence personnel	Number of cases taken up by Government for their release.	The number of Indian nationals released				
					1986	1987	1988	1989	
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
14.	Fiji	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	
15.	France	31	—	—	—	11	20	12	
16.	Germany (F.R.G)	9	—	9	—	—	—	4	
17.	Greece	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	
18.	Indonesia	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	
19.	Iran	118	—	—	—	—	—	—	
20.	Iraq	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	
21.	Ireland	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	
22.	Italy	69	—	1	—	—	3	—	
23.	Jamaica	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	
24.	Kenya	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
25.	Jordan	5	—	—	—	—	—	3	
26.	Kuwait	108	—	2	—	224	233	127	
27.	Libya	—	—	8	1	—	6	1	
28.	Maldives	—	—	—	3	6	2	6	

All which came to notice Information not provided by local Government.

Sl.No.	Name of Country	Number of Indian nationals languishing in jails as on date	Of which number of Defence personnel	Number of cases taken up by Government for their release.	The number of Indian nationals released			
					1986	1987	1988	1989
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
29.	Malta	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
30.	Mauritius	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
31.	Mexico	46	—	46	—	53	14	26
32.	Malaysia	42	—	34	62	61	95	148
33.	Nepal	14	—	14	No. official information available			
34.	Netherlands	20	—	—	—	—	2	—
35.	New Zealand	Information not provided by the local authorities.						
36.	Nigeria	—	—	4	1	2	1	3
37.	Norway	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
38.	Oman	24	—	—	—	—	—	—
39.	Pakistan	893	54	All cases which came to Mission's notice.	63	143	214	98
		civilian & security personnel 131 fishermen	missing defence personnel			civilians & security personnel		
					49	119 fishermen	255	13

Sl.No.	Name of Country	Number of Indian nationals languishing in jails as on date	Of which number of Defence personnel	Number of cases taken up by Government for their release.	The number of Indian nationals released			
					1986	1987	1988	1989
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
40.	Peru	—	—	—	—	—	11	7
41.	Philippines	—	—	1	—	—	10	—
42.	Portugal	2	—	—	1	1	1	1
43.	Qatar	70	—	70	—	26	29	38
44.	Saudi Arabi	789	—	Local Government does not encourage intervention by diplomatic Missions	—	3481	2537	5768
45.	Singapore	Information being collected by local authorities			1247	744	682	—
46.	Spain	68	—	—	—	—	6	9
47.	Sri Lanka	11	—	10	—	76	41	15
48.	Sweden	1	—	—	—	2	4	—
49.	Switzerland	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
50.	Syrias	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
51.	Turkey	1	—	3	—	—	1	—

Sl.No.	Name of Country	Number of Indian nationals languishing in jails as on date	Of which number of Defence personnel	Number of cases taken up by Government for their release.	The number of Indian nationals released				
					1986	1987	1988	1989	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
52.	U.A.E.	858	—	—	4454	4943	3403	4048	
53.	U.K.	319	—	—	—	—	—	365 (As on 30.6.89,	
54.	Yugoslavia	2	—	1	1	1	1	—	
55.	Yemen (PDR)	—	—	—	—	3	2	3	
56.	Zimbabwe	—	—	—	2	2	1	3	

STATEMENT-II

List of countries where there are no Indian Nationals in Jails

S.No.	Name of Country
1	2
1.	Algeria
2	Botswana
3.	Brazil
4	Bulgaria
5	Chile
6.	China
7.	Colombia
8	Cuba
9.	Czechoslovakia
10.	Ethiopia
11.	Finland
12.	Germany (GDR)
13.	Ghana
14.	Guyana
15.	Hungry
16.	Ivory Coast
17.	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
18.	Republic of Korea
19.	Laos

S.No.	Name of Country
20.	Lebanon
21.	Madagascar
22.	Morocco
23	Mozambique
24.	Poland
25.	Rumania
26	Senegal
27	Seychelles
28.	Somalia
29	Surinam
30	Tanzania
31	Trinidad And Tobago
32.	Tunisia
33	Uganda
34	USSR
35.	Venezuela
36.	Socialist Republic of Vietnam
37	Yeman Arab Republic
38.	Zaire.

Absorption of Extra Departmental Employees

277. SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts in group 'D' and in postman cadre lying vacant as on August 31, 1988 and August 31, 1989; and

(b) the number of extra departmental employees who have been absorbed against such vacant posts during each of the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

Allotment of Land to Displaced persons from Chhamb Niabat

278. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are still families displaced from Chhamb Niabat area during the 1971 Indo-Pak conflict which have not been allotted their quota of land as yet;

(b) if so, the number of such families and the reasons for not allotting them land;

(c) whether any other alternatives have been offered to them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 696 families could not be allotted their due quota of land due to non-availability of agricultural land in J&K. Meanwhile, the State Government have indicated the availability of 100 acres of undeveloped land at Chakroi Agricultural Farm against the total requirement of about 1,000 acres.

(c) and (d). A proposal was mooted to cover these families within the ambit of

schemes under the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP). Instead, the State Government have expressed a preference for grant of cash compensation, saying that loan aid in any form is not acceptable to the families.

Foreign Missionaries

279. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the missionaries who were asked to leave India during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether notices served on some of them have been withdrawn/cancelled;

(c) if so, the reasons in each case; and

(d) how many of them are still living in the country and follow-up action taken in each case so far?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Arrest of Foreign Nationals at IGIA

280. SRI KALKADAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) whether some foreign nationals were apprehended on 8 August, 1989 at the Indira Gandhi International Airport for having entered India without any valid documents;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the concerned Mission in New Delhi was informed about these nationals and if so, the response thereto and further action by Government?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

financial losses incurred by DTC during 1988-89 are as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

India-Pak Relations

1988-89

281. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to make efforts to further normalise the relations with Pakistan; and

(b) if so, whether the matter relating to the opening of Srinagar-Rawalpindi road is also proposed to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I K GUJRAL) (a) Yes Sir. The Government is keen to strengthen friendly co-operative relations with the neighbours.

(b) No such proposal is under Government's consideration.

Losses Incurred by Delhi Transport Corporation

282. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the financial losses incurred by the Delhi Transport Corporation during 1988-89 and 1989-90 so far.

(b) the main reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the financial condition of the Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) As per provisional accounts, the details of

i)	Working Loss	52.20
ii)	Depreciation	13.80
iii)	Interest charges	32.99
iv)	Net loss	98.99

Delhi Transport Corporation has estimated that in the first 8 month of 1989-90, its loss would amount to Rs. 84.48 crores.

(b) and (c). DTC has been incurring losses mainly due to unremunerative fare structure and rising cost of labour and other inputs besides concessionality in passes to various groups of passengers such as, students, residents of resettlement colonies etc. For improving the financial performance of DTC, steps taken by DTC includes route-rationalisation economy in expenditure, better inventory control, prevention of leakage of revenues etc.

Improvement In Calcutta Telephones

283. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the steps Government propose to take for the improvement of the working of the Calcutta Telephones?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): A project for improvement of telephone services of Calcutta Telephones is under execution. The project includes modernisation of the system with

(i) replacements of old electro-

mechanical exchanges by electronic exchanges,

- (ii) introduction of pulse code modulation are digital microwave systems;
- (iii) ducting of cables; and
- (iv) replacements of worn out external plants.

A special Focus Committee under the Chairmanship of the Finance Minister of the State Government has also been set up to suggest further measures for improvement during the next Plan period.

Implementation of Sen Committee's Recommendations

284. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps taken to implement the Sen Committee's recommendations for agricultural development in the Eastern States?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): Report of Dr. S.R. Sen Committee on Agricultural Productivity in Eastern India was submitted to Reserve Bank of India in December 1984. Main spear-heads of development for Eastern states as recommended by the Committee inter-alia included massive provision of tube wells, pumps, controlled use of irrigation, appropriate water management techniques, adequate drainage net work, micro watershed development, orientation of input services and extension support to small and marginal farmers, land reforms, revitalisation of credit and cooperative institutions etc. The Committee also worked out a rough estimate of Public outlays and needs of credit to provide a broad indication of the magnitude of efforts required for implementation of the recommended programmes.

The recommendations of the Committee were considered at a Conference of Chief Ministers of Bihar, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal held at Patna on 8th January, 1986, under the Chairmanship of the then Union Agriculture Minister. Since Agriculture is a State subject, the concerned State governments were advised to implement the recommendations as part of the State Plan Programmes for which funds are available under State/Central Schemes keeping in view their relative priorities. The States were also called upon to improve the quality of agricultural management, fullutilisation of resources available under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes and enforce credit discipline to double the supply of credit from the banking system. The states agreed to incorporate the recommendations of the Committee in their State Plans.

In response to the follow-up action initiated by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, the information received so far reveals that many of the recommendations of the Committee are by and large included in their various on-going and new programmes.

Release of Postal Stamp of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in 1990

285. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to release a special postal stamp on the occasion of birth centenary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in 1990; and

(b) if so, the time bound action proposed by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) No Sir, 2 stamps have already been issued to commemorate reserved memory of Dr.

B.R. Ambedkar on 14.4.1966 and 14.4.1973 in denominations of 15 paise and 20 paise respectively.

(b) There is no proposal at the moment for yet another stamp.

Opening of New Post Office in Bombay North

286. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether with the increase in population of Bombay North, the workload of delivering postal articles by postmen has increased;

(b) the number of additional postmen appointed and number of new post offices opened during the last five years in Bombay Circle; and

(c) the time bound action proposed for recruiting additional postmen and opening of new post offices in Bombay Circle?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bombay City by itself does not constitute a separate Postal Circle. It is under the overall control of Maharashtra Postal Circle. However, the number of additional postmen appointed in Bombay North is four and the number of new post offices opened is two.

(c) The following proposals in this regard in Maharashtra Circle are under consideration:

(i) Postmen: 274

(ii) New Post Offices: 188
(Target in 1989-90)

It may be added that proposals for opening new post offices in North Bombay have not yet been finalised.

Pakistan PM's statement over laying of Foundation Stone for Ram Mandir at Ayodhya

287. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state: the reaction of Government on the statement made by the Prime Minister of Pakistan with regard to the laying of the foundation stone for Ram Mandir at Ayodhya?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): On November 11, 1989 our Official Spokesmen had issued a statement reacting to the Pakistan Prime Minister's statement. A copy of our spokesman's statement is given below.

STATEMENT

The Government of India, the U.P. State Government, our Courts of Law and many men and women of goodwill have succeeded in not allowing religious fervour to deteriorate into bigotry and violence in connection with events in Ayodhya in the past few days.

Elaborate arrangements were made by the Central and State Governments to ensure law and order, and the sanctity and safety of the disputed premises. The site of the foundation stone ceremony was well outside the present disputed premises, as claimed by the Sunni Central Wakf Board.

The Government and people of India are firmly committed to secularism, tolerance and non-violence. The interests of the majority and minority communities have been successfully harmonised in our country.

We have seen, with great regret, the Pakistan Government's statement about Ayodhya.

We reject unwarranted inference in our internal affairs by outsiders. Those who have "solved" their own 'minority problem' by virtually eliminating the minorities in their own country, would be well advised not to indulge in hypocritical platitudes about the treatment of minorities who enjoy full religious and other freedoms as proud citizens of India. Rather than misleading their own people with false propaganda, the Pakistani establishment should concentrate on preventing ethnic and sectarian violence and killings of Muslims in their own country.

Their statement is a biased distortion of facts and betrays a total ignorance of the complexities of this issue.

The Government and people of India are fully capable of handling their own internal affairs without motivated and malicious meddling from outside.

Commissions of enquiry

288. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Commissions of Enquiry appointed during the last five years under the commissions of Enquiry Act;

(b) the number out of them which have since submitted their reports and how many such reports have been made public; and

(c) the particulars of the Commissions whose reports have not been made public and the reasons for not making them public?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) to (c). The requisite information in respect of Commissions set up under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 by the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India is

being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Survey of Commuters for requirements of DTC Buses

289. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently conducted any comprehensive survey of commuters in Delhi to find out the requirements of Delhi Transport Corporation buses;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) the estimated shortfall of vehicles; and

(d) the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken to meet the increasing demand of transport service in the capital?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRI SHNAN): (a) No such specific survey had been done.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) During the last 4 years i.e. 1985-86, 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89, a total of 1384 new buses have been purchased by DTC, of which 772 have been towards net additions to the fleet of the Corporation. The Annual Plan 1989-90 provides for acquisition of 506 buses. Additions to DTC fleet have been projected as one of the programmes in the 8th Plan. Acquisition of new buses has resulted in better performance of DTC. During April-September, 1989, the number of trips daily operated by DTC has been 40202 as compared to 36894 trips during the corresponding half-year period in 1988. The vehicle utilisation during the said period has also gone up from 213 kilometres per bus per day to 233 kilometres.

Contamination of Corn Under U/s 416 Programme

290. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the corn sent under U/s 416 has been found to be contaminated with aflatoxin a potential carcinogen;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken up the matter with the United States Agriculture Department;

(c) whether the United States Agriculture Department has since sent officials to India to investigate the complaint; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (d). In the context of drought in 1987, Government of U.S.A. donated 4 lakh MTs of corn to Government of India under U.S. State Government Agricultural Commodity Foreign Donation Agreement. Out of this, 2 lakh MTs of corn was imported in 1988 and the balance 2 lakh MTs in 1989.

On arrival of the corn at Indian ports in 1989, a representative sample was drawn by Indian surveyors. It reported 40 parts per billion (ppb) contents against the permissible limit of aflatoxin for human consumption as per U.S. standards at 20 ppb. The matter was immediately brought to the notice of Government of U.S. by NAFED who were appointed handling and distributing agency on behalf of the Government of India.

Government of U.S. deputed an official from Washington to visit India in this connection. He held discussions with NAFED and Government of India.

Government of India constituted a Technical Committee to get the entire corn tested again at Government nominated laboratories. Since, there was no prescribed tolerance limit for poultry and cattle feed in India, the Technical Committee recommended 100 ppb as the tolerance limit of aflatoxin for poultry and cattle feed sectors.

In all, 95 samples were drawn and analysed for aflatoxin at Government nominated laboratories. All the samples have been reported to contain aflatoxin below 100 ppb. The corn, is therefore, being distributed in the poultry and cattle feed sectors. As a measure of abundant caution, corn has not been distributed for human consumption.

Sri Lankan Refugees

291. SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of refugees who arrived from Sri Lanka during 1989 as on date; and

(b) the places where these refugees have been housed?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) 1095.

(b) of these, 952 refugees have been housed in the two transit camps at Mandapam and Kottapattu in Tamil Nadu. The remaining refugees did not seek admission in the Camps.

Reinstatement of Dismissed DTC Employees

292. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of D.T.C. employ-

ees who were suspended/dismissed from service for taking part in the last DTC strike;

(b) the number of such employees reinstated so far and how many of them are still under suspension/dismissal;

(c) whether Government propose to reconsider the cases of remaining dismissed DTC employees; and

(d) if so, when they are likely to be reinstated?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) to (d). A total of 3125 employees were dismissed from service by DTC in March, 1988. These employees are being taken back in service by DTC after considering the requests made by them. In this regard the position till 21.12.89 has been as follows:-

(i) Number of petitions representations received	2666
(ii) Number of offer letters sent by DTC for employment	2645
(iii) Number of acceptance of offer received	2454
(iv) Number of employees reappointed	2452

The process of consideration of representations, sending of offers, etc. is continuing.

The requests made by many employees to be taken back have been favourably considered, and some more pending cases are under process and are expected to be settled at the earliest.

Terrorists Training Centres in Pakistan

293. SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Pakistan have responded to the request of the Government of India to close the training centres located in Pakistan for training terrorists who are infiltrating into India; and

(b) how many such training centres are located in Pakistan and in Pakistan occupied Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) There have been three rounds of talks between Union Home Secretary and Interior Secretary of Pakistan on various issues including terrorism and training of terrorists who are infiltrating into India.

(b) There are reports of such training centres though it will be difficult to give their exact locations and number. These continue to vary.

12.05 hrs.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You may please raise your hands and I will call you one by one. Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down, I shall listen to you also.

[English]

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Sa-

lem): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu....(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA (Udaipur): On a point of order, Sir, we are new Members but you do not give us opportunity to speak though we are the first to raise our hands. The new Members should be given opportunity to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order.

[*English*]

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in person has threatened the PTI agency at Madras that they would discontinue the agency because they have reported a news item that the LTTE press conference was held under tight security arrangements. (*Interruptions*)

Sir, this sort of intimidation by the Chief Minister of the press must be put an end to. The Madras Union of Journalists have protested against it and have threatened agitation...(*Interruptions*)

I have given a calling attention motion and I want the Central Government to respond.

MR. SPEAKER: I will consider.

(*Interruptions*)**

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record.

[*Translation*]

PROF. MAHADEO RAO SHIWANKAR

(Chimur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are about 10 lakh onion-growers in Maharashtra. Onion is grown in 6-7 districts in the State and its cost of production comes to Rs. 150 per quintal. The price that is actually being paid to them is Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 per quintal. As a result of this, onion-growers are suffering huge losses. The Central Government should given immediate attention to this. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. What is going on?

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): During the past three days we have noticed that none of the new Members has been given an opportunity to speak. The traditions of the House are not being upheld. Only the senior Members are being given the opportunity to speak and they misuse the valuable time of the House. Hon. Shri Sait is a very senior Member and he has been speaking unchecked. We are here not to listen only we want to be listened also.

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. You can come not meet me. I will be sorted out.

(*Interruptions*)

DR. SAHILENDRANATH SHRIVASTAVA (Patna): The age limit for appearing in the Union Public Service Commission examinations was 28 years. This year the age limit was reduced to 26 years. This caused anger and resentment among youth in this country because all of a sudden they are deprived of a chance to appear in the examination. Through your good offices, I request the Government to increase the age limit to 28 years."

(*Interruptions*)

[English]

• MR. SPEAKER: I will hear you. Please take your seats. I am telling you to sit down.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA (Calcutta North East): What is the hurry? Why should the Ministers be given preference to lay the papers on the Table of the House?

MR. SPEAKER: Because they have to go to the other House.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: Under what rules are they allowed first?

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): We are also elected members. We should also be heard. You have extended even the Question Hour...

MR. SPEAKER: I am going to call you. What is the difficulty? They have to go to the other House. That is why I am allowing them. After that I will come to you. What is the difficulty?

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

12.10 hrs.

Notifications under Essential Commodities Act, 1955, and Fertiliser (Control) order 1985; and Review on the working of the Annual Report of Assam Agro-Industries Development Corporation Ltd. Guwahati for 1979-80 and statement showing reasons for delay in laying papers, etc.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

(i) The Fertiliser (Control) (Third

Amendment) Order, 1989 published in Notification No. S.O. 673 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th August, 1989.

(ii) The Fertiliser (Control) (Fourth Amendment) Order, 1989 published in Notification No. S.O. 738 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th September, 1989.

(iii) S.O. 1049 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 1989 regarding supplies of fertilisers to be made by domestic manufacturers of fertiliser to various States/Union Territories and Commodity Board during the period from 1st October, 1989 to 31st March, 1990. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—66/89]

(2) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 2426 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th September, 1989 appointing Joint Secretary (Fertilisers), Ministry of Agriculture as Controller of Fertilisers issued under sub-clause (e) of clause 2 of the Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1985. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—67/89]

(3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Assam Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1970-80.

(ii) Annual Report of the Assam Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1979-80 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—68/89]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Madhya Pradesh State Agro-Industries Development Corporation, Bhopal, for the year 1982-83.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Madhya Pradesh State Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Bhopal, for the year 1982-83 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—69/89]
- (c) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Jammu and Kashmir State Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Srinagar, for the year 1979-80.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Jammu and Kashmir State Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Srinagar, for the year 1979-80 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—70/89]
- (d) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Punjab State Agro-Industries Corporation Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 1987-88.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Punjab State Agro-Industries Corporation Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—71/89]
- (4) Four statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—68 to 71/89]
- (5) (i) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Dairy Development Board, Anand for the period from 12th October, 1987 to 31st March, 1988 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the National Dairy Development Board, Anand, for the period from 12th October, 1987 to 31st March, 1988.
- (6) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—72/89]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Animal Welfare Board of India, Madras, for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Animal Welfare Board of India, Madras, for the year 1987-88.
- (8) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—73/89]
- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Co-operative Tobacco Grower's Federation Limited, Anand, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Co-operative Tobacco Grower's Federation Limited, Anand, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—74/89]

(10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Coconut Development Board, Cochin, for the year 1988-89 under sub-section (4) of section 15 of the Coconut Development Board Act, 1979.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Coconut Development Board, Cochin, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library See No LT—75/89]

(11) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Coconut Development Board Cochin, for the year 1988-89 together with Audit Report thereon under sub-section (4) of section 17 of the Coconut Development Board Act, 1979 [Placed in Library See No LT—76/89]

(12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Cooperative Union of India, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Cooperative Union of India, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library See No. LT—77/89]

(13) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Cooperative Union of India, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89 together with Audit Report thereon [Placed in Library See No. LT—78/89]

14) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited, for the year 1988-89.

(ii) Actual Report of the Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—79/89]

Notifications under Central Reserve Police Force Act, 1949

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED):
beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 18 of the Central Reserve Police Force Act, 1949

(i) The Central Reserve Police Force (Combatised Stenographers Cadre) Recruitment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No G.S.R. 662 in Gazette of India dated the 9th September, 1989.

(ii) The Central Reserve Police Force (Amendment) Rules, 1988 published in Notification No G.S.R. 776 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd August, 1989 [Placed in Library. See No LT—80/89]

(2) A copy of the Border Security Force (Medical Officers) Recruitment (First Amendment) Rules, 1989 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 340 in Gazette of India dated the 13th May, 1989 under sub-section (3) of section 141 of the Border Security Force Act, 1968 [Placed in Library. See No. LT—81/89]

Annual Report and Review on the working of Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor, for 1988-89

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): On behalf of Shri Nilamani Routray, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (2) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library See No. LT—82/89]

Review on the working of and Annual Report of Gas Authority of India, New Delhi for 1988-89, etc.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): I beg to lay on the Table —

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under subsection (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act 1956—
 - (a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Gas Authority of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Gas Authority of India, New Delhi for the year 1988-89 along with Audit Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library See No. LT—83/89]
 - (b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Oil India Limited for the year 1988-89.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Oil India Limited for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—84/89]

Notifications under the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): I beg to lay on the Table —

- (1) A copy of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under subsection (4) 124 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963:—
 - (i) G.S.R. 682 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th November, 1989 approving the Paradip Port Trust Employees (Conduct) Regulations, 1989.
 - (ii) G.S.R. 782 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th August, 1989 approving the Kandla Port Trust Employees (Joining Time) Regulations, 1989.
 - (iii) G.S.R. 789 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st August, 1989 approving the Kandla Port Trust Employees (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 1989.
 - (iv) G.S.R. 799 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st August, 1989 approving the Cochin Port Trust Employees' (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Amendment Regulations, 1989.
 - (v) G.S.R. 825 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th September, 1989 approving the Visakhapatnam Port Trust Employees (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 1989.
 - (vi) G.S.R. 866 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th September, 1989 approving the Madras Port Trust Employees' (Contributory Loss in Wages Compensation) Regulations, 1989.
 - (vii) G.S.R. 867 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th September, 1989 approving the Mormugao Port Trust Employees' (Allotment of Residences) (First Amendment) Regulations, 1989.
 - (viii) G.S.R. 878 (E) published in Ga-

zette of India dated the 4th October, 1989 approving the Mormugao Port Trust Employees' (Conduct) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 1989.

(ix) G.S.R. 910 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd October, 1989 approving the Tuticorin Port Trust Employees' (General Provident Fund) Amendment Regulations, 1989.

(x) G.S.R. 1009 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th November, 1989 approving the Bombay Port Trust Provident Fund (Amendment) Regulations, 1989.

G.S.R. 742 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th August, 1989 approving the Tuticorin Port Trust (Handling of Freight Containers containing Dangerous/Hazardous Cargo) Regulations, 1989

(xii) G.S.R. 847 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th September, 1989 approving the New Mangalore Port Trust (Distraint or Arrest and Sale of Vessels) Regulations, 1989.

(xiii) G.S.R. 1002 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th November, 1989 approving the Bombay Port Trust (Licensing of Stevedores and Allied Matters) Amendment Regulations, 1989. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—85/89]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 458 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958:—

(i) The Merchant Shipping (Certificates of Competency) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 591 (E) in Gazette of India

dated the 2nd June, 1989.

(ii) The Sailing Vessels (Members of Crew) Amendment Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. (E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th September, 1989. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—86/89]

(3) A copy of the Radio, Television and Video Cassette Recorder Sets (Exemption from Licensing Requirements) Amendment Rules, 1989 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 623 in Gazette of India dated the 19th August, 1989 under sub-section (5) of section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1985. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—87/89]

(4) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 795 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th October, 1989 prohibiting lights and regulating heights of buildings structures and trees for unobstructive functioning of 'General' lighthouses issued under sub-section (1) of section 8A of the Lighthouse Act, 1927. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—88/89]

(5) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Telecommunications Consultants India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89.

(ii) Annual Report of the Telecommunications Consultants India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—89/89]

(b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Tele-

- printers Limited, Madras, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Teleprinters Limited, Madras, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—90/89]
- (c) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the India Telephone Industries Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Indian Telephone Industries Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—91/89]
- (d) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Cochin Shipyard Limited, Cochin, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Cochin Shipyard Limited, Cochin, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—92/89]
- (e) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Vishakhapatnam, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Vishakhapatnam, for the year 1988-89 along with Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—93/89]
- (f) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kandla Dock Labour Board, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Kandla Dock Labour Board, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—94/89]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Madras Dock Labour Board for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Madras Dock Labour Board, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—95/89]
- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation, Bombay, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation, Bombay, for the year 1988-89.
- (iii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation, Bombay, for the year 1988-89 together with Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—96/89]
- (9) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining the reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Shipping Corporation of India Limited for the year 1988-89 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting year. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—97/89]

- (10) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining the reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the National Shipdesign and Research Centre, Visakhapatnam, for the year 1988-89 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting year. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—98/89]
- (11) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining the reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1987-88 and 1988-89 within the stipulated period of nine months' after the close of the Accounting year. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—99/89]
- (12) A copy of the Indian Telegraph (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1989 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G S.R. 865 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th September, 1989 under sub-section (5) of section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1985. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—100/89]

Statements regarding Review on the working of and Annual Reports of Indian Rare Earths Ltd. for 1988-89 and Uranium Corporation of India for 1988-89 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
- (a) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Indian Rare Earths Limited for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Indian Rare Earths Limited for the year 1988-

89 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—101/89]

- (b) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Uranium Corporation of India Limited for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Uranium Corporation of India Limited for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—102/89]
- (c) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government the working of the Electronics Corporation of India Limited for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Electronics Corporation of India Limited for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—103/89]
- (d) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Semiconductor Complex Limited for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Semiconductor Complex Limited for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—104/89]
- (e) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the CMC Limited for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the CMC Lim-

ited for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—105/89]

(f) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89.

(ii) Annual Report of the Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation, New Delhi for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—106/89]

(g) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Goa Shipyard Limited for the year 1988-89.

(ii) Annual Report of the Goa Shipyard Limited for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [Placed in Library. See No. LT—107/89]

(h) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited for the year 1988-89

(ii) Annual Report of the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—108/89]

(i) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of

the Mazagaon Dock Limited for the year 1988-89.

(ii) Annual Report of the Mazagaon Dock Limited for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—109/89]

(j) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited for the year 1988-89.

(ii) Annual Report of the Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—110/89]

(k) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1988-89.

(ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1988-89 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—111/89]

(l) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Bharat Electronics Limited for the year 1988-89.

(ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Electronics Limited for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—112/89]

(m) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of

- the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—113/89]
- (n) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Bharat Earth Movers Limited for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Earth Movers Limited for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—114/89]
- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tata Memorial Centre, Bombay, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Tata Memorial Centre, Bombay, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—115/89]
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Electronics Design and Technology, Imphal, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding review by the Government on the working of the Centre for Electronic Design and Technology, Imphal, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—116/89]
- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—117/89]
- (5) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) on the working of the Punjab Ex-Servicemen Corporation for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts [Placed in Library. See No. LT—118/89]
- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—119/89]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute for Plasma Research, Gandhinagar, for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Institute for Plasma Research, Gandhinagar, for the year 1987-88. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—120/89]
- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute for Plasma Research, Gandhi-

- nagar, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Institute for Plasma Research, Gandhinagar, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—121/89]
- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Raman Research Institute, Bangalore, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Raman Research Institute, Bangalore, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—122/89]
- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, for the year 1988-89 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—123/89]
- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—124/89]
- (12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—125/89]
- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mehta Research Institute of Mathematics and Mathematical Physics, Allahabad, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Mehta Research Institute of Mathematics and Mathematical Physical, Allahabad, for the year 1988-89 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Mehta Research Institute of Mathematics and Mathematical Physics, Allahabad for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—126/89]
- (14) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cantonment Boards for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—127/89]
- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Elec-

- tronics Research and Development Centre, Trivandrum, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Electronics Research and Development Centre, Trivandrum, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library See No. LT—128/89]
- (16) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Centre for the Software Technology, Bombay, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the National Centre for Software Technology, Bombay, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—123/89]
- (17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Computer Centre, Calcutta, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Regional Computer Centre, Calcutta, for the year 1988-89. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—130/89]
- (18) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Computer Centre, Chandigarh, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Regional Computer Centre, Chandigarh, for the year 1988-89.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT—131/89]
- (19) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the University of Delhi, Delhi, for the year 1987-88.
- (ii) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the University of Delhi, Delhi, for the year 1987-88.
- (20) (i) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (19) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—132/89]
- (21) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, for the year 1988-89 together with Audit Report thereon [Placed in Library. See No. LT—133/89]
- (22) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi, for the year 1987-88 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the National Council of Educational Research and Training New Delhi, for the year 1987-88.
- (23) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (22) above [Placed in Library. See No. LT—134/89]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri J.P. Aggarwal please.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Shri Aggarwal. Others may please take their seats. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI J.P. AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk): The hon. Minister of Food and Civil Supplies has said that permission would not be granted for issue of ration cards. He asked jhuggi dwellers without ration cards to leave Delhi. Is this the Government's attitude towards the poor? On one hand, the Government boasts of taking steps for the welfare of the poor and on the other asks them to leave Delhi. It seems the Government wants the poor to starve to death. Will the hon. Minister like to comment?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Yes Mr. Kurien.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): I am one to respect the Chair most and I am always ready to obey the Chair. If you do not allow us to speak, we have to shout like this to be heard by the Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: But I am allowing you.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: This House has set up certain traditions. With all respect, I expect the Chair to adhere to those traditions. During Zero Hour, we on this side, should also be heard.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no Zero Hour. Please come to the point.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: My point is only this. Yesterday, the Minister of Civil Aviation made a statement saying that the Indian Airlines Services are almost normal. I would like to cite my own experience. Day before yesterday, I boarded the flight—Trivandrum to Bombay. There was a delay of eight hours. In Bombay, Flight No. 183, which I

boarded was delayed for twelve hours and consequently I could not attend the Question Hour yesterday. I had a question in the Question Hour and you were kind enough to call my name. But I could not come here and attend the Question Hour. There was a delay of 8 hours and 12 hours. In spite of that, the Minister says that the Indian Airlines Services are normal. This is a factually wrong statement by the Minister and it is a breach of privilege. He has misled this House by making a wrong statement. I would like you to kindly make note of it. Secondly, through you I would request the Ministry to see that distant flights from Kerala...

MR. SPEAKER: You can give it in writing.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: There is no daily direct flight from Trivandrum to Delhi. Only on three days in a week we have it. On the other days we are facing a lot of difficulty. Therefore, through you I would request the Civil Aviation Ministry to ensure that daily flights are operated from Trivandrum to Delhi.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain): Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to scanty rainfall, Madhya Pradesh is experiencing drought conditions. Farmers are not getting support price for their crop. In order to provide relief to farmers, I request the Central Government to issue a directive to the Madhya Pradesh Government to waive the loans of farmers.

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the foundation stone of the Durgawati Reservoir Project in Rohtas district of Bihar was laid in 1976. Although till 1980, about Rs. 67 crores had been spent on the Project, yet it was nowhere near completion. Due to this, Rohtas district suffers from drought every year. I request the Government to complete this project.

[English]

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA (Calcutta

North East): In view of what has been disclosed in the House today regarding the communal situation in the country and the answer given by the Home Minister .

MR. SPEAKER: It is coming up tomorrow.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: In view of what has been disclosed today it is very much urgent that a Supreme Court Judge should be appointed to go into it. The Home Minister himself is making gross accusations against other political parties. Therefore, it is necessary to appoint a Supreme Court Judge to go into the matter to save the people from the communal disturbances

[*Translation*]

SHRI NATHU SINGH (Dausa) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had drawn your attention towards a very important issue and I had also given a notice for the same. During the next 2 months, assembly elections are going to be held in Rajasthan, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh. The new Government in Rajasthan appointed 30 new ministers and 8 Parliamentary Secretaries. This change of Government of Rajasthan cost Rs 1 20 crores. In this way, the State Governments are misusing public funds. I would like the Central Government to recommend to the hon. President to check the misuse of public money by the State Governments. If this extravagance does not stop, State Assemblies should be dissolved and President's rule be imposed in the states.

[*English*]

SHRI P. C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha). Doordarshan had given consent for the production of a movie by name *Kayar* written by Shri Thakazhi Shiva Shankara Pillai who has been awarded the Gnanapeeth Award for *Kayar*. This has been filmed in 26 episodes. When the episodes were ready it is understood that Doordarshan has blocked its telecast saying that there is excessive sex in it. In fact, it is a story which relates to time immemorial and as we all know sex is to be

viewed with respect to the circumstances. In certain circumstances a bit of sex may be necessary and is inevitable. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA (Jhabua) Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Agriculture Minister is not present here. This Government has come into power on the strength of votes of the farmers. Today there are no buyers for the cotton produced by farmers. There has been such a steep fall in cotton prices that no one except the National Textile Corporation is willing to buy it. This has created problems for the farmers. I would ask the hon. Minister to direct the National Textile Corporation to buy the cotton

SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH PAL (Nainital): Mr. Speaker, Sir, many people from West Bengal have settled in 'Terai Bhawar' area of Nainital in Uttar Pradesh. The West Bengal Government has included these people in the list of Scheduled Castes. I would request that wherever they have settled, they should come within the purview of Scheduled Castes and allowed to enjoy the same rights as they would have enjoyed had they been in West Bengal.

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (Delhi Sadar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Calcutta High Court has passed strictures against the General Manager of Vayudoot who is facing charges of malafide intention and corruption. He is the same person who has acted as a stooge of Ministers of the previous Government. Allowing such a corrupt person to continue to occupy such high position in spite of the fact that serious charges have been levelled against him during the last 2-3 years amounts to encouraging corruption. I would like the Government to remove him immediately and appoint someone else in his place.

SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA (Jammu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, people in Jammu-Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and various other parts of the country speak Dogri language. But I regret to say that though it is the mother

tongue of lakhs of people, yet it does not find place in the light schedule of our Constitution till today. Hence I would like to submit that Dogri language which is spoken in the entire Jammu-Kashmir as well as Himachal Pradesh, should be included in the eighth schedule of the Constitution.

SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV (Shahjahanpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, ordnance clothing factories have been working in Madras and Shahjahanpur in Uttar Pradesh under the Ministry of Defence. These factories prepare garments for the armed forces. The previous Government had brought them under the private sector, as a result of which the workers in these factories have been rendered jobless. Moreover, it is affecting secrecy of the army. The Government should pay attention to it.

SHRI GANGACHARAN RAJPUT (Hamirpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the Constituency from which I have been elected, there is such an acute problem of water that the residents of these areas feel it that they can afford to sacrifice their most precious belongings but not the water. During the freedom struggle, the youth, the workers and the farmers of this area had shed their blood in freedom struggle but the inefficient Congress Government had failed to provide water and irrigation facilities in this area during the last 40 years. My demand is that during the summer season which is about to set in, irrigation facilities should be provided to save the crops in that area as these crops are going to be dried up premature and the cattle have started dying due to non-availability of water. To meet this requirement, Mandha Dam is being constructed there. Its construction should be expedited and completed without any further delay and drinking water should be made available to the people of this region.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now Shri Gujral.
[*Translation*]

SHRI GANGACHARAN RAJPUT: And

immediate arrangements should be made to provide drinking water to the people and instructions should be issued to the Government that this year no person should die due to the non-availability of drinking water.

SHRI DHARAMPAL (Udhampur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the refugees residing in Jammu-Kashmir are those who were allowed to settle there under Simla Agreement in 65 and 71. These refugees belong to that area which has now become the part of Pakistan and is now called as Pakistan occupied Kashmir, and as per the recommendations of the Committee on Petitions the previous Government had promised to sanction about Rs. 12500 as grant and Rs. 12500 as a loan to each of the refugees of 1947 and for that purpose a Corporation is proposed to be constituted. I would like the present Government to take action in this regard. It is my first submission. Secondly, certain norms had been fixed by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir for the refugees of 65 and 71, but land has not been allotted to them according to these norms. Moreover there is shortage of land in Jammu and Kashmir and land is not available for this purpose. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: That is all. Now please sit down. Mr. Indra Kumar Gujral.

12.27 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER *RE. DEVELOPMENTS IN ROMANIA*

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): In recent weeks, radical, yet admirably peaceful, changes have taken place all over Eastern Europe in the direction of democratisation, political pluralism and the evolution of more representative systems and institutions reflecting popular aspirations. Romania has been an unfortunate exception to the trend towards peaceful transformation in Eastern Europe.

Events were triggered off by the brutal

killings of unarmed civilians in the town of Timișoara in the Transylvanian region of Romania. The borders of Romania were sealed, as the trouble spread to other Romanian cities, including Bucharest. Mass disturbances and protests at a rally in Bucharest on 22nd December compelled former President Ceausescu and his wife to flee from Bucharest. They were later caught and executed after trial by a military tribunal.

Even in its last hours, the Ceausescu regime unleashed a shockingly brutal wave of terror and violence against its own people. The Government of India strongly condemns the widespread violence and massacre of innocent Romanian citizens, including children. Our profound sympathies are with them. The Romanian people have paid a very heavy price for attaining their freedom and democratic rights. We salute their fearlessness, bravery and sacrifice.

The situation within Romania has begun to stabilise. A Council of the National Front has assumed power in Romania. They have announced a programme of action including holding free elections in April 1990. We have been maintaining contact with them both through our Ambassador in Romania as well as through the Romanian Ambassador in India, and are getting in touch with the new Romanian leadership. It is our hope that the National Salvation Front will be able to successfully guide the destinies of the Romanian people to a peaceful and democratic future.

The Government warmly welcomes the movement towards a more humane and liberal system in Romania. The Government and people of India wish the Romanian people success in the goals they have set before themselves, and greater progress and prosperity. We extend our support and co-operation to them in rebuilding their economy and joining the mainstream of the world economy. We have already offered to Romania urgently needed medical and humanitarian relief assistance. We are confident that the ties of friendship, cooperation and understanding between India and Romania will be

strengthened and expanded in the future under an open system in Romania.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri K.P. Unnikrishnan.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You are a wise person, please sit down.

[English]

SHRI ERA ANBARASU (Madras Central): I am on a point of order, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, what is your point of order?

SHRI ERA ANBARASU: Sir, repeatedly, from the beginning of the session, I have been asking what has happened to those Customs officials captured by the LTTE... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: That is no point of order...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. There is no point of order. Shri K.P. Unnikrishnan.

12.31 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER RE: REIN-
STATEMENT OF DISMISSED EMPLOY-
EES OF THE DELHI TRANSPORT
CORPORATION

[English]

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKISHNAN): As

[Sh. K.P. Unnikrishnan]

this House is aware, consequent to the strike by the employees of the Delhi Transport Corporation in March, 1981, 3125 D.T.C. employees were dismissed by the Management. These dismissals were made after invoking the provisions of the Essential Services and Maintenance Act, 1981 and also the special provision of the Delhi Road Transport Authority (Conditions of Appointment and Services) Regulations 1952.

A number of representations were made by the dismissed employees for reinstatement throughout 1988 and also during the current year. After a long lapse of about 19 months, the previous Government decided in October, 1989, on the eve of the general elections, that the dismissed employees may be taken back on the condition that the employees wishing to rejoin the service ought to put in a mercy petition and accept other very stiff conditions which were also prescribed for their readmission to duty in view of the extreme hardships they were put to and the distress which they had experienced; over 2600 dismissed workers submitted such mercy petition and about 2400 employees agreed to these conditions; and they were reappointed.

After the assumption of office by the present Government, a number of representations were received from the affected employees, Trade Union Leaders and many Hon'ble Members of Parliament stating that some of the conditions prescribed for the reinstatement of the employees were 'unfair' and needlessly stiff and urging the Government to reinstate all the dismissed employees.

The Government have carefully considered the matter and have decided that the dismissed employees should be reinstated without insisting upon a mercy petition but on a simple representation and without prescribing any other inequitable or humiliating conditions. The D.T.C. Management has been instructed by the Government not to insist upon a mercy petition and also to

delete some of the conditions for reinstatement to duty, which they had earlier prescribed.

Many Hon'ble Members of Parliament and Trade Union Leaders also represented that the condition that the period of absence of duty on account of dismissal be treated as 'dies-non' for all purposes; should be reviewed. The Government have decided that the claims of the dismissed employees for pay and other benefits during the period of their dismissal will be considered by the Government and a decision taken thereon expeditiously.

The strike in March, 1988 and its aftermath had created a feeling of confrontation between the DTC and its workers. The Delhi Transport Corporation plays a very significant role in the transportation of commuters in Delhi. It is this Government's hope and endeavour that the workers and the staff and Management in DTC will function in a harmonious manner to achieve the common objective of improving the services rendered by the Corporation to the public of Delhi. I hope that the gesture shown by Government would help commence a new era of management—labour cooperation in the Corporation.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri George Fernandes...

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record. I have called Shri George Fernandes.

12.35 hrs.

**RESOLUTIONS RE: APPOINTMENT OF
A PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE TO
REVIEW THE RATE OF DIVIDEND
PAYABLE BY THE RAILWAY UNDER-
TAKING TO GENERAL REVENUES**

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAY (SHRI
GEORGE FERNANDES):** Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do resolve that a Parliamentary Committee consisting of 12 members of this House, to be nominated by the Speaker, be appointed to review the rate of dividend which is at present payable by the Railway Undertaking to General Revenues as well as other ancillary matter in connection with the Railway Finance *vis-a-vis* the General Finance and make recommendations thereon."

As you are aware, inter-relationship between General Revenues and Railway Finance has been regulated on the basis of the recommendations of the successive Railway Convention Committees ever since Railway Finance was separated from General Revenues in 1924.

The last Railway Convention Committee, 1985, ceased to exist on the dissolution of the Eighth Lok Sabha in November this year. Though that Committee presented four reports on Railway Dividend, they could not give their final recommendations on the Rate of Dividend etc. for the seventh Five Year Plan Period. The Dividend has, therefore, been paid during the years 1985-90 on the basis of interim recommendations of the Committee. It is considered necessary to set up a new Railway Convention Committee immediately for making recommendations in regard to payment of dividend by the Railway Undertaking to General Revenues and other ancillary matters.

With this object, I commend the Resolution for the consideration of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do resolve that a Parliamentary Committee consisting of 12 members of this House, to be nominated by the Speaker, be appointed to review the rate of dividend which is at present payable by the Railway Undertaking to General Revenues as well as other ancillary matters in connection with the Railway Finance *vis-a-vis* the General Finance and make recommendations thereon."

The motion was adopted

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha to agree to associate 6 members from Rajya Sabha with the Parliamentary Committee to review the rate of dividend which is at present payable by the Railway Undertaking to General Revenues as well as other ancillary matters in connection with the Railway Finance *vis-a-vis* the General Finance and make recommendations thereon and to communicate the names of the members so appointed to this House."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha to agree to associate 6 members from Rajya Sabha with the Parliamentary Committee to review the rate of dividend which is at present payable by the Railway Undertaking to General Revenues as well as other ancillary matters in connection with the Railway Finance *vis-a-vis* the General Finance and make recommendations thereon and to communicate the names of the members so appointed to this House."

The motion was adopted

12.38 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) **Need to settle all pending compensation cases of Peruman Railway accident in Quilon, Kerala**

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Sir, the Peruman Railway accident in Quilon, Kerala, took place more than a year back. On the day of the accident the then Railway Minister made a statement that Rs. one lakh each will be paid as compensation to the next kin of the deceased. When the matter came up before the tribunal the payment of compensation was limited to the dependants of the deceased. When this was brought to the notice of the Minister he again stated that payment will be made irrespective of the fact whether the heir of the deceased is a dependent or not. The necessary amendments to the rule was also made. Still I understand that in 13 cases compensation has not been made so far. It is really sad that even in the case of such a terrible tragedy justice has not been meted out to the bereaved. I request that this may be looked into by the hon. Minister and payment made to the legal heirs in all the pending cases without further delay.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): Before I begin, may I point out to you one thing. I obeyed your orders under rule 377 (C). But normally when we give our notice in writing, unless there is a breach of rule, unless it refers to those clauses of 377 (A) and (B), it should not be deleted. I can understand about corrections. But what has happened is that your office has totally deleted portions from my notice which are very relevant.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Satheji, you know the rules. Please read them.

[English]

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am not saying

that I am not reading your approved text. All I am saying is, I am requesting the office, unless I commit a breach of rule under 377, it should not be done. Kindly see that rules. The rule says...

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You should raise this issue afterwards. Now you read only the text.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: My point of order is, that in the rule 377 (a).....

MR. SPEAKER: Others will also do the same.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am requesting you to read.

MR. SPEAKER: Please read the text approved under Rule 377.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am obeying you.

MR. SPEAKER: You know it, don't waste time of the House. Please see me in my chamber in this regard.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I will talk to you in the chamber.

[English]

- (ii) **Need to deploy Central paramilitary forces to maintain peace at the annual congregation of Ananda Marga at Anand Nagar, West Bengal**

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): Sir, I wish to raise the following important matter under rule 377.

Ananda Marga, a socio-religious organisation with headquarters at Ananda Nagar, District Purulia in West Bengal is running a degree college, Engineering college, High school, 20 primary schools, children homes, dispensary etc., in and around Ananda Nagar.

The organisation is having its annual congregation at Ananda Nagar from 29th December, 1989 to 2nd January, 1990 where about one lakh persons are expected. There are rumours floating all around Anand Nagar that there will be disturbances at the time of the congregation. If timely measures are not taken, the situation will get worsened. It is the duty of the Central Government to protect the lives of the people by immediately posting CRPF and BSF units there.

[Translation]

(iii) Need to construct a dam to save several villages from soil erosion in district Badaun (U.P.)

SHRI S.P. YADAV (Sambhal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ganga river has been causing heavy soil erosion during the rainy season in Gunnaur Tehsil of Badaun district in Uttar Pradesh. About 50 villages have been submerged by the Ganga and as a result the people of those villages have been rendered homeless. The oldest and very famous villages of the area like "Ahrola Nawabad", "Bajangi" "Sigaula" "Pukhta" etc. are now threatened with serious soil erosion.

I would request the Government to protect these villages by constructing an embankment otherwise these villages will no more exist in July 1990.

[English]

(iv) Need to give adequate compensation to the persons displaced by setting up of a defence production unit at Saintala in Bolangir, Orissa

SHRI BAL GOPAL MISHRA (Bolangir): A defence production unit has been set up at Saintala in Bolangir district of Orissa where a large number of people have been given employment. But it is a matter of great regret that priority is not being given in employment to the sons of the soil, when the establishment of that Defence Production was mooted, it was expected that it will solve that local

unemployment problem to some extent. But enough attention has not been paid to provide job to the local people despite the fact that there is no dearth of skilled and unskilled workers/people in that part of Orissa. As regards the compensation, the amount paid to the displaced persons is very low and unreasonable. No special arrangement has been made for the rehabilitation of those displaced persons. Step has not been taken to provide suitable employment to the displaced persons in that defence production unit. This has caused a great resentment.

In view of this, I would like to urge upon the Government to provide suitable employment in that plant to at least one member from the displaced family. The amount of compensation should be enhanced and proper care taken to provide job to the local people while recruitment takes place.

(v) Need to ensure proper functioning of telephones in Kalyani, West Bengal

SHRI ASIM BALA (Nabadwip): Telephones in Kalyani (West Bengal) always remain out of order. Kalyani is one of the Sub-Divisional towns in my Constituency. It is an industrial complex. Large number of factories, one University a number of schools, colleges, different State and Central Government offices are located there. People in general are suffering very much due to defective telephone system.

I would request the Minister to kindly look into the matter so that the Communication System is speeded up immediately.

(vi) Need to set up an oil refinery in Thanjavur district in Tamil Nadu

SHRIMINIYAN SELVARASU (Nagapattinam): The exploration for oil and gas in the Cauvery delta has been very successful and the crude find is of very fine quality. The production of crude which is about 600 tonnes per day now is expected to go up further. Naturally, the people of Thanjavur district expect and demand an oil refinery there.

[Sh. Miniyan Selvarasu]

Much of valuable and fertile agricultural land has been taken over by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission for drilling oil wells. Besides, the district has so far been kept purposely as a granary for paddy production. But this too has received a set back in the recent years due to the unresolved Cauvery water sharing problem, and is further aggravated by the failure of monsoon. The agricultural labourers in this district do not get employment for more than half of the year. The oil refinery here in the above context will solve some of the problems of this predominantly agricultural district transforming it into a district with some industrial base. I, therefore, request the hon. Minister to take immediate steps to set up an oil refinery and a gas-based chemical industry in Thanjavur district.

(vii) Need to formulate schemes for development of areas in Delhi

SHRI J.P. AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk): The problem of bringing in improvement of slum dwellers all over India needs a special continued attention of the Government of India. The present Government has declared in its manifesto that that it proposed to spend 50 per cent of Government expenditure in the rural India. This is indeed a laudable aim. The previous government had started several schemes like resettlement of Delhi slum-dwellers in specially built areas of Mata Sundari Road and Majnu Ka Tila. However, all such dealers could not be resettled there. More schemes of resettlement of these dwellers in Delhi are the need of the day. Attention may have to be paid to develop various Katras also in Delhi. The government should come out with schemes for development of these areas.

[*Translation*]

(viii) Need to make arrangements for the purchase of cotton from farmers at remunerative prices in Madhya Pradesh

SHRI AMRATLAL VALLABHDAS

TARWALA (Khandwa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to the sharp fall in the price of cotton in many states in the country, the cotton growers are in great distress and are facing financial crisis.

Hundreds of cart loads of cotton have remained unsold in the wholesale markets of Khandwa, Burhanpur, Sanavad and Khar-gone in Madhya Pradesh. Lakhs of quintals of cotton is still with the farmers. As compared to last year, the farmers are incurring heavy losses. It is about Rs. 200 per quintal. The Cotton Corporation of India is not purchasing all types of cotton at remunerative prices. The farmers are afraid of losses and are concerned about their future. The Government should take immediate steps to make arrangements for purchase of cotton at last year's price.

12.51 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—*CONTD.*

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now we come to the Motion of Thanks. You all are aware of time allotted to the different parties. The Prime Minister will reply at 5 p.m. Now I call Shri Bhakta Charan Das.

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS (Kalahandi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the congress Government was unable to understand the value of human life. I represent Kalahandi district. The entire country and Members of this House are aware of the severe drought that hit the district. I still remember the smile of the then Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, when he visited the area during the famine of 1986-88. He did not fulfil the assurances given to the poor and the hungry. I was an M.L.A. at that time. During a meeting with him, I told him that more than 5000 people have died there due to the famine, so some arrangements should be made for these people. There is no arrangement for irriga-

tion also. During the famine in 1984 Shrimati Indira Gandhi visited the area. But, till now, no permanent solution has been found to the problem of drought in the district.

12.52 hrs.

[SHRI THAMBI DURAI *in the Chair*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, people died there like insects, but no permanent arrangement of drinking water was made there during the regime of Rajiv Gandhi. So, I would like to request the present Government that these districts should be given priority and budgetary provisions should be made for the development of these districts. There are many areas in the country predominantly inhabited by Adivasis, Harijans and Girijans like Kalahandi and Phoolbani in Orissa, Chhatisgarh and areas of Vindhyaachal in Madhya Pradesh and Chhota Nagpur in Bihar. I have toured these places. Even a 60 year old woman has to walk 10-15 kms in the jungle to collect wood which she sells for Rupees three in the market and earns her livelihood for two-three days. The Congress Government never made any alternative arrangement for the development of the backward regions in India. The maximum revenue of the country comes from these areas. Most of the coal mines and other mines are located in these areas. These areas, from where the Central Government and the State Governments get maximum revenue, are the most backward areas. The State Governments and the Central Government earn revenue worth crores of rupees from forest wealth. But, there is no arrangement to solve the problems of these areas and the expenditure on development is not as much as the revenue earned from there. I would like to request the present Government that it should make efforts to understand the problems of these areas and make necessary budgetary provisions for development schemes.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Jharkhand is another such backward area. An agitation is going on there, as even after 40 years of independence, the Central Government has

not been able to understand the basic demands and problems of these tribals. So, I would request that efforts should be made to understand the ethnic problem of the area. A committee should be constituted to solve their problems and this area should be developed according to the recommendations of the committee. Otherwise similar agitations could start in other parts of the country. A study should be conducted and a committee should be formed so that schemes can be prepared to solve their problems. This area is dominated by the poor, tribals and workers. There is no facility of education and the literacy is only 3 to 4 per cent. There are no health facilities. People die of common diseases. Menengitis is one of them. For this, we contacted the Government of Orissa and the previous Central Government also, so that effective steps could be taken to check this disease. We met the President and the then Prime Minister also, but nothing has been done till now. About 5 to 6 thousand people have died of this disease in several districts like Phoolbani, Koraput and Kalahandi and nothing had been done by the then Central Government and the State Government to check this disease. I would like to urge the new Government that the vaccine for menengitis, should be immediately imported and relief provided to the lakhs of people who are suffering from this disease. This medicine is available in Delhi, Bombay and Poona. It should be immediately bought and made available to the affected people.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the end, I would like to submit that the National Front Government has tried to understand the problems of the people. I have full confidence that this Government will try to solve the problems of backward areas.

SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR (Bikaner): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of CPI (M), I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address moved by Shri Satya Pal Malik.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in this election the masses of this country have not only ended

[Sh. Shopat Singh Makkasar]

the regime of the Congress, but rejected their policies also. My Constituency lies in the desert region of Rajasthan. There is only desert and it constitutes of those areas of Bikaner and Ganganagar, which lie on border of Pakistan. The people of this area have to face more hardships than by those residing in other parts of the country.

13.00 hrs.

More facilities should have been provided to those people. But those people are facing lot of hardship. Yesterday, I was listening to my friends belonging to the Congress party, who were feeling very uneasy. Its normal and there is nothing wrong in it. For the last forty years, the Congress has ruled this country on false promises. It is obvious now when they have been thrown out of power by the masses that they remembered those days, when they enjoyed power and looted this country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in my Constituency there is sand everywhere. The villages are surrounded by thorny bushes. One cannot find stone or brick houses or any other thing there. When I see bungalows and Five-Star hotels in Delhi I feel sorry for the people who live in those remote areas and face hardships. This type of discrimination has been done by the Congress during the last forty years. It has created two types of systems in this country. For the rich and the corrupt, there is one system and for the hard working people, there is another system. Electricity was provided to the villages ten years ago, but until now, the electricity has not benefited the poor people living there as the farmers over there are not in a position to afford electricity for their homes. In the urban areas, we find that the light has been provided even in the cremation grounds but this facility has not been made available to the villages. In some of the villages Poles have been erected but have not been energized so far. There are two types of system prevailing in this country. The looters and the exploiters have been provided all the facilities

like roads, electricity, modern schools and hospitals. But the toiling class is deprived of all these facilities and virtually they have not been provided any such facilities these 40 years of independence. Now the farmers and poor people of the country are not going to be satisfied with the false promises made by the Government. The rich people like Shri K.K. Birla and Shri Madhav Rao Scindia are the members of the Congress party and the poorest of the poor as well as the Harijans support their policies and stand by the socialistic approach of the party.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI (Ghosi): Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh was also a member of the Congress party.

SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR: You cannot compare Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh with Tatas and Birlas. What is his status in comparison to them? He has been your champion number 2. He was good till he was with you but now when he has resigned from the Congress party, he is no more the same for you.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was saying that they who are talking of socialism and making loud speeches and never thought that they cannot be fool people of the country all the times. The Congress party favours to keep Shri Birla and Madhav Rao Scindia on the roll of the party, one day they will have to realise their fault. What is happening today?

SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Who is Smt. Vijaya Raje Scindia?

SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR: I belong to the Marxist party. I would like to say one thing. The congress party did not spare anybody, not even the farmers or labourers of this country. The Congress Government has always made false promise. The condition of our country has gone from bad to worse during these last 40 years. You wanted to make India a heaven and on the contrary you have made the life of the poor people a hell. The freedom fighters sacrificed their lives not to allow you to lead a luxurious life in five star hotels at the cost of working class.

We achieved freedom not for this end. The farmers and labourers had participated in the independence movement with a view to bringing prosperity and removing exploitation from the country. Exploitation has not yet been removed, it has rather increased. The poor have gone poorer and the rich have become richer.

What happened to the Monopoly Commission set up by Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru? The Tatas and Birlas were not so rich at that time. At that time, there were only 75 big houses in our country. But what is the number today, how many big houses have been created by you Mr. Antulay? What has happened to the Monopoly Commission? What happened to the implementation of the policies of the Monopoly Commission? ... (*Interruptions*). I want to tell you about the condition of the farmers. The farmers in Kerala..... (*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

SHRI T. BASHEER (Chirayinkil): Sir, I rise on a point of order. A very serious discussion is going on and there is no responsible Minister here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri P. Upendra is there

SHRI T. BASHEER: Nobody is taking notes. (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): All the points are being noted.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am talking of the 'loot' the Congress (I) Government resorted to. I visited Kerala four months ago. I asked a farmer in Kerala about the rates of cashewnuts. He replied that it was 5-6-7 rupees per kilogram. When I came back to Delhi and asked the rate of cashewnut from shopkeeper, he told me that it was Rs. 150 per kg.

Sometimes ago, I have been to Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh. I asked a farmer about the rates of apples. He told me that it was Rs. 1.50 per kilogram. When I came back to Delhi and asked the rate of apples here, the shopkeeper told me that it was Rs. 14 per kg.

There was a famine in the State of Rajasthan and it was perhaps the worst in this century. The farmers purchases the seed of Moth and Moong at the rate of Rs. 15-20 per kg. When they went to the market to sell their produce, no one purchased it even at the rate of Rs. 4 per kg. Now the members of Congress party talk of land ceiling. A few days back I had asked a question in Rajasthan Legislative Assembly about the acreage of land in possession of the rulers of Rajasthan? There are many seasoned politicians in the Congress party who have been the members of the cabinet and have held high positions under the Government. My question was replied and it was stated that Maharaja of Jodhpur has 11000 acre, Maharaja of Kota 12,000 beegha and Maharaja of Bikaner 10,000 beegha of land in his possession. This is their ceiling and this is their socialism. The Congress Government has deceived the people for the last 40 years. The Congress Government did not acquire surplus land in the possession of Maharajas. They have converted the palaces of Maharajas into five star hotels and have befooled the people of our country. The Congress Government claims that they abolished privy-purse. But, what happened to the implementation of the ceiling Law? They could not apply the land ceiling laws on the farm land of Indira Gandhi.

Indira Canal passes through my district also. Those who talk of socialism and of the farmers, I would like to tell them that out of this total land lakhs of acres belonged to the Government. The Congress Government decided to dispose of this land through auction. I know that the auction programme was postponed when 12 youths received bulled injuries and died and 20,000 farmers courted arrest. This happened in 1970. There were lakhs of farmers who did not own even one beegha of land. Big Zamindars and rich

[Sh. Shopat Singh Makkasar]

people purchased that land in auction. The Congress Government has made a fool of the people not once but several times.

The former Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi formulated a package programme for the farmers. I would like to ask him the results of that programme, kindly tell us about the same.

Now, I would like to say about C.C.I. We have inherited from the Congress, a Cotton Corporation of India which is presently in a wretched condition. I am referring to the Ganganagar district. At what price the C.C.I. is procuring cotton in that area today? Its procurement price in one market of the district is Rs. 725 per quintal whereas in the other one, it is Rs. 650 per quintal and in the remote areas, it is Rs. 600 per quintal. Though it is one and the same agency operating in all the markets of this district, it is purchasing the same variety of cotton at 4 different rates in different markets. I am making this point because the leaders of the Janata Dal and the hon. Minister are present here and they will convey my grievances to their top leaders. The Congress Government have reduced the procurement price of milk by 30 paise per litre. Not only in Rajasthan but also in Punjab, Haryana and in the entire northern belt that this decision has been implemented. In fact, this decision was taken during the rule of the Congress but the same could not be implemented at that time and it is only now that it is being implemented when the Janata Dal has come to power. Therefore, I would like to submit that this reduction in the price of milk and the variation in the procurement price of cotton is not a proper thing. Our enemies in the opposition should not get an opportunity to criticise us. That is why I have submitted all these things.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, though there is much to be said, I would like the leaders of my party also to speak after me.

I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): Mr. Chairman Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak and I appreciate my colleagues who have participated. I will try to be very brief. I will deal only with the Address of the President because a large number of speakers who have spoken on the Government side have thought it fit to deal not with the President's Address but with the past and with the performance of the Congress Government. I will come right to the very first sentence of the President's Address because you must be clear as to what we want. My submission is that this Government would do well to begin with a sense of humility in victory. We have gracefully accepted the verdict of the people although it is a fact that the verdict is negative in favour of what we call today the ruling party'. The largest single party with highest majority is still the Congress. But we accepted the verdict as negative because Paragraph 2 of the President's Address says that the people have given a clear verdict in favour of change. Yes, this should be accepted and Paragraph 4 says, "My Government pledges itself to fulfil the mandate given to it by the people." This is where the crux lies The Government by the National Front which has a mandate, based on its manifesto, on very major points which I will point out presently, has divergence with the manifesto of their partner in authority and not power, i.e. major partner from outside, namely, the BJP. I will not refer to the CPI (M) because this is a smaller partner. Therefore, a party which has formed the Government with 143 Members can claim a mandate only based on its own manifesto and nothing more. It cannot speak for the entire supporters of the ruling party with whose support today they are in the Government. Therefore, why this attitude "My Government's mandate". This Government talks of the Jammu & Kashmir problem, but what is the attitude of their partner who supervises on them. Yesterday, the hon. Member, Shri Jaswant Singh said that they would hold this Government responsible for their balance sheet every day and see whether they are

following their policies or not, and check them there.

Now, let me tell you what the BJP says with regard to Article 370 in the Manifesto of the BJP. On page 9, it is said:

"The BJP will....delete the temporary Article 370 of the Constitution and scrap the 59th Amendment of the Constitution."

Then, on the same page at serial No. 8, they say:

"The BJP will....appoint a Commission to examine the various personal laws in vogue in the country—Hindu Law, Muslim Law, Christian Law, Parsi Law, Civil Law etc. and to identify the fair and equitable ingredients in these laws, prepare a draft with a view to evolve a consensus for a uniform Civil Code."

They also talk of introducing compulsory voting of all citizens.

Yesterday, Shri Jaswant Singh tried to needle you to say something on what you have said in the President's Address; para 11, where the President says:

"The law will take its own course in respect of matters of corruption in high places."

This is the Government's declared policy and stand, but what did Shri Jaswant Singh advise you? He said: "Discard this attitude and follow the attitude of prosecuting people directly." He said: "Law is an ass." He repeated it thrice. He forgot—unfortunately, he is not a lawyer and my friend, Shri Somnath Chatterjee tried to help him—that the phrase is used in the context of people who do not want to abide by the rule of law. For people, who are obstinate, non-law abiding, citizens, criminals, and who themselves are assess, for such people law is an ass. For common people, law abiding people, it is not, they want the rule of law and I think, this Government wants to run this country ac-

ording to rule of law. That is why, rightly, in President's Address it is said that the law will take its own course in matters of corruption in high places. We welcome this. Of course, now, there is a chance for you. We are not afraid; go ahead, appoint any authority or Commission to go into Bofors or any other matter and find out those who are guilty. Yesterday, in half of his speech, Shri Jaswant Singh mentioned of Jyotsana and RR Holdings etc. Let this Government find out who the culprits are and punish them. But it should be done according to the rule of law, the law of the land. He wants you to discard that. I am warning this Government because I had seen this attitude in 1977. When the Janata Party Government came with such a huge mandate in 1977, I remember, Late Shri Kamal Lal Gupta and other who were in this House were asking for the blood of Indiraji and Sanjay. Day after day, they wanted all laws to be thrown over board. We know the result! I am sure this Government will not get pressurised in to this trap, in which yesterday our good friend Shri Jaswant Singhji—who is not here today—wanted this Government to be pushed, by telling them not to abide by the rule of law.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolgpur): You want to help this Government?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: This is my warning to this Government. Some day, you will have to day, "God save us from such friends!" Somnathji at least, I am sure, is a law abiding man and he is an expert on law. I do not think he will every say, "Don't abide by rule of law; do away with law or throw it overboard."

I want this Government to be warned about another most dangerous thing. I say this because the BJP happens to be their first largest supporter. Therefore I warn you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): BJP has never punished anybody unlawfully.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: You should not say such things.

[English]

I am restricting myself to the President's Address. The Address says in para 31:

"The Government will further endeavour to usher in an era of stability, confidence and cooperative endeavour in our region. In the pursuit of this objective, talks have already been initiated with the Government of Sri Lanka."

The Address also says, that the Government will take steps consistent with our national interest. This is what is declared in the President's Address as the policy of the Government.

But the BJP states a very dangerous thing in its Manifesto which is not there in the National Front's Manifesto. In Chapter V of its Manifesto, while talking on non-alignment, the view of the BJP is that the challenges we face in the field of external relations arise from a re-assertion of the altered importance of non-alignment as a concept in a rapidly transforming world. Now I would really like to know what they mean by this.

I remember, last time they talked of genuine non-alignment. This word 'genuine' has occurred in this Address also. I would like to warn this Government. Mr Upendra, you are the only person who is representing the Government on the Treasury Benches today. I want you to warn your leader, to convey to your leader about the danger of this 'genuine' non-alignment which landed us virtually in the lap of a Super Power which today dominates this world by economic imperialism. That is the danger which you must avoid. And that is why when they talk of diluting non-alignment they will pressurise you under this garb because this is their move.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.

UPENDRA): Refer to our manifesto.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I have to refer to this. You know that your Government is today on crutches. You are a partner. This partner is holding you accountable. That is why I am talking and you are on his crutches. The moment they withdraw that crutch you will fall. That is my fear. That is why I am warning you.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: That is your hope.

[Translation]

AN HON. MEMBER: We shall not do it.

[English]

SHRI VASANT SATHE: And we do not want you to fall so soon. Let us see the BJP's manifesto on page 39 and I will quote.

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Is he speaking on BJP or on the President's Address?

[English]

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Do not excited. Kindly listen to what I have to say.

I will finish with this. This is all I wanted to do today, to warn them. If they want to take a warning well and good. If they do not want they will suffer. Now, what do they say? They say—

"The other great harm that Rajiv Government has caused to the country is excessive misemployment in an adventurous manner, of the Indian Armed Forces on Political roles or on militarily unattainable tasks. This has caused a very serious lowering of the morale of our Armed Forces, and hence of its total combat effectiveness, BJP wishes to caution the nation against the extremely harmful consequences if such a situation is permitted to continue."

Sir, I would like to know—this is with reference to Sri Lanka—what the attitude of this Government is. We also had agreed with the Government of Sri Lanka and their representatives that we will withdraw the forces—in a phased manner—subject to the interests particularly of the Tamilian population in Sri Lanka.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Mr. Chairman, I am on a point of order. We do know that this Government has been formed on the basis of the manifesto of the National Front and the main constituent is Janata Dal.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order? What rule are you citing?

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: As we were supporting you on that day, the misplaced question may compel many of the people to define our position about the formation of this Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order. You can mention it when you speak.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I will be glad if the CPM makes its position clear on this. But I want to point out about the danger that is threatening.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): CPI also?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Are you in agreement with that?

If the Indian forces who had gone to Sri Lanka, had not gone there, what would have been the situation in this region? Would not other elements have stepped in? Would that have been in (a) regional interests? (b) in our own national interests? (c) most important of all, would that have been in the interests of the Tamil people living in Sri Lanka?

Let us be very specific.

After all if the Army goes somewhere, it faces the consequences and the brave soldiers of

India have gone there, for the sake of peace to see that no unnecessary bloodshed may be caused, or suffered. Now, instead of thanking, and congratulating our brave sons of this country and our Armed Forces, these people in this sentence have tried to say that by being there they felt demoralised! I cannot understand a greater seditious thing said about the Armed Forces than this as has been said in the manifesto. I would there like this Government to look into this manifesto of the BJP.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): This is because of your policy.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: What would you have done if you were there? That is what I would like to know. Tell this Government what you would do. (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: You hand over Sri Lanka to America...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): The most dangerous thing is your existence...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. Do not interrupt him. Do not waste the time of the House.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will give a chance to you. At that time you raise your points.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: We have done what we thought was in the interest of our country, of this region and of the people of Sri Lanka, particularly the Tamils.

As has been reasserted just now if the Government's major partner, the supervising and the monitoring partner—now I can call it as the monitoring partner of this Government—thinks that sending IPKF was a

[Sh. Vasant Sathe]

foolish act and we should not have done that at all, then I can like to understand the policy of this Government. Tomorrow if the interests of the Tamils in Sri Lanka get threatened, would you keep quiet; would you say, let them die because you cannot sacrifice 4,000 soldiers as we had done? Therefore, if 40,000, 50,000, 1 lakh Tamils get massacred there, no harm—is that what you will say? I would like this Government to say specifically what they want to say. Therefore, Sir, these are the few main points I thought this Government must be warned about, because as they say they will be asking for your Balance Sheet, they would not take the liabilities and they would only enjoy assets, all powers, You know well the phrase, "power without responsibility" That is the role of the BJP. This is the virtue of the oldest profession. Power without responsibility is the privilege of the oldest profession. Therefore, I want this Government to get forewarned with such partners and be careful. *...(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): Kindly leave it to us to settle.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Ultimately it will be left to you. Last time also I gave this warning in 1978, but the then Government did not listen. If you do not listen, the same fate will overtake the present Government also. But we want you to continue. Therefore, continue with humility and with responsibility. This is all I would like to say.

Sir, about the other things, when they come with the Budget, we will make our points.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV (Faizabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on President's Address. Sir, I rise to support and present my points of view on

the Motion of Thanks moved by Shri Satyapal Malik. Sir, after going through the President's Address this becomes clear that the present Government is prepared to work in a new directions in view the mandate which it has received. It has taken certain policy decisions accordingly in different regions. Sir, the President's Address contains the broad outlines of the policies of the Government. However, after going through it, it does not become clear as to what is the proposed line of action of this Government regarding certain important issues such as the Punjab tangle, Communalism raising its ugly head and the problem of bridging the gap between the rich and the poor which has widened beyond proportions. In my opinion top priority should be given for bringing communal amity as the communal and the secessionist forces are becoming more and more effective thereby threatening the unity and integrity of our country. In view of the increasing power of the communal forces, the Government should think about the measures which have to be taken to keep them under check. The most important point is that unless the Government takes certain radical steps in line with the spirit of the mandate which it has received, the underlying spirit will gradually vanish and the confidence reposed in the Government will also be shaken. However, the question is as to how to save the country from communal forces?

Sir, the Ram Janam Bhoomi—Babri Masjid issue was first raised in my district and that spark flared up like a wild fire which engulfed the entire country and resulted in hundreds of incidents of rioting and heavy loss of life and property. However, Faizabad remained calm. The communist party is proud of the fact that it has been spearheading campaigns and organised seminars and rallies for strengthening secular forces during the last two years since the Babri-Masjid—Ram Janam Bhoomi issue gained ground as a result of unlocking the gates of the shrine which famed communal tension throughout the country. It is very creditable that Faizabad remained aloof from communal riots which took a very serious turn in other parts of the country and took a heavy toll of human

lives. The communist party is indeed proud of it. As regards, the finding of a solution to the Ram-Janam Bhoomi—Babri Masjid issue, I would like to suggest that in respect of all places of worship be it a temple, a mosque, a church or a Gurudwara, the Government should bring in a bill to bring them back to their position on 15th August, 1947 so that the enactment may settle the matter permanently.

Sir, some people are of the opinion that this is not a dispute of one or two mosques but that all the mosques of the country have been constructed after demolishing some temple or the other. Such is the understanding of the communalists due to which the Muslims of the whole country have begun to doubt that this dispute does not concern only one mosque but it may involve many other mosques of the country. Therefore, in order to remove such a notion, it was essential for the Government to have brought a Bill in this very session and in case it is not possible to do so in this session itself, it should bring a bill in the next session and instead of a Private Member's Bill, it should come as a Government Bill. Before it is brought here in the shape of a Private Member's Bill, the Government should take initiative in this regard to restore the position in respect of all the places of worship, which existed as on August 15, 1947. Such a step taken by the Government will bring an end to the surcharged atmosphere of communalism and distrust which has hitherto plagued the minds of the people of each community.

Sir, the Babri Masjid Ram Janam Bhoomi issue of Faizabad is not so complicated that it cannot be solved. However, if the persons trying to solve it are outsiders or the protagonists of communal forces, they cannot succeed. But it can be solved if the local Muslims and the Hindus sit together to solve it.

A few days ago, when a motion was moved by Government to see vote of confidence, our senior leader Shri Advani was speaking quite high of the mandate the people had given in their favour but at the same time he was also expressing a sense of awe. It

shows that the mandate may also create a sense of awe. The people of Faizabad have given their mandate, the communal forces cannot succeed there. Therefore you should also honour this mandate and on its basis, bring an end to the Ram Janma Bhoomi-Babri Masjid problem. Our senior leaders should realise that if they want to honour the mandate and they have faith in it, they should understand that the people of Faizabad have not given their mandate in favour of those who have been fanning the flame of Babri Masjid-Ram Janma Bhoomi issue. Instead it is against them. Now our hon. Prime Minister as well as Shri Advani should also honour this mandate. Shri Rajiv Gandhi had addressed the very first gathering during his election campaign in Faizabad. As such he had addressed two meetings in Faizabad.

SHRI BHOGENDRAJHA (Madhubani): Mr. Chairman, Sir, neither the former Prime Minister nor any of the Ministers is paying attention to the Ram Janma Bhoomi—Babri Masjid issue. It is not a matter of priority for them.

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV: In his first meeting he said that he had come there as he wanted to bring Ram Rajya in this country. When he was just speaking this word, some persons from the other corner raised the slogans of *Har Har Mahadev* and *Bajrang Bali ki Jai*. Having seen it and after hearing his speech and witnessing a number of movements launched by us ever since February 1986 when the gates of the shrine were opened up for public, the people of the entire district felt that perhaps Shri Rajiv Gandhi himself was in its favour and he was fanning the flame of communalism. No doubt it is a fact that even after the judgement of the court, they tried to seek the permission of the court for a particular number of plot which falls in the mosque area. But when it was not given by the court, they got the foundation stone of the Ram Mandir laid in some corner of that very number of plot. First they stopped it, then they sought the permission of the court but when the same was not granted, our former Government itself got it done. What I mean to say is that our former Prime

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Minister and the Government were no less responsible for the widespread bloodshed in the whole country and killings of thousands of innocent people and loss of the property worth millions of rupees on that account. They were mainly responsible for it because if we see it at the national level, we find that the maximum number of incidents of rioting took place in the Congress-ruled States. We do not want to go into those details but this is a living example of the fact that the Hindu-Muslim riots were widespread in the Congress-ruled States, irrespective of the State whether it was Badaun or Meerut in U.P. Bhagalpur or any other place. What I mean to say is that our former Government is mainly responsible for this menace of communalism. Therefore, I would like to suggest to the new Government that, as I have said even earlier, in order to solve the Babri Masjid-Ram Janma Bhoomi issue, a law should be enacted to maintain status quo in respect of temples, mosques and other places of worship as on August 15, 1947. If this is done as a first step by the Government, I feel that it will facilitate the solution of that problem also. If Shri Advani wants to respect the mandate, I would like to submit to him that the people there have given their mandate in favour of the Communist Party and secular forces. Now the Government should take steps to solve that dispute and respect the mandate. Members have raised a number of issues in their speeches in this House. Our Government has also proposed to bring forward an amendment in the Constitution for land reforms. There is a long list of people who had grabbed vast stretches of land, while the previous Government was in power. In 1985 a conference of State Revenue Ministers was held wherein a decision was taken to provide land to the landless farmers. If this decision is implemented, many landless farmers of our country, who do not have adequate land even for burying their dead, will get some land.

People in this country who have nothing to do with cultivation of land, who do not

acres of land, in their name while the real sons of the soil, the farmers who sweat and toil to produce foodgrains, do not have an inch of land with them. Strange is the plight of our country. Ours is the largest democracy in the world, where the party getting the majority vote forms the Government. And such is the condition of the people in this country that there are disparities virtually in every sphere, be it education, employment or agriculture.

In rural areas if a child falls sick he is not able to get any medicine as a result of which he dies. But when Shri Rajiv Gandhi's children fall ill, the best doctors are flown in from U.S.A. or U.K. In all spheres we see a wide gap between the rich and the poor. It is not easy to fill that gap. The previous Government has tarnished the image of the country in the eyes of the outside world. Shri Rajiv Gandhi's misdeeds have made us feel ashamed before foreigners. So fed up were the masses with the previous Government that they decided to go in for a change. My suggestion to the hon. Ministers of the present Government is that they should learn from the mistakes of the previous Government and adopt a fresh approach towards alleviation of poverty. The previous Government used to talk of giving Rs. 5,000 as loan towards the purchase of cattle. But part of this amount used to be taken away by the middlemen and Congress (I) workers and whatever amount was left, it was not enough to buy the item for which the money was intended for. This is how the erstwhile Government went about fulfilling its slogan, of 'Garibi Hatao'. The first step towards alleviation of poverty is to stop all imports and encourage indigenous production and consumption of all commodities. There should be a check on the unbridled growth of the affluent class in the country so that we can bridge the gap between the rich and the poor. There should be a balance between industrial production and agricultural production so that all the essential commodities may be brought within the purchasing power of the common man.

First of all I would like to say that have to bear the brunt of the merits and demerits of our election system. It is the system where people with money power and muscle power are always the winners while the eminent social workers or those persons who have been serving the poor, are invariably the losers. In such a situation our Government should pay attention to it and ensure that the poor may exercise their franchise in a judicious manner. The present-day election system is plagued by irregularities like booth-capturing and the common man cannot exercise his franchise in the way he wants to exercise it in favour of the candidate he wants to support. A living example is that of Amethi from where the former Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi has won. There cannot be a better, a more telling case than this one to highlight irregularities in the electoral process.

The judicial process in this country is so time consuming that the poor cannot get timely justice. In fact justice delayed is justice denied. So there is an urgent need for a revamping of our judicial system.

First of all we should check the menace of communalism in this country. The Government should introduce a Bill to check the evil of communalism. The fire of communalism must be extinguished lest it engulfs the entire nation. Therefore a Bill to check communalism should be brought at the earliest.

I would also like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRIMATI JAYAWANTINAVINCHANDRA MEHTA (Bombay North East): Mr. Chairman Sir, the Ninth Lok Sabha was constituted after the Indian public voted for a change of Government. However I am of the firm opinion that mere a change in the colour of the Government is not enough. The new Government will have to establish its credibility among the Indian public, in speech as well as in action. It will have to work towards bringing about a social change.

My senior colleague hon. Shri Sathe spoke here before me. Instead of discussing the hon. President's Address he spoke at length on the B.J.P.'s manifesto. I would like to thank him from the core of my heart for publicising the B.J.P.'s manifesto. So nice of him to have read it out because everyone might not have gone through it. I would have been understandable if he had read out the Congress (I) manifesto in the capacity of a leader of the Congress (I). But then, there was no manifesto for him to discuss because the Congress (I) has been a failure on all fronts. That is why he made the B.J.P.'s manifesto as the basis of his speech and I would like to express my gratitude to him for it.

In this country, each and every issue is given a communal colour. I would like to ask my hon. colleagues in the Congress (I) if they had not raised the issue of Catholics in their manifesto at the time of elections in Mizoram. Was it not indicative of the party's communal bias? Was that not conspiracy to win the minority votes? The Congress (I) had acted in that particular way just to capture power at the Centre. In fact the Congress (I) has always practised the politics of succumbing to the pressure tactics of the minorities just to win their votes.

Moreover, I would like to congratulate the Jan Morcha Government as Para 11 of the Presidential Address mentions that the Lokpal Bill would be introduced. In fact this Government which has had a very good impression on the public, will introduce the Lokpal Bill to establish its credibility among the Indian masses.

14.00 hrs.

I would like to congratulate the National Front Government if they are doing such things here. During the last 42 years Indian politicians ran the Government in such a way that people lost faith in them. Today people believe that every politician is selfish, power hungry and avaricious to his core. I would like to submit that if the provisions of Lok Pal Bill are implemented by the Government in

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letter and spirit, it will enable us to gain confidence of the people and the Government would successfully accomplish the tasks. There is no doubt about it.

I would like to praise again and again the way this matter has been referred to in para eleven of the President's Address. Then I would like to refer to para 17 of the Address in this regard. I would like to submit that women enjoy equality of status under the constitution. I regret to say that despite all this women are still being insulted and discriminated in the society. Incidents of atrocities on women and rape are increasing by leaps and bounds. Nor do they get proper justice. The former Prime Minister promised 30 per cent reservation for women; what to talk of fulfilling this promise, even the number of women members in this House has gone down. Tickets were not given to them in desired number; rather some of the tickets allotted to them were withdraw. This only proves that there is great difference between their profession and practice. I would like to submit in this regard that during the last 42 years no attention has been paid to remove a number of social evils such as Devdasi system in Maharashtra and system of dedication of girls to 'Yelama' in Karnataka under which thousands of our sisters have been forced to lead the most miserable life. The Government will have to think about them. In order to rescue them from leading a miserable life, they may be absorbed in small scale industries so that they could become economically self-dependent and desist from adopting such disgraceful profession and lead a respectable life. This is the need of the hour. Incidents of buying and selling of women take place in the country even today. It is a scar on our democratic country and Government will have to provide special facilities to women. I would like to add that even today most of the poor harijan and Adivasi pregnant women are underfed. It is imperative that the social welfare department of the Government should prepare schemes for the women belonging to backward classes so that nutritious food is made available to

them under the family welfare programme.

In Paras 6 and 7 of the President's Address, reference has been made about Kashmir and Punjab problems. I welcome the Government's resolve that it shall not bow down before the terrorists. However, I can not restrain myself from expressing my concern for the situation in Kashmir. The leader of the Bhartiya Janata Party Shri Tika Lal Taploo was telephonically threatened by the Terrorists that if he did not stop calling Kashmir as integral part of India, he would be shot dead. Despite the threat looming large in his head, Shri Tika Lal Taploo continued to issue statement claiming Kashmir as an integral part of India and immediately after three days of the threat given to him, he was shot dead. The present and the previous Governments are very well aware of it. Only yesterday Shri Premnath, a workers of the Bhartiya Janata Party was shot dead in Anantanag. Therefore, the Government will have to pay attention to it. As regards Punjab problem, I would like to make it clear that about 57 BJP workers have been gunned down by terrorists in Punjab also. A 26 year young worker of our party named Tarsem Singh Balaar who was married only 1 1/2 years back was shot dead by the terrorists leaving behind his aged parents and the young widow. The erstwhile Government did nothing for their livelihood. I would like to lay stress on it that a scheme should be chalked out by the State Government to rehabilitate and provide bread to the families of the victims of terrorist violence in Punjab. Therefore is none to look after his aged parents, except her widow. I am sure that the initiative taken by the Prime Minister to restore peace in Punjab through love and compassion will succeed. I wish all success for him in his bid to solve Punjab problem and we will extend all cooperation to him. Our Government will have to take immediate measures to solve the problems of Kashmir and Punjab. Unless the Central Government takes immediate effective measures to restore peace in Kashmir, things will not improve. At times, I do apprehend, so to say I am afraid lest we should lose Kashmir which is the crown of India as we lost Kailash Mansarovar which is

the one of our revered national place. Having full faith in the Government. I would like to urge upon the Government to take urgent steps to save Kashmir.

In Para 16 of the President's Address, it has been stated that the minorities would be provided full protection so that they could live in an atmosphere of fearlessness. It is also a welcome statement for which the Government deserves to be congratulated. India is a country where all people, whether they are Muslims or Christians or Parsis or Sikhs, enjoy full freedom and are not discriminated on grounds of religion and caste or creed. For us Indians, secularism has been a revered act to practise from the very beginning. From this point of view, we want to give protection to minorities. However, I would like to submit that the Government should not adopt the policy of appeasement as the previous Government adopted towards minorities. In order to ensure uniformity in the rights enjoyed by all citizens of the country, uniform civil code for all citizens should be passed without any further delay so that all citizens of this country could lead a respectful and good life.

In the para 26 of the President's Address the Government has assured basic necessities to the poor people. They have also assured that a time bound scheme would be framed for this purpose; the policy regarding supplying drinking water in rural areas has also been clarified. But my submission is that in Bombay which is a metropolitan city, 50 per cent of the total population resides in slums and no arrangements have been made to provide drinking water to them even after 42 years of independence. Mr. Chairman, Sir, during the election campaign when I visited the area I received more than 100 applications in which water supply was demanded. I regret, rather feel ashamed, to say that toilets for ladies residing in the slums have not been constructed even during the long duration of 42 years. They have to get up at 3-4 a.m. early in the morning to go for this purpose. What is the significance of independence if the facilities of drinking water, toilets and electricity could not be

provided during these 42 years. The Government will have to think about it. As for instance I would like to inform you that drinking water and toilet facilities have not been provided in Park Side in Vikrauli, Varsha Nagar, Surya Nagar, Chitacamp in Chembur, Shivaji Nagar, Indira Nagar, Landongar; Lakshmi Nagar, Ramabai Nagar, Lakshman Nagar, Dr. Ambedkar Nagar in Ghatkopar; Haryali village in Bhandup and Sainnath in Bhujund. More than 10 lakhs of people reside in these areas. People are denied drinking water facility even in a Metropolitan city like Bombay and they have to cover a distance of 7-8 km to fetch water. It is very shameful. The Government has given an assurance for a time-bound programme. That time bound programme should be formulated and priority should be given to providing drinking water to the people living in slum areas in the metropolitan cities like Bombay. Even, the transit camps set up by the Government do not have any arrangement for drinking water and the people living there pine for water. What I mean to say is that basic amenities like water and toilet should be provided on priority basis under the minimum programme announced by the Government for the poor.

So far as the question of Ram-Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid is concerned, I would like to submit that Rama has been the symbol of an ideal man in this country. He was born in Ayodhya and no certificate is required for that. Therefore, a temple of Lord Rama will certainly be constructed in his birth-place Ayodhya. There is no scope for any doubt about it. Do not try to make political capital out of it and the issue of Ram-Janambhoomi should not be raised again and again to gain cheap popularity. It is national prestige of the country. I would like to submit that the Mayor of Miltonkings, a place near London, has in a statement on the Ram Janam-bhoomi said that the temple would be constructed and he would visit Ayodhya, even though he was a Catholic. When we talk of co-existence of all religions in our country, we should welcome this step and if people belonging to all religions are ready to accept it, it does not behove the

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previous speakers to say such things and to make it a political issue. Here, I would like to make clear the requirement of the country today. If we want to do something about the security, unity and integrity of the country, we have to proceed with service-oriented politics and it should form the keynote of our conduct. Today, I saw that while delivering his speech, hon. Shri Vasant Sathe was somewhat enraged. The reason is quite clear. As a fish becomes restless out of water, these people have also become restless after they have been dislodged from power after enjoying it for most part of their lives. Now when they are out of power, they are making such statements.

Therefore, I would like to submit that if we want to remember mahatma Gandhi and want to realise his dream to Ram Rajya, every hon. Member sitting in this House as also the Government should have the commitment to work in that direction. Before, I conclude I would like to say one thing more. So many speeches were delivered by the hon. Members before I spoke. However, when I, one of the lady Members, was speaking you rang the bell. I had hoped that the bell would not be rung when a lady Member was speaking in the House. But that was not to be. I want that the lady Members should be allowed to have their say. I think you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI R.N. RAKESH (Chail): Mr. Chairman, Sir, special importance has been given to the freedom fighters in the paragraph 30 of the President's Address. When Shri Kundu of the ruling party was speaking he said that his party would follow the footsteps of those freedom fighters who laid down their lives for this country. In my area also, there were notable freedom fighters. I would like to draw the attention of the House towards them. They were Sarva Shri Jaichandra, Harish Chandra, Alahdev, Mahaldev, Bhishmdev, Bharatdev, Somsatya, Jahirdev, Roopdev, Mahimdev, Dhamankde, Mishradev, Purandev, Talakhdev, Alakhdev, Bairabshah, Bhurajshah Guhandev, Bhojraj, Yash-

wantdev, Pratap Kesari, Dharmadhardev, Kunderdev, Puranshah, Lakhan Sen, Bishah, Rudrashah, Mardan shah, Prithvi Pal, Yaswant Shah, Ajab Shah, Bharath Shah, Udwant Singh, Prithvi Pal Singh, Ashwarya Singh, Rudra Pratap Singh, Chhitipal Singh, Ram Pratap Singh, Ram Gopal Singh and Vishwanath Pratap Singh. Please note that the number one is Raja Shri Jai Chandra and at number forty Raja Shri V.P. Singh. I would like to ask the Government and the leftist and rightist parties as to how many patriots their parties have given to the country? You would recall that while the freedom movement was going on under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi under the tricolour, there were certain elements who acted as traitors under the union Jack as they wanted to perpetuate British rule in the country. Concern has been expressed about the land reforms and agricultural labourers in paragraph 27 of the President's Address and it has been said that the land should belong to the tiller. It sees that the Government has the intention to do something positive. Test of just one grain of rice is enough to know whether the entire staff in the cooking pot has properly boiled or not. Two trusts were set up in Allahabad. One of them was established on 27th June, 1959. 3673 acres of land was transferred to that trust on 29th June, 1959 and thereafter 3148 acres more of land was transferred to it. It was said that a school and hospital would be established under this trust, but nothing was done. In 1979, the deed of that trust was changed. There are no accounts. The name of that trust is Dahiya Charitable Society. In order to implement the Ceiling Act sincerely in Uttar Pradesh, Mangal Dev Visharad Committee was constituted. There were no accounts in respect of the sale of 900 acres of land by the Dahiya trust during 1959 to 1974. The Mangal Dev Visharad Committee submitted its report and in order to implement it effectively, the then Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna did not exempt the societies and trust which were set up after 1st May, 1959, from land ceiling. As a result, 6400 acres of land of Dahiya Trust was declared surplus, which was distributed to the landless and 'pattas' were given to them.

But those lessees are still wandering with their 'pattas' and they have not got the physical possession of the land as yet. I would like to submit to the Government that either this paragraph on land reforms should be removed from the Address or those people should be given possession of the land. I would request you to refer it to the Lok Pal for which you are going to bring a Bill. The other charitable trust is Ram Janaki Trust. Gold silver, diamonds and other precious stones worth Rs. 10,000 million are there in it. To evade the wealth tax, this wealth has been included in this trust. It gets an annual grant of Rs. 26000 from the Government. According to this trust, their aim is to conduct Ram Lila and take out Tajiya. But it does not spend more than Rs. 2000 on it. This trust has one temple in Hardwar from where it gets a monthly income of Rs. 10000. While participating in the proceedings of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly on 8th September, 1986, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, now the Chief Minister of the state, had stated that the trustee of this trust should be arrested and law suit filed against him. That trustee is no less a person than the present Prime Minister. Paragraph 17 of the President's Address gives high respect to women. Just now a lady Member from Maharashtra expressed great concern about women. While sharing her concern, I would like to warn the Government again ill treatment of women. Whatever happened in Maya Tyagi case in Meerut should not be repeated... (*Interruptions*) The present Prime Minister was at that time the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. You can read the statements of Late Shri Charan Singh and the judgement in Maya Tyagi case. Even though he is no more in this world, you can read his statements. In the President's Address mention has been made about Mandal Commission Report, but the Government is silent as to when the report will be implemented. The Hon. Prime Minister did not feel it necessary to make any mention about the report of Mandal Commission in his address to the Nation on assuming the office of the Prime Minister. The same is case of the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister.

AN HON. MEMBER: I am on a point of order.

SHRI R.N. RAKESH: After assuming office, the Prime Minister visited Jama Masjid and assured Shahi Imam that interests of the minorities would be fully protected, but there was no mention of the report submitted by Dr. Gopal Singh Commission on minorities in the President's Address. I would like to submit through this House and through you that the policy and intention of the Government regarding the Report of Dr. Gopal Singh Commission is malafide... (*Interruptions*)... Due recognition has been given to the dignity and honour of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in paragraph 13 of the President's Address. It is indeed a great thing to treat a human being as a human being, because there lies the difference between a human being and an animal.

These traditions had been upheld so far. But the new Government deserves to be congratulated as the new Prime Minister took oath on 2nd December, 1989 and three Harijans named Gulai, Gulab Chand and Vishram of his own area—Banda—were done to death the following day on the pretext that they were dacoits. During the days of monarchy when kings were crowned, he-goats and he-buffaloes used to be sacrificed, but when the new Prime Minister took over, three Harijans were sacrificed by the police. I congratulate the Government for such an action. Mr. Speaker, Sir, who said these words about Shri Sanjay Gandhi: "Jab tak suraj chand rehega, Sanjay tera namm rehega"? Who said these lines about Shrimati Indira Gandhi: "Congress ek mandir hai, Indira is mandir ki devi hai, baki jitne hum sub hain, is mandir ke pujari hain"? Who said the following words about Shri Rajiv Gandhi: "Hey Rajiv bhैया job tak suraj chand rahin tab tak tohar naam rahin"?"

It was said during the election days, "Raja nahin faqir hai". He himself said before the elections that he had no bank account in any foreign country. But he holds shares in the Reliance and in foreign companies—the

[Sh. R.N. Rakesh]

fact which has been admitted by his son. It has been said in the Ramayana that when a king pretends to be a sage, he is less of a king and more of a fraud and impostor. "Ramcharit Manas" also carries a mention of a kind who in the guise of a sage kidnapped Janak Nandini Sita. He was Ravana the king of Sri Lanka. Today when the unit, integrity and democracy of India is in danger, then again a king has become a sage. I take pity on this Government. Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this context I would like to read out a couplet of Sant Kabir:-

"Rahi ek ki bhayee anek ki, ab to bhayee hazari

Kahen Kabir taran kakri sarkar bahut purush ki nari"

You say that this Government will show a new direction to the country. But I say:-

"Roshni chand se hoti hai, sitaron se nahin,

Dosti ek se hoti hai, hazaron se nahin".

Mr. Chairman Sir, with these words I conclude and express my thanks to you

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura): Mr. Chairman, Sir, an hon. Member has mentioned about the shares in the Raliance group. This is baseless. It should not go on record.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: If there is anything unparliamentary, I will go through the record.

(Interruptions)

[Translations]

SHRI NANI BHATTACHARYA (Berpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, many hon. Members from the Congress (I) party have said that it was a minority Government. I oppose this statement, because it has already been proved on the floor of this House

that this Government is supported by the majority of the members. All of us should keep this in mind. In the democratic form of Government, opposition is always there. In my view, the opposition is also a part of the system. But if we leave the opposition aside, even then it is a Government supported by the majority of the members. No one can deny it. Not only that, when their party has decided to work as a constructive opposition, it is not proper to call the Government a minority Government time and again. It speaks about their intentions that their party wants to denigrate the Government. I would like to say that this Government has been formed because the masses of India wanted a change and it is this will for change that has led to the formation of this Government. Different parties have been supporting the Government in spite of the difference of opinion with it. All the members have also supported the President's Address. I know that each and every point cannot be included in the President's Address. The outlook of the previous Government headed by Shri Rajiv Gandhi and its way of governance has been touched upon in the President's Address thus:-

[English]

"The Government proposes to adopt an alternative model of Governance and development based on socialist ideals of economic equality and social justice, federalism and decentralisation, institutional accountability and human rights. Government will take steps to establish an Inter-State Council and to accord constitutional status to the Planning Commission."

14.31 hrs.

[SHRI JASWANT SINGH *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

A mention has been made about the difference between the present Government and the previous one in the President's Address. One thing that I would like to say is

that the previous Government was an authoritarian Government. The previous Government claimed to be the people's Government but they did not live up to the faith of the people. As regard Punjab and Kashmir problem, some steps have already been taken by the Government in that direction. Efforts will be made to check to price-rice so as to mitigate the hardship being faced by the common man. Till such time the price rise is not contained, I would suggest that the essential commodities of mass consumption like pulses, rice, oil, soap and cloth etc. should be judiciously distributed through the Public Distribution System in the rural and urban areas and the subsidy, if required, should be provided by the Central Government. I do not want to go into detailed discussion, but I would like that new Government should pay attention towards it.

President's Address does carry a mention about right to work, but it has not been elaborated further. Since we had openly spoken in favour of such a right before the elections, right to work should be included in the chapter of Fundamental Rights in the Constitution. I would like to request the Government to consider it.

Industrial Relations Bill is an anti-labour Bill. Labourers are not getting their rights under this Bill. I would like to suggest that the Government should withdraw it and introduce a fresh bill in incorporating various labour laws in their amended form. I have requested the new Government to come forward with a comprehensive bill. I have already said that all these things cannot find place in the President's Address. The President's Address can only hint towards a broad outline. Yet I would request the Government to keep it in mind.

About education, the one line that I would like to say is that it should be elaborated in the President's Address.

With these words, I support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

[English]

SHRIP. CHIDAMBARAM (Sivaganga): Mr. Chairman, Sir, yesterday's debate has been described by newspapers as one free from rancour. I sincerely hope that on the concluding day of this debate, there will not be an element of rancour or ill-will introduced by either side; we look forward to listening to the Leader of the Opposition as well as the Prime Minister.

The Government has presented to the House President's Address. We have some hard questions and because we ask those questions, this debate should not be turned into an exercise in vilification or exercise in personal character assassination of either the Leader of the Opposition or any other person and I think, we should try to concentrate and confine ourselves to the President's Address.

Sir, let me begin with the rather tall claim that the people have given their clear verdict for change. I sometimes wonder what we, on this side, represent. 38 out of 39 members of Parliament from Tamil Nadu representing 5 crore people of this country, 17 out of 20 members from Kerala representing 3 crores of the people, 39 out of 42 members from Andhra Pradesh representing 7 crores of the people, 27 out of 28 members from Karnataka representing 4 crores, one from Laksha Dweep and one from Andaman and Nicobars, I believe, represent the people of this country.

I heard Sir, speaker after speaker, beginning with the hon. Prime Minister in the debate on the vote of confidence, in this debate and in the debate on the Scheduled Castes Bill speak with, which I can only describe as disdain and contempt for all those who live in the South. Let this House not forget and let the Government not forget that 123 members of Parliament out of 131 representing the four Southern States voted for stability, for continuity, for Shri Rajiv Gandhi's leadership, for Panchayat Raj, for Jawahar Rojgar Yojana, for Nehru Rojgar Yojana, and for the promise of housing for all

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by 1995. Today, we watch this attitude of disdain and contempt with disbelief. But let me say with humility to the Prime Minister, it will not be long before that this disbelief turns into anger as it did against the Janata Party, Shri Morarji Desai and Shri Charan Singh in 1977-79.

Sir I have to speak in telegraphic language and I have to keep my eye on the clock. We had discussed Punjab. The President's Address does not even refer to terrorism. Somebody who wrote the Address, I think, has been terrorised into not using the word 'terrorist'. What is the position in Punjab today? I have obtained the permission of the Chair to lay on the Table of the House letters written by the All India Sikh Students Federation. I have laid* four letters on the Table of the House. The first one dated the 30 November 1989 warns all medical and engineering colleagues to expel Hindu students and asks them to leave their respective colleges since these colleges are meant for admission of Sikh students only. I have laid on the Table three more letters all dated 13th December. The first letter of the All India Sikh Students Federation states that the Federation will give full support to all those who follow the path shown by Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale and Amrik Singh, that is the creation of Khalistan. The second letter States that those who do not support the demand for Khalistan have no right to be the leaders of the Sikh Quam. The third letter reiterates the same views. What is the Government's answer to these letters? What is the Government's answer to the renewed demand for Khalistan? What is the Government's answer to the Anandapur Saheb Resolution?

On the 17th of this month, we meandered for the whole day and found no consensus, no solution. The Government's consensus paper made no reference to Khalistan, no reference to the Anandapur Saheb Resolution, no reference to the nefarious designs of Pakistan; no reference to

the fact that there are fugitives from law who have been given sanctuary in Pakistan, no reference to the fact that the Government's CBI has conveyed these names to the FIA in Pakistan asking Pakistan to apprehend those fugitives from law and hand them over to India, and no reference to the resurgence of fundamentalist terrorists. Sir, we expect an answer from the Government.

There has been a reference to Jammu and Kashmir. I do not have the time to go into all that had happened in the kidnapping and subsequent release of Dr. Rubaiya Sayeed. We are extremely happy that the Home Minister's daughter was released and she was unharmed. But we have to ask some hard questions.

Is it not true that when Dr. Rubaiya Sayeed's Kidnapping was brought before the Cabinet of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir the Cabinet adopted a resolution that the demand for the release of militants in exchange for the freedom of Dr. Rubaiya Sayeed should be acceded to only after the Government of India gave its approval to the conceding of this demand?

Is it not true that the Government of India activated the Crisis Management Group on the 9th of December, 1989? Is it not true that the Crisis Management Group met a number of times and was in constant touch with the Government of Jammu and Kashmir? Is it not true that all the instructions of the Government of India were conveyed to the Government of Kashmir through the then Cabinet Secretary? Is it not true that the Crisis Management Group advised the Government of India and the Government of India accepting this advice despatched a contingent of the National Security Guard under the leadership of the Director General Shri Ved Marwah to Srinagar? Is it not true that the decision to involve Justice M.L. Bhatt a Judge of the Allahabad High Court was taken by the Government of India?

Is it not true that at 2.30 A.M. on the 13th

*As the Speaker subsequently did not accord the necessary permission, the papers were not treated as laid on the Table.

of December 1989 the then Cabinet Secretary conveyed instructions over the telephone to the Chief Secretary of Kashmir to the effect that Dr. Rubaiya Sayeed must be released and whatever price has to be paid, has to be paid and it is these instructions which tied down the hands of the State Government in exploring alternative methods of securing the release of Dr. Rubaiya Sayeed?

And, finally, is it not true that two Ministers of the Government of India, Hon'ble Mr. Gujral and Hon'ble Mr. Arif Mohammad Khan reached Srinagar on the day before her release, they left Delhi at 4 A.M. and reached Srinagar in the early hours of the morning, when they met the Chief Minister? Is it not true that the Chief Minister conveyed to them his assessment that the price which was demanded was too high and that Dr. Rubaiya Sayeed could have been released by paying a much lower price? Is it not true that the two Ministers told the Chief Minister that they agree with the assessment of the Chief Minister? Is it not true that the Chief Minister told the Ministers that they should have continued to use the channel of one Mr. Abdul Majeed Wani and should not have used Mr. Justice M.L. Bhatt and using the channel of Wani one could have secured the release of Dr. Rubaiya Sayeed without releasing the five militants? We expect an answer to these questions.

A reference was made to Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka is a matter of great concern to India and particularly to the Tamils and for the security and safety of the Tamil-speaking people. Sri Lanka is a matter of little concern to some of our friends here, I am deeply sorry.

I would not touch upon this aspect but let me ask my questions. Is the Government aware that the Accord between India and Sri Lanka covered matters larger than the safety and future of the Tamils of Sri Lanka alone? Is the Government aware that there has been an exchange of letters between India and Sri Lanka and on the Trincomalee Tank farms, on the Voice of America's rights to

broadcast on Sri Lankan soil and the removal of foreign Persons from Sri Lanka, particularly Israel and Pakistan? And when they are negotiating a new accord or what described euphemistically as a new treaty between India and Sri Lanka, will the Government assure this House and assure the people of this country that while they will keep paramount the interest safety and security of the Tamil people, that they would also not compromise national interests and national security that they would not compromise the interests of the security of this region, that is, the South Asia; they would ensure that the clauses that the previous Government put in exchange of letters in no way deleted or diluted. Sir, will the Prime Minister assure the House that the new accord if it is entered into will deal with Trincomalee tank farm, will deal with Voice of America and will deal with removal of foreign presences on Sri Lanka soil particularly those of Israel and Pakistan.

Sir, a reference was made to corruption in high places and the resolve of this Government to fight corruption. I welcome it. The previous Government had sent a letter rogatory. We got the reply after several months and we sent another letter rogatory to Switzerland. It is for the present Government and the Prime Minister, and his—I am sure—very capable team of officers to find out who the recipients of the Bofors payments are. We have not had the privilege of hearing the Prime Minister speak on Bofors so far. But I have read in the newspapers that the Prime Minister made a statement in the other House about future contracts. I am afraid, even as one slightly acquainted with the records of the Bofors case—because I participated in the debate.—I was totally puzzled at what he meant when he said that there will not be any future contracts. Is there is contract today? Is there a conditional contract? Is it a conditional contract or a future contract? Does the statement take within—its embrace the present contract, or the conditional contract? I do not know. Let me ask him just one question. Is it not true that every effort was made—your perceptions may differ, but the record will speak for itself—to investigate the mat-

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ter? Is it not a fact—I am asking a specific question—that the process of asking Bofors to refund the payment of 64 crores of rupees referred to in the Swedish National Audit Bureau's Report was initiated by the previous Government? Is it not a fact that there is a file on that matter where a conclusion has been almost arrived at? And is it not a fact that the efforts to secure the 64 crores of rupees back to India were initiated and processed to a near conclusion by the previous Government?...*(Interruptions)* There is a new word, which is reverberating I believe in the corridors of the North Block and the South Block. It is not really a new word. It is an acronym, AMOG Alternative Model of Governance. Yesterday we got a taste from an hon. Member from Rajasthan, fed with half information by obliging Treasury Benches. He asked us a lot of questions. One of was referred to me. Before the Prime Minister replies, I thought I should take the opportunity to reply. A reference was made to an alleged surveillance of hon. Minister of the present Government when he went to America. Let me set the record straight Sir. The hon. Member of Parliament, who is now an hon. Member of Government, went on a foreign tour from April 30 to June 18. He returned to India on 18th of June. I categorically state—and I challenge the Government to produce a record to the contrary—that there was no order from me orally or in writing to place him under surveillance. I could not issue such an order. I did not issue such an order. But on his return, there were two Articles. One in the *Sunday Observer* dated, I believe, June 17th or so; and the other signed article by a correspondent Mr. Udayan N. Sharma in the *Sunday*, issue I believe dated 17th to 24th June, which made very serious allegations, one among them being that the Member had accepted foreign hospitality and may have violated the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act. As one administering the law, it is an elementary duty of the Government when there is a public controversy to which the Member took exception,—I believe he issued a statement; I do not know if he has filed a suit against

Sunday—to verify whether the allegations made in those two articles were correct. Therefore, on the 4th of July, according to my notes, long after he returned to India, we requested an agency to verify the contents of the report. We got a half-page report, I think, some time in the middle of August. We found that there was nothing in the report which warranted action and we allowed the matter to drop. I got the impression yesterday when the hon. Member from Rajasthan was speaking that he was willing to strike but afraid to wound. In fact, even he did not believe the half information fed to him by the obliging treasury benches. Let the whole file come here. Let the not dated 4th of July and the half-page report which we got, come here. It will categorically show that the only thing that we tried to verify was on the basis of two magazine and newspaper reports, whether there was any *prime facie* violation of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act. The report said nothing on it and we allowed the matter to drop. But why is the Government feeding such half information to friendly opposition members, what we call the new external support parties, the new kind of ESPs. Is this AMOG? Is it a new form of governance? Is it a new model of governance? Under the new model of governance Jawaharlal Nehru has been banished from the President's Address and the Prime Minister's Address. When the US House of Representatives in the Centennial Year of Nehru is paying tribute to Jawaharlal Nehru, this House should have resolved and the Prime Minister should have moved a tribute to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. I still hope when the Prime Minister replies, he will move a tribute to one of our greatest patriots, to one of our leaders of the freedom movement and the builder of modern India. I sincerely hope that the Prime Minister would do so when he replies.

Let me give you examples of the alternative model of governance. Dominique Lapierre's book "City of Joy" is available to everybody. They wanted to make a film on the book. You have already shown your colours. You are afraid of dissent. You will not allow a film to be made of a distinguished

book. I have great admiration for my friends from West Bengal and Calcutta particularly. I had been to that city. I love that city.

AN. HON. MEMBER: Have you read that book?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I have read the book. There is a point of view. Do not be intolerant of dissent. This is orthodox Marxism speaking. All over the world orthodox Marxism is crumbling and here is...*(Interruptions)*

My good friend, somebody whom I worked with, a distinguished civil servant, Mr. Vinod Pande, was appointed Cabinet Secretary a few days ago. I offer him my congratulations. But why was it not disclosed that he is due to retire in February, 1990, three months from today? Will you give him an extension? Or have you appointed him on tenure? If that is so, then why did you complain when we have extension to other officers?*(Interruptions)*

The Secretary, Fertilizer, was appointed Secretary, Rural Development on 20th of December, just 8 days ago. His birthday is today. I offer him congratulations. He is retiring 3 days from today. What miracle is he supposed to perform in 10 days in the Department of Rural Development? Why could you not have waited under AMOG for 10 days so that he retires in peace as Secretary, Fertilisers? In 10 days, he will switch over to Rural Development and transform the face of Rural Development of this country!

There is another example of alternative model of governance.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please have order in the galleries.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Yesterday, we were accused of placing people under surveillance. I denied that. But today under the dispensation of Prime Minister, Vishwanathji, the tapper and the tapped have been elevated to the same status.

15.00 hrs.

The tapped was Mr. Gurupadaswamy, the hon. Minister for Petroleum, and the tapper was Mr. Hedge, who is now elevated to Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission. Is this the Alternative Model of Government? I stepped into the shoes of Mr. Arun Nehru but I did not follow his footsteps. We did not place anyone under surveillance. We did not issue oral orders. But today go round in Delhi. Bureaucrats, civil servants, political leaders are asking the question: We have the feeling today, Mr. Prime Minister, that are we under surveillance. Are our telephones being tapped, are oral orders being issued, like they were issued for one year when your distinguished colleague was the Minister of Internal Security. When I took over, I told the Prime Minister and he agreed to my suggestion that we should drop the title Minister of Internal Security because it smacks of Beria. I said, I will be happy to be described as a Minister of State for Home Affairs. Today, I want a categorical answer. Has that old culture of the Minister of State for Internal Security, which prevailed in 1985-86, come back to Government? Why are our civil servants saying let us not speak on the telephone? Why are the civil servants speaking in hushed voices? Will there be a categorical answer from the Government?

I will be done in one minute. I do not have the time. I am waiting for the budget or for the Vote on Account. The paper presented by the Economic Advisory Council was touted as a White Paper. I asked the question: "Is the White Paper going to be presented?" The answer said: "No, a statement will be presented to the House." And the word 'presented' was scored off in ink and the word "circulated" was substituted. What started as a White Paper to be laid in the House, slowly degenerated into a statement to be presented to the House, and has finally become a statement to be circulated among the Members. I sincerely hope there will be a discussion.

Much is made of the fiscal imbalance. Much is made of the BOP. Will you kindly

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look at table 10 and table 12 of that Paper? When did the fiscal imbalance rise? In 1984-85 it was 1.5 per cent as a ratio of the GDP. In 1985-86 it rose to 2.0 per cent. In 1986-87 it rose to 2.5 per cent, and then the table 12 will show it tapered off. Who was the Finance Minister in 1985-86? Who was the Finance Minister who prepared the Budget in 1987?... (*Interruptions*). Let us see the Revenue Expenditure to GDP. In 1984-85 it was 10.5 per cent; in 1985-86 it was 11.5 per cent; in 1986-87 it was 12 per cent, and then it levels off. Who was the Finance Minister in 1985-86 and 1986-87? Who started the trend? So, what will the Government do? What will it cut? Will it cut Defence expenditure? Will it cut subsidies? Will it cut wages and salaries? You have to come out with an answer. You cannot say that this ratio of Revenue deficit to GDP has gone up without giving answers on what you will cut. Deficit financing is to finance growth. Rajiv Gandhi Government, with Mr. V.P. Singh cooperating with him for the first two years, followed a conscious policy of reflation of the economy. There was a surge in production. There was a use of the excess capacity, and infrastructure improved. Balanced budget is nothing but Reaganomics, and even Reagan did not balance his budget. Please, Mr. Prime Minister, do not play the dumb man's game. Milton Friedman and his Chicago boys did in Chile and Argentina. Chile and Argentina are today basket case, India today is a global player. We have taken India to the global player's position. Do not be swayed by Milton Friedman. Do not allow the EAC which you have continued, which appears to have developed cold feet, to transfer the coldness to your feet. For five years we followed a conscious policy on taxation. We increased tax revenues. We expanded the tax base. We ensured tax compliance. We reduced tax rates. There was a surge in our revenues. Now, what will the Government do? Which factor will it play with? Which factor are they going to modify? Let me give you, Sir, what is going to come. They are going to raise indirect taxes. They are going to follow

an anti-poor policy and this Paper is only a forerunner of their efforts to raise the indirect taxes. Why is the BOP under pressure? The BOP is under pressure because of three factors—drought of 1987-88, cuts in Governmental concessional borrowing and the bunching of repayments. When did the debt service ratio to current exports rise? The figures are that for 1984-85, it was 16.5%, for 1985-86, 28% and for 1986-87, it was 36% and then it levelled off. But who was the Finance Minister in 1985-86 and in 1986-87? Sir, the exports this year, according to Government's estimate will be 28,000 crores, according to Private industry, it would be Rs. 33,000 crores and perhaps there will be no trade deficit. Sir, we had a good policy. I once again appeal to the Government, don't develop a cold feet. What is the alternative policy? Will you have less growth, Mr. L.C. Jain's thesis? Or will you have anti-growth? Will you follow a regressive policy? Eventually, you will end up with distributing poverty. Rajiv Gandhi's Government made India a global player and I would appeal to the Prime Minister not to return to the kind of autarchy, a kind of autarchy which will take us back to 3% growth rate, back to the 50's and 60's. Sir, a few days from now, we will begin a new decade. The decade of 80's has been a decade of high growth. Let it not be said of this Government that the decade of 90's begins with less growth, with anti-growth, with regression and taking us back to the age when we were distributing poverty. Sir, we wish this Government well. But unfortunately, there are two players, one, the BHP wanting to kick this football to one goal post and the Communist Parties wanting to kick this football to another goal-post. The only way, I am afraid, you can save yourself is by deflating yourself so that you will not be kicked. We wish them well. We will offer them constructive cooperation in the national interest. But if the national interest is affected, as we believe there are indications that it will be affected, reading your E.A.C. Paper and after reading your speeches and as we believe after seeing the positions in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir, we will oppose you strongly, rooted firmly in our principles. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before I call the name of any other Member, I must point out that there is a severe restraint of time and on account of severe restraint of time, the list that has been given to me by various parties will have to be curtailed and I will be obliged to call Members representing smaller parties who have not taken part in the debate. Please bear in mind that there is severe restraint of time. Hon'ble leader of the Opposition will be speaking and the hon. Prime Minister is scheduled to reply to the debate at 5 O'clock and I am obliged to call the leader of the major groups in the House. Therefore, I am afraid I will have to ration the time and I will be giving about 3 minutes to each Member

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the motion moved by my distinguished friend, Shri Satyapal Malik Sir, much has been said on the President's Address by speakers belonging to the Opposition Parties. But they have failed to realise that the President's Address is highly sober and most realistic presentation of the tasks and policy perspective of the National Front Government. Sir, the Address failed to reflect the salient features of the election manifesto of the National Front, they say. As has already been mentioned, the President's Address also delineates an alternative model of Government and also developmental strategy. You may have your own view regarding that. But it is an alternative to the policy you have been following during the the last 40 years.

Sir, the Members sitting opposite, it appears to me, are very blind to these realities and are blind to the promises which have been made and commitments already announced. They say that all the problems including the national problem which they have inherited can be solved within weeks. You have created these problems both domestic and international, and also some other very intriguing national problems like Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab problems. Now, you expect that all these problems which have been heaped upon us should be solved within weeks and you say that your

opposition is constructive. If it is, the meaning of 'constructive opposition'—I do not know what you will mean by the 'actual or destructive opposition'. Now, they want that within weeks all the problems should be solved. I think you are equally intelligent. The Prime Minister made a statement and gave a direction to all the Departments of the Government that by 1st of January, all the Departments of the Governments will be ready to finalise the actual action programme for the implementation of the manifesto. Therefore, you cannot also wait till January 1st! You don't also want to wait till the Budget Session, and now you are saying, 'All right, we have created all these problems and therefore, it is your duty to solve the problems.

Some Members have alleged that the Left have diluted their ideological position. I do not know what its meaning is, I do not like to mention about the hon. Member from Tamil Nadu. I do not know what he does mean by 'ideological stance of the Left'. So far as the ideology is concerned, I am not here to explain what is my ideology or what is the ideology of other constituents of the Left Front. But be sure that we do not support the personality based politics. We are for issue based politics. We are for a programmatic platform.

AN HON. MEMBER: Not problematic.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Not problematic, but programmatic. All these years you have got problematic programme. Your programme was to create problems, your programme was to destroy the country, to develop this country for destruction and that is your problematic programme. Here we are for programmatic platform of action.

AN. HON. MEMBER: Mr. Chitta Basu, the BJP is something.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Don't worry about this. What about your Muslim League in Kerala? What is their reaction in Tamil Nadu? I don't like to mention anybody's name, who is not present in the House. Therefore, the

[Sh. Chitta Basu]

Left extended support to the National Front Government because the programmes, policies and commitment will be adequate to ensure the democratic advance of the people of this country at this present juncture of the national situation. Therefore, we have extended the support.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I would only mention something about the President's Address. Now you allowed everybody to speak for an hour.

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: Carry on, we will support you.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I know, I don't need your support. (*Interruptions*)

Sir, paragraphs 20 and 26 refer to employment opportunities in the economy and the economic disparities. In this connection, I will take a few minutes to explain. I would refer to the disparity existing in Eastern States of the country which is also due to faulty economic policies.

Now, Eastern States particularly, West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, as is well-known are endowed with rich mineral resources. Unfortunately these States have been lagging behind other States in the race industrial development in the post-independence era. This will be evident from the following facts.

Till 1965, the Eastern States contributed about 30% of the total national industrial production. In 1980-81, it declined to only 18.1%. I shall mention only two or three aspects. So far as West Bengal is concerned, during 1963-67, the growth rate was 0.62% as against the national growth rate of 3.2%. During 1968-72, national average growth rate was 5.3% and of West Bengal was minus 1.3%. During 1973-77, the national growth rate was 4% and West Bengal attained 4% growth rate. During 1977-85,

the national growth rate was 6.6% and that of West Bengal was 0.3%.

All this proves that there has been deindustrialisation process which set in the early 60's. This is due to the policy accepted by the Government of India in the year 1954 in the shape of freight equalisation policy and telescopic rate of Railway freight. Unless this is revised, there is no possibility for the Eastern States to catch up with the developmental process that is now on.

In this connection, Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to remind the Prime Minister that the Pande Committee was set up to examine this question in 1978 and it had submitted its report in 1983. The Committee recommended for the phased abolition of that policy. Even though the then Government did accept the recommendations, it did not give effect to the recommendations of the Pande Commission.

While concluding, I would say that the new Government should look into the matter and see that the Pande Committee's report is implemented at the earliest in order to revive the industrial production, industrialisation of the State like West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar and other Eastern States.

[*Translation*]

MAHANT ABEDYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to present my point of view on the Motion of Thanks. Sir, I was very much disappointed by observing that in the President's Address whereas different problems facing the country have been referred to no mention has been made about such a major problem as the Ram-Janam Bhoomi-Babri-Masjid dispute. However the Hon. Prime Minister had referred to it in his address to the nation while mentioning different problems facing the country. Sir, when subjects such as the unity, integrity and communal harmony are being discussed and keeping in view the increasing communal tension and hatred prevailing in the country today, case should be taken that

sentiments of any particular community are not hurt. When the Ram-Janam Bhoomi issue is taken up, it is alleged that communalism is being created but efforts are not made to appreciate the agony of the Hindus.

Sir, due to the partition of the country, a number of places, where holy shrines and temples of the Hindu community were located, became part of Pakistan. The present plight of the Ram Janam-Bhoomi Temple, the birth place of Lord Krishna and the Kashi Vishwanath temple is still an open challenge to Hindu community. They still hear signs of the dark days of Hindu slavery. Thousands of Hindu temples were demolished at that time. I am referring to the Ram Janam Bhoomi, the birth place of Lord Krishna and the Kashi Vishwanath temple because the signs of their existence in mosques there can still be seen even today. In Varanasi, the ruins of Lord Shankar's carrier 'Nandi' just in front of the mosque bears a testimony of the existence of temple there which was demolished for the construction of a mosque. Such symbols as that of a bell, trident, 'damru' etc. were deliberately retained on the walls of the mosque so that the Hindus may feel agitated for ever. The position is the same with the Ram Janam Bhoomi temple. The carved in figures of Hindu gods and goddesses can still be seen there on the columns of the Masjid and it is a challenge to the freedom of the Hindu community. The Government must ensure that the Hindus feel free in this country. I do not want to hurt anyone's sentiments but I would like to emphasise that even the Hindus in the post-partitioned India should be able to claim with confidence that they are enjoying complete freedom. Mere political freedom does not ensure actual freedom. Till such signs of slavery continue, the Hindu community cannot feel free.

You may be aware that Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patil, who was a well-known member of the Congress party and the first Home Minister of Free India, got the Somnath temple which was demolished several times, reconstructed. He himself presented the proposal in this connection which was adopted in the

cabinet meeting. No one labelled him as communal. But when we request for the completion of his incomplete task, we are labelled as communal and fundamentalist. I am trying to point out that efforts are being made to suppress the Hindus only. All of us must sit together and discuss this issue. We respect the sentiments of the Muslims and Christians but the same does not hold true in the case of Hindus. The sentiments of the Hindu community should be treated with equal respect in the country. If this does not happen, our dream of ending communalism can never be translated into reality.

I wanted to say a lot but you have allotted only 3 minutes time. I cannot cover all the points within 3 minutes. Therefore, I will take them up another time.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like to mention that I do not want to put a time-limit on a Member for making his maiden intervention in the House. But I am making a restriction on the time available.

CH. JAGDEEP DHANKHAR (Jhunjhunu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I thank you for having given me this opportunity. I am speaking for the first time from this platform. I have been keenly watching the developments. I have spoken to a friend of mine who is also a Member of the House that the discipline which came to be given to us, as a lawyer in the Court, probably is coming out as a handicap to us. I do hope that this maiden speech would be heard patiently. I do hope that at times the new Members, the silent majority of the Members, would not be silenced.

Sir, this new Government has made a big change. When the new Government came to power, there was a great relief for the millions of people of this country. We have got a feeling that the corrupt regime has come to an end. When Shri V.P. Singh became the Prime Minister, every one in the country got a feeling that one who is honest, one who believes in clean public life has

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come to occupy the highest Chair in the country, unseating the one, who the world over had come to be known as the most corrupt. Ch. Devi Lal, who is the Deputy Prime Minister, represents the aspirations of the rural India. He is a messiah for the agricultural sector, for the villagers... (*Interruptions*). Shri P. Chidambaram has said here that there is a situation wherein the BJP would be going to the left, somebody would be going to the right. I can assure you that the BJP would be on the right side, somebody would be on the left side and from the Centre we will be there and all will be kicking the ball into the goal post. That will be our goal. We thought that by the battle of the electorate, things would have got a different shape. But the situation was not like this. Just the other day whom did we hear? Shri Rajiv Gandhi fielded whom? He fielded Shri A.R. Antulay possibly moved by the great consideration. Who doesn't know Mr. Antulay? But it appears that Shri Rajiv Gandhi surpassed Mr. Antulay in his own game. Therefore he has exceeded Mr. Antulay.

Sir, I share a common feature with Mr. Antulay. Like him, I am an admirer of truth and I am an advocate. I have got great sanctity for facts. But I was shocked to hear Mr. Antulay when he spoke that Ch. Devi Lal has appointed Vishwanath-ji as Prime Minister. I was there in the Central Hall. Ch. Devi Lal proposed the name of Shri Vishwanath-ji and Shri Ajit Singh seconded his name. I fail to understand how a person of his stature distorted the facts. That was the first shock that I received.

Another shock which I received was from a very veteran Member of the Opposition Shri Narasimha Rao. I had waited very patiently to hear that Gentleman. I thought that he would really be imparting a sense of sobriety to us. He got up and said in one voice as a challenge to us: "We are not Congress-men but we are Rajiv-men." I was shocked beyond belief that times make no difference. I have seen in the House that an attempt was being made about the Deputy

Prime Ministership. There is no answer to the Deputy Prime Minister outside the House. There is no escape from the millions who attended the big meeting on 25th September. But in the House they made an issue of the *up-Pradhan Mantri*. What I am submitting most respectfully is that there is a slight divergence in the situation that has developed in the country and the situation which is taking shape in the House. The public at large is gaining an impression that certainly the Congress has not learnt a lesson out of its electoral debacle. A situation has emerged that the Congress is determined to pursue the same policies. Let me declare before this House that in the year 1985 when the *Time* magazine carried a feature on Shri Rajiv Gandhi, I had written a letter. I waited for weeks together impatiently as to whether my letter will find publication and it did find. But what happened? I called him sincere. I called him honest. I called him dedicated. I called him one with full of industry. But, Sir, I was wrong. The electorate has given the verdict—not only I was wrong, but everybody's assessment was wrong. Look at the irony of the situation. The previous Government came to power because Mrs. Indira Gandhi was killed. The irony of the situation is we are yet to discover the mystery of her murder. The innocent people who are now in this House were hauled up as criminals. What I mean to say is this. The situation which emerged in the country, has never found an answer. There is very little time available to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

CH. JAGDEEP DHANKHAR: I will take only two more minutes. The situation developed was neatly given to me by an elector. After getting victory, after coming to the Lok Sabha, I went to my Constituency. I went to a remote village there. An old lady of 80 years asked me, "Does Shri Rajiv Gandhi attend Lok Sabha". I said "He does attend Lok Sabha". Then she asked, "Can you tell us why he lost?". I asked her, "Would you kindly answer this question?". And her answer startled me. Look at the remotest corner of our country. An 80 year old

illiterate,—uneducated—lady had a deep sense. She said,

[*Translation*]

“Head of the Government charged of corruption.”

[*English*]

That was the situation, gentlemen. I can assure you, gentlemen, on that side; for a few weeks, for a couple of hours, we were waiting patiently; we are nearly in a situation where things could be responsive. But what we find? The only suggestion which has come out,—kindly bear with me for a minute—has come out from Shri Chidambaram. All other speakers have been studiously either discussing the President's Address or Mr. Jaswant's address or they were teaching us that they were not wrong. He has raised certain questions. I can assure that new enthusiasm has been given in the world over by our Prime Minister. He is known to be a propagator of clean public life. Look at the change which has come by contrast. Who has preceded him? That gentleman, revels with the word Gandhi—Thanks to Mahatma Gandhi, the name is respected the world over—but this name Gandhi has altogether a different reaction. We have a good team. Kindly extend cooperation, kindly extend constructive cooperation, which you people have stated. Don't kindly run us down. Our patience and our discipline—I am sorry to report to the House—have been misunderstood. We are first-timers. Let first-timers not be taken for a ride. Let us not be run down. I assure you that the team is there. Every word of the Address which has been given by the President makes sense. Can you imagine a situation like that? People have said that Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru is missing from the Address. But farmer has appeared in the Address. We have seen Indian farmers in the Address? There is a very meaningful dimension in the Address. (*Interruptions*) Substantial portion of the investment will go to the rural India. It was never so before. Our Deputy Prime Minister will do justice. Can you imagine

such a situation appearing in our country? I come from Jhunjhunu. My District has given a maximum number of Servicemen to the Indian Army, to the Armed Forces. They are asking, 'Look here, you are a Captain, getting a pension less than a *Havildar*. Now, we are in a situation, where we can tell the ex-servicemen, we can tell the labourers that it is your Government; it is a Government which will not cheat you; it is a Government which knows that pulse of the people; it is a Government which will not be dictated by others. It was said from the other side that 'we' are ruling. I can assure you gentlemen, everybody has come to know, now, that Congress was not ruling the country for the last four or five years out, a group of friends. This will not be the situation on this side. Elected representatives will be ruling the country and we will ensure that the farming community will be given the due share. We do hope and the present Government has given enough indication in the President's Address that such a situation will emerge shortly. A question was asked to me as to how many years this Government would last and I told them Mr. Rajiv Gandhi wanted to take us to 21st century. Now it is National Front Government which will take you to 21st century.

SHRI M.J. AKBAR (Kishanganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I must say—to be a little personal—it is a privilege to be a Member of this House. However much one tries to be normal one feels a little in awe of moment the time of his maiden speech.

I would at the outset like to say that hearing the debate on the President's speech particularly this afternoon confirmed some views which one has been identifying with. Sir, there are many unusual things about the Ninth Lok Sabha. It is a fractured House—a House which, in a sense, reflects the split personality of the Indian nation's present policies. There is a minority government, a government which is supported by incompatible allies but that too I do not find so unusual. In a democracy that is always possible. In a democracy governments change. Indeed, perhaps, they should. In a

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democracy we have to learn to live with these things. But what I find most significant about the Ninth Lok Sabha is the fact that for the first time we have in the House a group of MPs, a block of MPs and a formidable force which does not want merely a change of government—a change of government is a democratic reality—but wants to do something far more worse to this nation. It wants to change a system that has worked in India in the last forty years, the system that was bequeathed to us by the freedom movement and by the great generation of Indians whom if we forget we will also have to forget the kind of nation that they created. I refer particularly to the group of MPs and to the leadership which wants to convert secular India into a Hindu Rashtra. I want to refer particularly to this group of MPs who want to change this nation's secular polity and convert it into a polity which reflects religious fanaticism and religious fascism. I use these terms advisedly, Sir. I do not want to mention the name of the person since he does not belong to this House but he does belong to the party which is represented here and a party the Shiv Sena which has extended its support to this government and that gentleman has said in interviews and in speeches over and over again that, I quote: "I am against Muslims because they are pro-Pakistanis and green serpents". And what does he propose to do about these green serpents? I quote:

"Muslims are free to live here as long as they accept that Hindustan is for Hindus. Otherwise they should quit India. We know how to drive them out of India."

The way he will drive them out of India, is by driving us out into the Arabian Sea. That leader is applauded in Bombay by the leadership of a group of MPs which is 88 strong the BJP lauded as a 'champion' of our nation!

Mr. Advani, for whom I have the highest

respect, mentioned during his speech that Mr. Antulay speech reminded him of Hitler. It is not Mr. Antulay's speech which reminded me so much of Hitler. What reminds me of Hitler's every day are the self-professed champions and admirers of Hitler who use phrases like this. 'Green serpents' is what we have been reduced to. I am reminded of a propaganda film made by Hitler, Nazis in Germany, when Hitler was in the process of capturing power, not when he had captured power. This is a significant comparison. Films were made in Germany showing Jews as rats from sewers, rats emerging who would conquer and take over Germany if they were not stopped. What the Jews were in 1930s to Hitler, I think, the Muslims of India are today to parties like the Shiv Sena and the BJP.

In the Bombay Municipal Corporation grounds tapes have been played where Members of a political party—the Shiv Sena—have actually been quoted on record as collecting funds in order to create riots, in order to kill Muslims, in order to destroy them, in order to create and engineer hatred against a particular community. What frightens me is not the fact that a minority Government is taking support from one or two or three or four or five—I do not know how many—parties, but what does frighten me is that this Government is taking support from parties which are incompatible with the survival of India as a secular State.

I do talk of the BJP in this context because I have all this year heard the slogans that have pervaded the streets of cities and of villages of this country during the election time. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: I will tell you as to what happened in Kishanganj. A slogan was being repeatedly raised there and I quote "Mussalmanon ke do sthan Pakistan aur Kabristan".

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't interrupt please. Let the Member speak.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: It is not just this. There are other parties sitting here which are also supporting this communalism and they represent an equally dangerous phenomenon for this country. If we have to fear majority fascism on one side, equally do we have to fear minority secessionism. There is a party here whose spokesman says to the world: "We are neither for nor against Khalistan." This equivocation does not fool anybody. You have heard, I have heard and all of us have heard: Mr. Bhindranwale use this equivocation to try and destroy this nation for so long. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDER (Barrackpore): Who created Mr. Bhindranwale? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: I do not want to answer that question because the aspersion will be directly with the hon. Member who asked the question. I don't want to identify the gentleman concerned because he is one of the heroes of the ruling alliance at the moment. If the truth is to be told about who created Bhindranwale the truth is well written whether it is in Mark Tully's book or in hundred other books. (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: Everybody knows who created Bhindranwale.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you please permit me for a moment? I have mentioned to all hon. Members that it is customary that when a Member make his maiden intervention in the House, no matter how much you might disagree with him, do have the courtesy of listening to him without interruption. Please don't interrupt the speaker.

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: Thank you very much.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am very hesitant to remind you about the limitation of time. But I would like to do so.

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: I shall try my best Sir. Your party is supporting the present Government who are friends and who are in collusion with a gentleman like Shri Harinder Singh Sandhu who says on record over and over again that his clear goal is an independent, sovereign and separate country for the Sikhs. And we hear such parties being welcomed by this Government and then we are expected to have faith in the Government's ability to protect the nation.

I would like to make one particular point during the course of my speech and that is, about the use of communalism. Our understanding of communalism Sir, is derived largely from what I might call the physical aspect of communalism. We can understand this when we see the image of the dead bodies. Photographs which are published in the newspapers do condition our responses. But communalism is not just the death of innocent people. I myself in the field of journalism for 20 years, feel strongly enough about communalism, not to take the subject lightly. The faces of children really haunt me as they have haunted everybody who has seen them. In Moradabad and even in Bhagalpur. They do haunt all of us. But the greater danger in communalism lies when it is used to create violence in the minds of people, when it is used over and over again as a poison, drip by drip to change and corrupt the mind of the ordinary citizen living in a village or a small town, to make that decent citizen who is interested in many other things into a votary of violence in the name of religion. That progress is a long process. That process is activated when political leaders are involved. And these slogans which I have mentioned to you are a part of that kind of a thing. I would like to draw the memory of this House to the fact that this use of communalism for political ends is not being made for the first time in our history. It

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was made very effectively last time, before independence, by a party called Muslim League. When it wanted to draw the Muslim into its net, they first set up a process by which the Muslims mind could be contaminated with hatred and only then it could garner enough support. If 40 years ago, the Direct Action Day was the process by which the Muslim League took a very important step towards the creation of a Muslim Rashtra, which eventually became Pakistan or Muslim India, then, I submit, that the process that we have been watching for the last few years over the dispute of Ram Janam Bhoomi—Babri Masjid, is the first and major step towards the creation of a Hindu Rashtra. The foundation stone that is being laid or is proposed to be laid or the temple that is proposed to be built or is being built at that site, is not really a temple. They are building another kind of India and that is the danger to which we must address ourselves as a nation, as a House. And if we do not take the responsibility, we shall have to squander away on opportunity which history may not provide us again. Sir, I do not believe communalism to be a partisan issue. I wish I could have some faith in the present Government in its ability to check it. But I find, not just in one incident but in many, that the BJP, in particular, does not only have a halter around the neck of the present Government but also has a rein its tongue. I would like to refer to the absence of the mention of Mahatma Gandhi in the Prime Minister's Address, as was pointed by some Members. And I know why it has not been mentioned. It is because the President of the BJP has said over and over again that they do not accept Mahatma Gandhi as the Father of the Nation... (*Interruptions*)... That has been the declared RSS policy. That is why the Prime Minister can find time for all extreme groups of all communities, whether it is that of Shahi Imam or the Mann group Punjab. But he cannot find time to go to Gandhi Samadhi. These are symbolic gestures. But symbolic gestures are also important. They are important because the heart of India or the mind of India responds to symbolism. The politics of

compromise that has been practised for too long will hurt this nation more than, perhaps, we at this moment may consider for our own partisan ends. We must, I think, both sides of the House, decide to learn and try and read and find a degree of point... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Chapra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member is not able to speak a word about the place from where he has been elected. You have allotted 3 minutes time for the new Members... (*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sit down. Please sit down.

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: In this atmosphere of turmoil, the people of Kishanganj have voted for peace. At present our attention is focussed in the direction from where you received support. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may please continue now. Please try and conclude as soon as you can.

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: One last point..... (*Interruptions*)

I will correct him if you kindly give me an opportunity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not now. Subsequently, you will have opportunities.

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: Sir, I will not take more time except merely to say just one thing. You are in the Chair, Sir, but I would like to refer to you. Your party has spoken of accountancy.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not my party. When I sit here, I do not sit here as a party man.

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: I am a new Member; I apologize. That accountancy will not be an accountancy which, in the long run, will

deal with issues of economic growth, will deal with poverty, will deal with issues of sustenance, will deal with issues of hunger. In the end that accountancy will only come when this Government starts to deviate from the national agenda of the BJP which is the creation of a Hindu Rashtra within a short specified time.

[*Translation*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi.

Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi, you will get only 3 minutes time. Please try to conclude within this time limit.

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, you have given me 3 minutes time but even if you give me only 2 minutes I will repeat the same what I have been saying for the last 5 years.

Sir, my experience during these last 5 years has been that members may go on repeating their requests but the Government does not take note of that and takes action what it intends to. Now the new Government has been installed and I hope that the same thing will not be repeated. I do not want to give reply to those new Members who have asked as to why Hon. President did not make any mention of Babri Masjid issue in his Address. How can the hon. President make a mention of the matter which is sub-judice? Then it has been said that mosques were constructed after demolishing the temples. I would like to tell them that they are referring to the events which took place 500 years ago. They should know that there is no mention of it in history. But, despite that they are vitiating the atmosphere in this House and also vitiating the minds of the people in the entire country. My submission is that situation being created in the country is bound to create tension. This should be done away with. You want to demolish a mosque where namaaz is being offered for the last 500 years..... (*Interruptions*).

SOME HON. MEMBERS..... (*Interruptions*)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please keep quiet. Let the Member continue. The Members who are making use of the word..... should know that this is unparliamentary and objectionable. Please do not use such words in future.

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Although your Government is new, yet you are well aware of the fact that the Muslims in India are passing through a phase of hostile atmosphere. I would like the Government to take measures to contain such a situation and to curb all forces which create such an atmosphere in the country. Besides, Government should also take steps to improve the economic conditions of the Muslims. As regards their educational backwardness, the report on education submitted in the last Lok Sabha also confirmed the view that the standard of education of the Muslims is very poor. In pursuance of the provisions contained in article 38 all the State Governments are taking Steps in that direction. May I expect from the Central Government also that it will take steps to lay down a uniform education policy to enable us to make progress in educational matters. Sir, I know that you are ringing the 'bell. There is nothing new, in it. But if this is being rung to make me resume my seat, I shall do that.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will now call upon hon. Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO (Anantnag): Sir, the turn of the National Conference Party comes up after the Anna DMK's turn. Yesterday we waited for nine and a half hours. The ADMK member was expected to be called at 7 O'clock but again a Janata Dal member was called to speak. This morning, with the same member continuing his speech, we have been waiting for the last three and a half hours for our turn. In

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Sh. Piyare Lal Handoo]

this Parliament ours is a three-member party... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Some norms should be followed. We are also waiting for our turns to come. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I can attend to you if you speak one at a time. I have heard the hon. member from National Conference. What is your complaint?

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Sir, our turn comes up before Shri Owaisi's turn. I do not know why the entire sequence is changed why there is a change on that side. I would only request that the norms and procedures laid down should be followed and followed strictly.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down...

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: You may allow them to speak now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. I must explain to the hon. members who remonstrated just now. Your observation is perfectly valid and I appreciate your point. When this discussion started this afternoon, I had made a mention that it shall be my endeavour to accommodate as many members of smaller and unattached groups as I can. I have tried to do that. I have restricted the list of all those parties which are either in the Government or supporting the Government. I have a very severe time constraint. The 15-hour debate has been curtailed to much less than 15 hours. Still, I am ready to give you two minutes each if you wish to say your point.

I call upon the hon. member Shri P.L. Handoo.

SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO (Anantnag): At the outset, thank you Mr. Chairman, for the little mercy shown to me and my party. You have been generous in

the sense though I would like to say that every time such a debate begins, one must know the true and actual position of the rules regarding precedence and who should precede whom. Otherwise, there is no need for me to sit in the House. I was sitting here hearing almost every speaker since 12.30 p.m. yesterday and for a very good reason, not that I am enamoured of speeches either from the ruling party or the Congress (I), but for the simple reason of Kashmir being regarded in the Presidential Address as a very critical issue.

I have a duty to the House, I have a duty to my State and therefore, waited for all this time, and that is what held me back all this time. I thank you Mr. Chairman none-the-less for the little mercy shown and also pray that you should sit as Chairman always because I have got occasions to speak in this House only when you were the Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not look for gratuitous compliments.

SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO: I would like to mention it and I will try to make my submissions as briefly as possible.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can go on with the President's Address.

SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO: You should guide us as a doyen of Parliamentarians.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You speak on the President's Address and do not pay compliments to me. You have got only three minutes.

SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO: I have only got three or four points. On the President's Address. What would it look like if a party representative in the House does not get time to speak when his two to three amendments to the president's Address have been admitted? I will not press all.

I have heard all the speakers. I must

thank Hon'ble Shri Chidambaram. He has solved part of my problems by putting certain questions to Home Minister or the Prime Minister. I would add only three questions to them and then go on the main points about my own amendments.

How is it that at 2.30 A.M. in the night on the 13th of December about which Mr. Chidambaram also questioned, that things started to happen I would like to know what happened at 2.30 in the night on between 12th and 13th of December 1989. Is it a fact or is it not a fact that the Chief Secretary of the Jammu and Kashmir State called a Press conference at the early mid night hour when it was still dark, and announced that the negotiations with the terrorists had failed. What happened from 2.30 a.m. onwards? Is it also not a fact that after that High Court Judge from Allahabad held a Press conference in the State of Jammu and Kashmir in Srinagar? Who authorised the High Court Judge to hold a Press Conference and to accuse the State Government of vasillations? What were the vasillations about? I would only like to add these three questions to that.

Coming down to the President's Address I want to refer to one important observation made about Kashmir. I would not have done but for my name having been mentioned by the Mover of the Resolution during the course of the submissions or observations made this afternoon. The manner in which he castigated me—and I quote him—for using English language. He used a mouthful of invectives in the course of his scant speech by using a sheet of paper handed over to him probably by the Home Minister, as to what has happened in Kashmir between the 11th June 1988 and the 26th of January 1989, giving the incidents of a black day being observed or a Hartal being observed or a thing having happened this way or a thing having happened that way. Was that not the case when I had said that Kashmir's problem is terrorism Kashmir itself? I thank the sister from BJP who dared to say that Kashmir problem today is different, and no doubt, I only conditioned in my

speech to mention details by constraint of and also because I am under a shadow of anguish. In my constituency Anantnag which is the home district of the Home Minister, yesterday at four O'clock in the day in a street guarded by the Central Reserve Police one of the finest of India's Advocates, Mr. Prem Nath Bhatt has been shot dead. Where does it stop? Is it the way that the present Government is going to show the new path of life? Before that, from the 6th of December till now in Punjab more than 42 people have been gunned down. Is it the way we are inaugurating the new path of life? I do not want to ask anything more, but what I want to get clarified through a question is that after we have had many adventures in Kashmir in the past, are we out for a new one?

I am coming to my last point. Kashmir has been injured. The apprehension today is that there have been adventurism and dramatic escapades in Kashmir in the past and the author of those has been the Home Minister. I would not have said anything about this. But read in the newspapers that he had stated yesterday in Rajya Sabha about 1965 in Kashmir. It becomes necessary to ask him to say what happened in 1972 and thereafter and were the friends he called to contest elections and sabotaged his own party people in their favour. How did he help in 1986 formation of Muslim United Front when he was the PCCI President and how did you behave at that time.....
(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BEGA RAM (Ganganagar): You are responsible for the violence in Punjab in which lakhs of people have lost their lives. Bhindranwale is your creation.

SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO: My submission to the hon. Home Minister is just that he..... (Interruptions)

[English]

You are entitled to accuse anybody for

[Sh. Pyare Lal Handoo]

communalism and what not. You should remember that you were accused of temple burning in 1986 before the Governor's Rule in Kashmir.

Now I come to my second amendment. In the President's Address under Paragraph 27, you have talked about revision of land laws to ensure equitable distribution of land. Can the Parliament enact any such law much less revise? It cannot be done. You cannot even revise the law. You have boasted that you will include these laws, which you cannot make and include them in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution. We have 218 laws in the Ninth Schedule today. Out of which, more than 151 laws relate to land laws. Have you been able to completely implement land laws by this inclusion? The UP law was framed in 1951. I would like the hon. Prime Minister to enlighten as to why it has not been implemented even though it is included in the Ninth Schedule.

Thank you very much.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri G.M. Banatwalla.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is going to be my maiden speech on this Address. Please bear with me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I can bear with you, but the time available is very limited.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: I will run through my speech and I will mention the points.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the President has been pleased to address both the Houses of Parliament on the 20th of December. Let me say at the outset that I was taken aback at a serious lapse in the Address of the President. The President has totally ignored the fact that this Ninth Lok Sabha has been constituted without elected representatives from one full State namely Assam. No refer-

ence whatsoever to this particular thing has been made in his Address. Not even a hope is expressed that Assam will have its representatives very soon in this House. I do not know whether that is a lapse or that reflect the attitude of the present Government towards the parliamentary norms and parliamentary democracy that we have.

There are several welcome points in the Address. I need not go on mentioning them. Several things are there. For example, granting of autonomy to AIR and Doordarshan, the decision to bring a Lok Pal Bill, the decision for reconstitution of the National Integration Council, the decision with respect even to withdrawal of Postal Bill to which we had objected at that particular time; so many things are there. It is also commendable that high priority is sought to be given to the task of arresting rising prices, debt relief to small farmers, artisans and other weaker sections, special attention to problems of youth, primacy to agriculture and so on. But then I must say that the Address is replete with bland generalisations and nowhere do we find anything mentioned in any specific details to understand. Now the nation is waiting for the budget to come in order to see what actual fiscal and economic policy the Government is going to adopt. But it is rather sad that the Government has taken a decision to come forward not with a regular budget but with a Vote on Account. I can understand that had the Government assumed the rein of power in close proximity to the time for the presentation of the Budget and thus not having full time to prepare the budget. In that case, the decision to come with a Vote on Account as in the previous times, would have been understandable. But there are so many months and still they are thinking of only a Vote on Account. I must say that this is running away from a regular budget and having this Vote on Account is an act of non-governance based on political convenience that the Government realises.

There are several things which I wanted to mention. I will refer to paragraph 16 of the Address. It says:

"The Government will spare no effort to guarantee that minorities live without fear and as equal partners in the country's progress."

I welcome this paragraph. But then again it is a bland generalisation. Where is the policy? What is the attitude of the Government towards, say, the 15-Point programme for the welfare of the minorities? Are you going to have some other programme, even a better programme—I do not know. Dr. Gopal Singh has already presented to the then Government a report, it was a very high powered panel on minorities. It has never been placed on the Table of the House. I ask the Government, implore the Government, request the Government to place this report on the Table of the House and let us know what measures for the development of minorities, welfare of minorities are mentioned over there so that we can apply our mind to them.

Now the Address also fails to show any serious concern about the Communal violence in our country. I will not go into details. Then the Bhagalpur riots, the worst that we had ever since Independence, even till this day, I am sorry to say that our Prime Minister could not find the time to visit Bhagalpur. Am I to understand that this is the sinister and vicious influence of the BJP on the Government? I understand that the Prime Minister may visit in the near future. But then that speaks of the priorities. (*Interruptions*)

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): Sir, may I inform that I am going there on the 3rd of January and I have already visited that place.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Thank you very much. I was coming to that. I have already met your Home Minister who has informed me that you are so going. But the point that I am making is, Mr. Prime Minister, for so many days you never remembered Bhagalpur... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH:

Hon. Member perhaps did not hear that I have visited Bhagalpur.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Yes, you have visited and again you are going to visit on the third. But then the point that I am making here is that Bhagalpur has been totally forgotten and we have never heard from you the steps that have been taken by the Central Government to come to the rescue of the State Government in the matter of relief and rehabilitation work. What is this? No measures have been taken. We were thinking that there would be a detailed visit. We were looking forward for a detailed visit, and as a result of that detailed visit, to come forward with the details of how the entire menace is going to be controlled. We have not heard. We have, even till this date, not heard of any Central Government pronouncement with respect to the relief that would be given by the Central Government. You cannot say that the entire responsibility is of the State Government. Still the State Government is responsible. No doubt about it. I hold them responsible for the situation. But then the the Centre has to come and strengthen the hands of the State Government also in providing adequate relief and adequate rehabilitation to the people over there., (*Interruptions*).

MR CHAIRMAN: You have made your point, Mr. Banatwalla. Now please sit down.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Sir, a mention has been made about the Ram *Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid* issue over here. The Government says that there will be negotiations, that they will talk and try to bring about a solution. We wish the Government well. We assure the Government of our fullest cooperation in this particular respect. But then, the point that must be remembered is that this proposess of negotiation must not affect the progress of the judiciary over there. The judicial procedure must continue and you should not stall or postpone that particular judicial process on the plea that talks would continue. Let the Government also say that the judicial decision will be followed and implemented by the vigorously. No civi-

[Sh. G.M. Banatwalla]

lised Government can ever succumb to demolition of places of religious worship. No civilised government in the world can ever be a party to such a thing... (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat now.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Moreover, I must also request this Government to see to it that no construction, whatsoever, is allowed there on the site of the Babri Masjid, also including the site of the Babri Masjid, so long as the judicial verdict is not available.

That is also a point that must be mentioned... (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Please sit down now.

SHRI G.M BANATWALLA. I have to thank you, Sir, and just wait till I thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, kindly sit down. You have taken a lot of time. Be considerate to the rest of the House. Kindly sit down, Mr. Banatwalla.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Therefore, I must implore upon the Government to let us know specifically the measures that they are thinking of in order to contain communalism in our country.

Sir, in Patna, in Bihar, I was told by the college students that on black-boards of the colleges, abusive slogans are being written. Such is the situation in Patna, in Bihar. We have therefore to control this particular situation. But here no concrete proposals with respect to all these specific points have been mentioned and they must address themselves to these specific questions. Sir, if these people think that they can draw our voices by shouting, I assure you that we will continue to speak. Today in the morning, during the Question Hour also, they had this particular tactics of delaying so that questions inconvenient to them may not be put.

(*Interruptions*). Mr. Chairman, Sir, while there are certain points that are welcome in the Address, there are various generalisation which are bland in nature. The Government needs to spell them out and let the nation know as to were they stand.

Sir, we have offered to the Government our issues—based cooperation. Of course, there are apprehensions about the type of propose on which they rely. It is the misfortune of India that today our country does not have free and democratic government and the present Government is a Government mortgaged to the BJP. That is the misfortune of this particular country of ours. I hope and I implore upon the Government to see that it does not compromise the principles of secular democracy.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD (Arrah): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I would like to submit that the Bofors issue is a matter of national importance. However, it has been enmeshed in the legal procedure. This is a question of national dignity. My submission is that the matter should be investigated and the persons found guilty should be punished. Secondly, no mention has been made about our economic dependence in the President's Address. Our country continues to depend on the multi-national companies. We should come out of this vicious circle of the multinationals and develop our own indigenous and self reliant manufacturing units because the produce of village farmers such as tomato potato etc. are diverted to these multinationals and in turn these farmers are left to starve. Accordingly, the proposal to bring in Pepsicola should be dropped. This has not been mentioned in the President's Address which should have been there. Thirdly I want to submit that the poor, the harijans and the down trodden still do not enjoy the right to vote and no mentioned about making reforms in electoral system has been made in the President's Address. No effort has been made to present a list of people or show sympathy to those who die in violence at the time to voting. I submit through

you that the villages where such people live who go to cast their votes are being destroyed and the people these are being killed. The names of such people should be included in the list of martyrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD: I would like to add that the harijans, people from the weaker sections and the Muslims are being killed. The people who are guilty in such cases irrespective of which caste or class they may belong to, whether they belong to the Congress, the B.J.P. or V.H.P., should be penalised and action should be taken to make provisions for stringent punishment to such people.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon'ble Member P.C. Thomas. Very very brief please.

16.27 hrs.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattuzha): I will be very brief, Sir, Only three points because the President's Address is also very brief, and I would like to submit that brevity has unfortunately cut at the root of the important promises which both the National Front and its allies have made.

In paragraph 27 of the President's Address it is stated that a substantial portion of the Government's investment outlay will be given to the rural areas. Now it is unfortunate..

MR. CHAIRMAN: Make it brief. Otherwise you will lose all the time that you have.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS Only points, Sir. In the Manifesto they said 50 per cent will be given to rural areas. I do not know why they are going back from the promises. Unfortunately the rural areas are being neglected and in fact, the Panchayati Raj Bill which was brought in by Rajivji has been completely opposed by the present Ruling Party.

[MR. CHAIRMAN: *in the Chair*]

16.28 hrs.

I shall now limit to something which relates to Kerala. The Kerala Government has not been taking any steps for any development activities in Kerala for a long time. In fact, what they were saying all through was that it is for the Centre to do something in this and they are already saying that the treasury is empty and the Centre has to do something. Now, when the Government at the Centre has changed, the people of Kerala are expecting something now from the Centre. I am astonished to find that the President's Address is a complete blank with regard to the developmental activities that will be taken up in Kerala or in the South.

Lastly, I may also mention about the way in which the separatist and secessionist forces are going to be dealt with. Nothing specific has been mentioned as to how they will be dealt with. Thank you. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI (Amethi): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Sir, the Congress Party had offered. (*Interruptions*). Sir, the Congress Party... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please, let Shri Rajiv Gandhi speak.

[*English*]

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we had offered constructive cooperation to the new Government and we stand by that offer. We wish the new Government well; we wish them well to fulfil their mandate, to live upto the promises that they made in the manifesto because I have not found very much in the President's Address. We wish them well to complete their term and show the country how they can perform.

But we can only give constructive cooperation if we know what the Government is

[Sh. Rajiv Gandhi]

going to do or wants to do. If we are kept in the dark, if the country is kept in the dark on major issues of policy, it is very difficult to work for constructive cooperation.

The President's Address is the right place to tell the nation what the Government plans for the months, years ahead. Unfortunately in this President's Address, we see only vague platitudes, banal generalities and no specifics have been enunciated on any aspect of policy nor on any programme of Government.

If we look at the President's Address, right at the end, it says:

"Honourable Members, the present session is a short one. Yet it is historic in its importance and is summoned immediately following the constitution of the Ninth Lok Sabha..."

This is the operative part.

"..in order to place before Parliament this new agenda of work."

But, Sir, when I look through the brief document, I find no agenda of work. I do not know whether that is the positive signal that the Government is giving to the nation that it has no agenda of work.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Chapra): You have....(Interruptions)

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): I will request the hon. Members not to disturb. Let us give him a hearing.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sir, I had expected, when I found there was nothing of substance in the President's Address that we would find something of substance in the

interventions from the Treasury Benches, especially from the Ministers. Sir, instead of enlightening this House and the nation on the policies and priorities of this Government, the Members including the Ministers, the opening spokesman, and the seconder of the Motion spent their entire time on....

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Microphone is not working.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: We had expected the Ministers to show some direction that this Government would like to take. Unfortunately the only direction they showed us was telling us, how to run the Congress! We heard a lot about how to run the Congress, how the Congress should choose its leaders. We heard a lot about what the Congress did in the past five years. Perhaps the hon. Members on the opposite side are still obsessed with being in the Opposition. They have not realised that they are on the other side and now they have to tell us what they are going to do and not to tell us where we went wrong. These are only excuses. We would like to hear positively what you have to say about specific policies.

I have a number of points that I would like to raise on issues that feel are important for the nation and I hope that we will get an answer from the honourable Prime Minister. I had raised some issues in an earlier debate. Unfortunately, the Prime Minister chose to avoid answering any of the questions that I had raised. They were questions of the utmost importance to the nation and I hope that he will answer them at least today when he responds to this debate.

The first question that I would like to ask today is that President's Address begins with—I quote:

"The Government proposes to adopt as alternative model of governance."

We are not very clear what this actually means. Does this mean that we should rejoice and exult and be happy that something new is going to come and going to be good?

Does it mean that we should be alarmed that they are going to reject everything that the nation has been built upon over the past 40 years? We do not know. Unless we know what this alternative model is going to be, how can we give constructive support to the Government?

I look forward to the Prime Minister explaining to us about this new model of governance and what they have in mind.

There seems to be no mention of certain things in the President's Address. Perhaps this is an indicator of the new model of governance. The word 'democracy' seems to be missing from the President's Address. "Secularism" seems to be missing from the President's Address. So also 'Non-alignment'. Are these are new directions that this Government is going to be taking? There is no mention of the heritage of our freedom movement. There is no mention of the consolidating of our achievements over the past 40 years of nation-building. Our concern is highlighted by their bypassing Gandhiji and Panditji in their Address, not even visiting Rajghat. When this came up earlier, some Ministers, I believe from the opposite side, said that Gandhiji has been upheld because 50% of the allocations are going to go agriculture, in the rural sector. I beg to implore the Government that there is more to Gandhiji than 50% allocation to the rural sector. If this is all that they have learnt about what Gandhiji had shown us and taught us, it is indeed sad. It is sad for us as Congress that after so many years of Congress being in Government, we have still only been able to convince you that Gandhiji's policies, perspectives and vision is limited to 50% of the allocations to agriculture.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHARAO (Ramtek) : They could not imbibe that and it is not our fault.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sometimes it is difficult to imbibe and understand things. (*Interruptions*) The names of Lohiaji and Jayaprakash Narayanji, in that order, were used if I remember correctly—sorry, not in

the Address—in the Prime Minister's address to the nation.—Without spending too much time on this I would like to remind the House of the points that Shri Narasimha Rao made to this House regarding the policies of our Government, the Congress Government, of even the Janata Government, for the 2 1/2 years that it had lasted and what was enunciated by Lohiaji and Jayaprakash Narayanji.

Is the new model of governance going to give up Non-Alignment, for example? Will it try to build a third bloc as Lohia-ji had suggested? Is that the path that this Government wants to take? Is this Government going to appeal to the Armed Forces to react the way the Jai Prakash Narayanji had asked them to react? (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Jai Prakash Narayanji is being quoted wrongly.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: The point is Rajiv-ji is not yielding. Please take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I will yield... I have yielded. I would like to hear the correct quotation. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI NATHU SINGH (Dausa): He had said that it becomes the duty of the military if there is dictatorship in the country.

[*English*]

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Obviously, the right word has just come to the mind of the hon. Member and he now remembers exactly what Jayaprakash Narayanji had told the Army to do. That is why he is quiet here. I wish he had spoken up. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Your mother was instrumental in killing him.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Mr. Speaker Sir, with your permission I would like to reply to his allegation. He said that my mother was instrumental in killing him. I would like to remind him that a constituent of the present Government broke his heart when he was alive and that was the reason of his death.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: He was killed in Chandigarh. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA (Allahabad): On a point of order, Sir. Time and again the names of those leaders, particularly, Dr. Lohia and Shri Jai Prakash Narayan are being dragged into the discussion. They have made no less contribution than any other leader in the freedom struggle.

AN. HON. MEMBER: What is the point of order?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: The point of order is that long back Dr. Lohia had said in this House that 27 crore people in this country are subsisting on a daily income of 3 annas. Members of the Congress (I) are irritated at the very mention of Dr. Lohia's name but I demand that... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: He is not yielding. Please take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sir, I have shown no disrespect to either Lohia-ji or Shri Jayaprakash Narayan-ji. I have only asked a question on certain aspects of policy that they have pronounced, that they have wanted. As the Government has put their two names at the top of their agenda, I think, it is only right that the Government explains to us which aspects of their policy and programmes they are going to follow, which

aspects they are not going to follow. (*Interruptions*)

Sir, will the alternative model transgress the values of our civilisation or the heritage of our freedom movement? Will it deviate from the basic pillars of our nationhood? If any of this is jettisoned, there can be no cooperation from us. The Congress Party represents over 40% of the nation's voice today and we will not allow this Government to betray our heritage, our ideology and principles or our responsibility to the electorate.

Gandhiji taught us freedom from fear. Gandhiji taught us freedom from hatred. The outlines of the alternative model as described in the Presidential Address and as expounded by a number of interventions in this House seem to be filled with fear and motivated by hatred.

Fear is evident when there is failure to specify terrorism or secessionism or communalism or fundamentalism. What does the President's Address say about Punjab? Let me read a sentence:

"There will be no compromise with separatism and no yielding at extremists."

There is no mention of secessionism; there is no mention of sovereignty. The paragraph on J&K does talk of sovereignty. The means you are sensitive to J&K breaking away from the country; but this means you are not sensitive to Punjab breaking away from the country. (*Interruptions*)

You talk of no yielding to extremists. What are the extremists doing in Punjab today? Are you not yielding to extremists in Punjab? Have you not yielded to extremists in J&K? Is this Government is terrified of the terrorists and secessionists that they cannot even mention the two words in the President's Address? Just scared perhaps!

Sir, hatred is evident very clearly in the type of personalised politics that have been raised on the floor of this House during these last few days. By this talking of the past, by

denigrating the achievements of the nation...(Interruptions)

The achievements of the nation during these past five years are not the achievements of the Congress. They are the achievements of the people of India. Sir, during these five years the picture of India has changed. People see India in a different light. The credit for this. (Interruptions)

The achievements during these five years are no mean achievements, I will be coming to that. But they are the achievements of the Kisans and the Khet Mazdoors; they are the achievements of the working class; they are the achievements of our Harijans and our Adivasis. Sir, they are the achievements of the women of India; they are the achievements of the youth of India. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

I can speak only if there is some silence.

[English]

Sir, it is going to be very difficult for us to give constructive cooperation if election speeches continue into this House and beyond. Sir, elections are over; it is time now to get down to work.

We would like to know exactly what you wish to do. We would like you to tell us specifically and I assure you, we will help you on every point that we feel constructive and in national interest.

Let me take a few minutes on the economy. The hon. Prime Minister has said—well, please correct me, if I am wrong—that the treasury is empty; that the coffers are empty.

[Translation]

"The Treasury is empty". Perhaps this is what was said.

[English]

The Finance Minister has said and I quote

"No, the treasury is not empty".

The President's Address levels a number of charges, none of which is substantiated. We were promised a White Paper. First we were promised a White Paper. Then, the White Paper did not come. We were told that we would be given a paper, that a paper would be "presented" to the House. Then, we were told that a paper would be "circulated." Now, we have this paper which is white in colour, but it does not contain anything that a White Paper should contain. It says nothing about what the Government intends to do and surely that is one significant part of a White Paper on economic issues.

I am not clear whether this is all the Government has in mind and the future is totally blank, or there is some thinking on economic policy for the future. If you enlighten us, I assure you, we will support you constructively, in areas that we find are beneficial to the nation.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, I have started fearing constructive support.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sir, no wonder, the hon. Prime Minister fears constructive support; he has not proposed anything constructive. But he welcomes critical support. But if we look at this the Economic Advisory Council Report, what does it say? I do not want to take time of the House in going into the details. But, it says during these years, the country has had the highest ever rate of growth. It is said that agricultural production has been strong and I am sure the hon. Deputy Prime Minister will bear me out on what our kisans and *khet mazdoors* have done during these past two years, especially during the years of the drought and the follow-up of the drought. It is no mean feat, what our kisans have done.

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Sir, the EAC Report talks of strong industrial performance, of outstanding growth in exports; it talks of there being no debt crisis; it talks of the high credit worthiness of the nation.

Sir, is this an account of an economy in shambles? The chief problem that has been identified is the fiscal imbalance with serious implications on inflation and on the balance of payment. This is not a new assessment. We were aware of this. In fact, in the Economic Survey of 1988-89 we have spoken about it and I quote:

"Restoration of better balance between Government revenues and expenditure is essential for enhancing future prospects of price stability. A Compression of the present scale of fiscal imbalance is also essential for bringing about an improvement in our balance of payment."

We had taken a number of steps to correct it. Perhaps you now feel that they were inadequate and more is required. Please enlighten us on what you intend to do to correct the situation further.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: You are very selective in the quotation you have given from the White Paper. You have omitted the paras which are critical of the economic policy of the previous government.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sir, the hon. Member has raised a point. I believe—I am not sure because there are so many new faces in the House—the hon. Member is from the State of West Bengal and if my memory serves me correctly one of the other Members from West Bengal just mentioned that the rate of growth in West Bengal has been the lowest. It has nothing to do with what the Central Government did. It has entirely to do with the government that is running West Bengal. I take this opportunity to remind the hon. Members from West

Bengal, that our record for mandays lost has been perhaps one of the best ever in the country and that would have been twice as good if more than half the mandays lost had not been lost in one State of West Bengal. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, this is the perception of the Leader of the Opposition. That is why their membership from 16 has come down to 4 and ours has increased to 32.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sir, it was not my impression. It was the impression of the hon. Member, Shri Chitta Basu who spoke just a little while back.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Sir, what I made out I expected the Leader of the Opposition understand it in its proper context. What I said was that there has been some decline in the rate of production in West Bengal because of certain policies pursued by the Government of India right from 1954 under the policy of freight equalisation.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I do not want to go into the 'bariki' of whether this word was used or that. We can check it up from the record of the House but I appreciate what the Member has said. I had forgotten but I realise now that the hon. Member is from the Forward Bloc and obviously CPI(M) in West Bengal is not performing upto the standards that he would have expected it.

*(Interruptions) **

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I do not permit.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: The question I would specifically like to ask is that there are a number of promises in your manifesto. Some of them have been repeated in the President's Address. How are these going to be met keeping in view what the Economic Advisory Council had said. For example, the promise of the right to work.

17.00 hrs.

Is this going to be a hollow promise which will just mean the amendment of the Constitution or are you actually going to give work under right to work? If you bring out a programme which promises to give work, we promise to support you. If you guarantee to give work, I guarantee our support. How this is to be done is your promise, it is not for me to say 'how', it is for you to say 'how'. You say 'how' and we will say 'yes' standing with you. But if it is going to be a hollow election promise, which is going to mean lots of words in the two Houses and nothing on the ground, then, how can we support it?

You have promised pensions. Again, we support you on pensions. But where will the money come from? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Silence please.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: The hon. Prime Minister has been a Finance Minister. He has been my Finance Minister. He knows these problems. Perhaps he will explain to his Members that there are some serious questions involved which cannot be answered just by shouting.

We will support you on the waiving of loans. But here I must ask a specific question because as I understood it and as I believe, most of the nation understood it this was the promise in the National Front's manifesto to be implemented from the Centre. A few days ago, I was talking to the Finance Minister and he said, No, no. How can we do this? It is for the States to do this. The States will have to find the money." Now, that is not fair. A promise by the Government at the Centre must be upheld by the Government at the Centre. And, Sir, we will support you right down the road on every single loan. In fact, we will help you. We will bring people who have loans to help you waive the loans.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bairpur): Except the 'loan *mela wallahs*'.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: There has also

been a mention by some Ministers—not in this House, I believe, but in another forum—that one of the areas that will be cut back will be Defence. I thought that this was a good trend but it should be done after assessing the situation. But yesterday or the day before, when I was sitting in this House, you shattered everything. You brought in supplementary demands for Rs. 500 odd crores for Defence.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): Eight hundred crores....

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: For Defence, I think, there were around Rs. 500 crores—if I remember correctly. You can correct me on the number in the supplementary demands.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: The Defence expenditure has been reduced to Rs. 5,500 crores. While reducing the Defence expenditure, has the country's security environment been assessed?

[*English*]

Have you looked at it seriously or are we just raising slogans? And I would request you, Sir, please do not cut Defence. Be very careful if you are going to cut Defence. (*Interruptions*) I am perhaps aware more of this than anyone in this House, perhaps even more than you, Sir.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Hon. Speaker, Sir, I just want to give information about the compulsion to bring the supplementary demands for Defence. The previous Government had not provided even for the balance salary of the staff.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: It is very easy to change heads from here to there. And I am sure, you will be doing all this jugglery in the next three months. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: There were no funds to pay the Army's salary even, what to talk of defence! That is

[Sh. Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

what the previous Government had done about security and defence.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I would like to remind the hon. Prime Minister about the period when he was my Finance Minister. We used to discuss how things should be shown in the Budget. So, please elaborate no more...*(Interruptions)* ...So, Sir, when these economic matters are brought up in the next few months, perhaps, more than any other Member here, I will know exactly what is happening in the background. Presentation is something that the current Government would like to present which would make the previous government look not so good. But I would like to remind the hon. Prime Minister that I know exactly what has been going on and how these things can be presented and it is going to make very little difference to this nation or the House as to how much jugglery is done in the presentation.*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, I concede total expertise in the matter of jugglery to the Leader of Opposition. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Knowing very little about finance, I relied entirely on my Finance Minister...*(Interruptions)* ...I was sure that he would stop the jugglery once he left the Government. But he continues this jugglery all the way here, Sir. *(Interruptions)*

Sir, I would like to come to one or two other questions seriously which are important. In seconding the Motion, the former Minister of the Janata Government, Mr. Kundu spoke very sharply and strongly against the Agni Missile programme and just after he finished speaking about it, one of his friends quickly sent him a *purchi* which he read and he quickly spoke all about the Agni Missile programme being very good. Now, what is the view of the Government on the Agni programme? I am talking about the hon. Member who seconded the Motion. I am talking about the specific Member be-

cause he seconded the Motion on behalf of the Government. If he were any other speaker, it would not matter but it was on behalf of the Government that he was speaking. He said that the Agni Missile is only good for nuclear warhead. Now, I know that is not true. I wonder what the Government's views are on the Agni Missile programme and what their views are regarding the constituency of the hon. Member which seems to be upsetting him very much as one of the test ranges happens to lie in his constituency. I may also ask the Government...*(Interruptions)* ...Otherwise, we will go on very late, Sir. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Kundu, don't interrupt. He is not yielding.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I would like to ask about one more point as Mr. Kundu has raised that point. What are the Government's views on the issue of going nuclear? Because one crutch of the Government has a particular view and the other crutch has a diametrically opposite view. Now, what does the Government feel about it because this is not something that can be left pending? We must know what the nation is going to do on this issue.

Perhaps no other Prime Minister, and certainly no new Prime Minister, has inherited a stronger economy than Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh has inherited. And I hope that he will look after it well and not get caught up in these protestations of low growth rate that we hear emanating from their Planning Commission.

During these five years our concentration has been in two areas, removal of poverty, reaching out to the weakest, the poorest, the most under-privileged and overall growth to strengthen the nation and to make the funds available for anti-poverty programmes.

I hope, this Government will not be like the previous non-Congress Government that we had. The Prime Minister I think, will be as aware as I am of the performance of that

Government. During those two and a half to three years, the percentage of people below the poverty line rose by approximately four per cent. I am giving you an approximate number, because it does not fall in the ten-year period, it has to be extrapolation. It increased from approximately 47 per cent below the poverty line in 1977 to 51 per cent in 1980. We are handing you the country with less than 30 per cent of the people below the poverty line. It means that within ten years of Congress Government, we have made a difference of over 20 per cent. I am only requesting you not to allow this Government... (*Interruptions*). I can only say that I am reasonably sure because we tried to correct it all in the past two and a half years.

The reason I am requesting you is first, for the poor of India. They deserve a better deal they deserve to go above the poverty line. But there is also a Congress selfish motive, because I have no doubt that the Congress will be back there soon, at the most after five years and we hope you last five years. But we would not like to see that below 30 per cent going back to 40 per cent by the time we are given back the responsibility—*pakar lo ab*. That is a plea which is both slightly motivated and on behalf of the poor of the country.

We brought out a number of programmes for removing poverty. We started by strengthening Indiraji's 20-Point Programme and the other *garibi hatao* programme. We augmented these programmes with the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and the Nehru Rozgar Yojana... (*Interruptions*). I know that the name Jawaharlal Nehru causes certain problems for you. At least, for the time being, it seems to cause certain problems for you. I hope your problems with the name are not going to destroy these two programmes. You can change the names, it does not matter, but the programmes must not be changed; they must not be wound up.

Sir, I mentioned high growth rates and low growth rates. India is a developing country and I am sure, all of us, including the hon.

members sitting on the Treasury Benches want India not to remain a developing country, but to catch up with the advanced and developed countries of the world. This must be a uniform goal not only of this House but the whole nation. When you set your growth targets at 3 to 4 per cent—which I believe you are going to set—how will you catch up with the advanced nations which are also growing at 3 to 4 per cent today? That is their approximate rate of growth. You will only catch up with them if you grow substantially faster than their growth. If you lock yourself into three or four per cent growth, you will always and for ever remain a developing country. Please do not do that to India. Do not fall for these traps.

I refer in your Residential Address right in the beginning that you want to restore the dignity of a nation. I am not quite clear what you mean. Perhaps in your address you will enunciate it. But I would like to say one thing. The dignity of a nation is really measured with respect to other nations and how other nations see you because that is where the dignity of a nation can be measured.

Sir, today India's standing—sorry, I have to change that statement because a lot has happened during these few weeks and I will be coming to that. When we handed this country over to you, the standing of India internationally was perhaps at the highest it has ever been.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): You handed over the Government to us, not the country.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I handed over the charge of the country. The reason why I have to correct myself from 'today' to 'three to four weeks ago' is because of certain things that have happened during these weeks.

The first thing that comes to mind is the total subjugation of this Government to the terrorists in Kashmir. How can a country have dignity if it cannot stand up against the

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terrorists? There can be no dignity if they do not have guts. (*Interruptions*) I would like to remind the hon. members on the opposite benches that a similar situation occurred many years ago when Shrimati Indira Gandhi was Prime Minister. Until it seeps in, I will have to keep repeating it. What else can I do?

[*Translation*]

It does not seep in.

[*English*]

Indiraji was faced with a similar situation when the same JKLF terrorists kidnapped one of our consuls, Shri Mathre. And we did not budge. The nation was above everything else. Nothing was compromised where the questions of the dignity and self-respect of the nation were concerned. (*Interruptions*)

I will come back to Jammu and Kashmir. I have not a little more to say about it; I have not finished with that yet.

The second reason why I changed my mind about India's dignity in these past three weeks was the statement that you made on Panama. (*Interruptions*) It is sad. I am honestly saddened that India should be reduced to this level. There are rumours—I do not know how true they are but there are rumours—going around that the draft produced by the Ministry was a very tough draft. It was ready early in the morning by ten o'clock or eleven o'clock. But the indications given were, "No; wait. Let us see what others do." That is why there was the delay.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): You are still keeping surveillance on us!

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Before you close everything it is still a little open.

It is sad that India which has always been in the lead where such issues are involved every country in the world looks first to see what stand India has taken—is today reduced to looking around and saying,

[*Translation*]

What others are saying.

[*English*]

It is indeed a sad state of affairs. And that brings me to the contents of that statement. Why was the wording so soft? Why have we suddenly become spineless? What is the support that we are looking for? Are our mouths gagged? And the statement that we made on the floor of this House was almost an explanatory statement that perhaps the President of the United States perhaps should have made! The Government of India makes a statement like this, and you talk of dignity of the nation!

AN. HON. MEMBER: Insult to the country.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I must also compare because if I remember—I have not got the statement here, if I remember correctly—the strongest words that the Government of India could find for the invasion of Panama was "deplored"!

AN HON. MEMBER: Not 'condemned'.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: But what happened in Romania, they strongly condemned. Who is looking over your shoulders? Why is this stand taken? Yes, I agree with you, we also condemn what has happened in Romania. It is wrong, it is bad and it is extremely sad that the state of affairs there have come to that point. But if you can strongly condemn that, then surely you can strongly condemn what happened in Panama. The invasion of a tiny nation perhaps slightly bigger than one of our UTs by the mightiest power in the world and India cannot speak of this. Perhaps the answer lies here. Sir, I read the ex-Ambassador of United States to India has

said something about India and 301 and our being named in it. Now, before I go to that, I must first remind you and compliment you, Sir, on how you acted on the Congress Government's behalf when you represented us in Punta-del-Estate where the basis for what has happened in 301 was discussed. I would like to compliment you and congratulate you because with the backing of the Congress Government you stood firm like a rock. But I find today, Sir, without the backing of the Congress there seems to be a little vacillation on India's traditional position. If I can quote the Ambassador—this is a cutting from a newspaper—I do not know how correct it is or how authentic it is. If you know better, if the facts are wrong, please correct me. Mr. Hubbard said—now I am reading—

“that the new Prime Minister Mr. V.P. Singh himself would advocate a less intransigent, more cooperative and compromising position in GATT vis-a-vis the USA”.

I will not go into the rest. It all reads in a very similar fashion. I hope you will contradict him and strongly condemn the Ambassador for denigrating the Prime Minister of our country in this manner...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): After all you are the Prime Minister of India. Do not forget about that...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, most respectfully, I did not want to interfere. But I want to make it clear and very clear. The hon'ble leader of the opposition knows very well that what we had achieved in Punta-del-Estate and Norega—Mr. Brahmdudd is there—is much more than what he himself had expected when our team left...*(Interruptions)*

Just one moment. And thereafter what has been conceded, we will come out with facts of what this Government has conceded in Geneva on intellectual property and let me see. We will come out with it...*(Interruptions)*

And I want it to be very clear that on these issues, India will stand on its own; we will not compromise our self-reliance and our economic independence; not subject to any country and no country can threaten us. We will go to the people—and we have come—share the sufferings with them, but not share the sufferings of any other nation... *(Interruptions)* The Ambassador has not met me yet. But to similar reports you have to reply. I have also come across a report which says—from the same sources—that the stance of the previous Prime Minister on 301 was only an election stance...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sir, I will first react to the last part of what the hon. Prime Minister has said. Sir, the Congress Party does not differentiate between its election stance and its rural stance. Our election stance is our stance unlike your election stance which is not your stance. I would again like to congratulate the hon. Prime Minister for the stand he took at Punta-del-Estate and I remind him that we were in touch almost every night and he used to phone me at all odd hours here because he had a proper hour there. Well, as the leader of the team, Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh did. But the whole team did. I would not like to leave out other Ministers; I would not like to leave out the officials because the officials did a fantastic amount of proceeding and background work during that period. And it was an achievement for India. I am glad that the hon. Prime Minister has said that there will no deviation from that stand. I assure him that there has been no deviation in Geneva and we will stand solidly behind him seeing that there is deviation from that stand. But I have noted that the Prime Minister has said is that he will stand rock solid for the self-reliance and economic independence of the country and that there will no compromise. But you have already compromised the dignity of the nation. Only economic independence and self-reliance is not enough. We have to stand up and fight for very much more. And this is the first thing that you will learn when you change seats from Finance Minister to Prime Minister...

SHRI RAM DHAN (Laganj): As you had changed seats from Pilot to Prime Minister. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I have appreciated that the Prime Minister has denied the statement. But I would have liked it even more if in this House he had outspokenly condemned the Ambassador's statement I will give him an opportunity now...

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: You finish first and then I will reply.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: There are two more issues on which we had taken a very strong stand which reflect on the dignity of the nation. The first was the stand that we had taken on the North-South dialogue. Now everyone knows, we know specially, that the United States and the Great Britain were totally against the North-South dialogue and they scuttled every effort that we made. It is no secret. I can speak a little more freely now that I am on this side rather than from that side.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: You are already doing that.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I hope that the initiatives that we had started in Paris on the North-South dialogue will not be given up or diluted or weakened up in any way by this Government. And I would like to hear something concrete on this from the Prime Minister when he replies.

The other very major step that we had taken was on South-South cooperation. You spoke of economic independence and self-reliance. There can be no economic independence or self-reliance for a developing country if the South does not consolidate itself. Everybody knows that. We had taken a very major step in starting the convening of Heads of States and Heads of Governments meeting involving about 13 to 15 countries to follow up on South-South cooperation and bring about a South position so to say, and set up a secretariat or some such body to look into the South position on various is-

sues so that the South would be ready to talk when it happens. We had planned to hold this Summit in January of 1990 because it is getting late. The North is already consolidating its position. They are working out their position on all issues. They are working together. It is imperative that the South gets it act together. I hope, Sir, that you will be able to convince these Heads of States to hold the meeting in January of 1990 to give another push to this initiative that we had started. It is not a Congress initiative or a personal initiative, it is an initiative by the country and I hope that you will follow it up in that spirit.

Nepal has come in for a lot of comment in this House. One of the opening speakers—I forget whether it was the proposer or the seconder of the Motion—went to the extent of saying that there was some problem that I had with His Majesty the King at a breakfast and so this whole thing happened. I have never heard anything so ridiculous. And anyway, we did not have a breakfast together. The question on Nepal is very straight-forward. The relationship with Nepal goes back many decades. The relationship was based on the treaties that we had, which saw the security of Nepal and the security of India as one. Has anything changed to change that perception? If you feel it has, then by all means go ahead and have two treaties. If you feel it has not, then there is only one way and that is one treaty. In fact, in my discussions with His Majesty the King—I had a number of discussions with him on this subject at a number of different places, most recently at the Non-Aligned Summit in Belgrade; I forget whether we had three meetings or four meetings—our aides spent hours and nights together working out things, and I think the points that we had made—I do not want to elaborate them all here openly in the House; you will have been briefed fully by the Prime Minister's Office on the Position that we had taken—is the only position. India can take with self-respect and keeping its security in mind. I hope you will continue that.

And if I recall correctly, it was during the

Janata period that Atal Behariji as Foreign Minister, had made a very strong statement that there must be one treaty and there cannot be two treaties, and his Prime Minister ditched him just a few hours or days later by announcing: "Yes, we will have two treaties", without even going into what was happening and why the one and why the two. Please do not do that, Sir.

There are also other problems with Nepal which I hope you will address. We have seen very unequal treatment being given to the Indians in Nepal vis-a-vis the Nepalese in India. We have also people of Indian origin and people of Nepali origin. We have also see differential treatment on behalf of the Nepal Government in relation to how close the Chinese can operate to the Indian border and how close Indians can operate to the Chinese border, even when they travel to Nepal on holidays. Now that is less relevant today because our relationship with China has changed. I hope you will continue the change that we brought about with China and this may not even be a relevant issue any more. But this showed an attitude that the Government of Nepal had and it cannot be just dismissed. I hope you will keep these points in mind.

Now, that bring me to China. We had achieved major break-throughs in China. I appreciate what has been said in the President's Address. I congratulate you for that and I assure you of our full support in working out a solution to the border with China. But I do have a question in mind. The question is: What is your attitude towards Tibet because one Member of your Cabinet has a different view on Tibet? We would like to know what this Government feels about Tibet. Do you maintain the position that has been India's position for almost 40 years that Tibet is an autonomous region of China? If you do so, then the only question is: does your Railway Minister also maintain that position? Is your foreign policy going to be guided by the Railway or by the M.E.A? I would wish you to bring your Railway Minister back on track. And if he does not, of course, we would expect you to take appropriate action be-

cause we feel that the relationship with China is so important that other things are of much lesser consequence. Sir, while on China, we had a plan that we should start talks as early as possible in 1990 and I hope that you will keep to the schedule that we had in mind. It was not a firm schedule. It was something that we had kept in mind and I hope you will keep to that schedule so that a solution can come and come quickly.

Sir, coming to Pakistan, there are certain things that must come out very clearly from this Government. What is your position on Siachen? We were very clear. I had myself made it very clear to the Prime Minister of Pakistan that there could be no compromise on Indian territory. Siachen is in Indian territory. For the sake of reducing tensions, we can pull back here and there, but only if we maintain the territory that we have. Absolutely no compromise. I hope that you will give a commitment to this House this evening that there is going to be no compromise of territory in Siachen.

[*Translation*]

SHRILALU PRASAD (Chapra): Please speak on Lokpal also

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Why are you so unnerved by the mention of Siachen that you want to shift to other issues, what is your stand on Siachen? (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

Sir, we would also like to know your clear view on Pakistan's nuclear programme. I hope there is going to be no compromise on national interest. I hope that the Government will condemn in very strong words in this House today the interference of the Pakistani Prime Minister in the 'Babri Masjid Ramjanambhoomi' issue. I hope you will also condemn Pakistan's involvement with and assistance to the terrorists and secessionists operating in Punjab and Kashmir because so far we have not heard a word about it. Not even in the meeting on Punjab did you talk about the problems from across

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the border. I can understand, well, I really can't understand, but I can be made to understand your political compulsions that you don't want to talk about other issues that you don't want to talk about 'Khalistan', you don't want to talk about Anandpur, you don't want to talk about terrorists taking their weapons into the Golden Temple and other gurudwaras. But how can I understand that you are afraid to talk Pakistan's involvement? Is the Government of India soft-peddaling on POK because of some other ulterior linkages?

Sir, on Sri Lanka, there are two issues involved in Sri Lanka. The first is that of the security of the Tamils. I hope that your Government is going to ensure the security of the Tamils as promises by the Sri Lankan Government on a number of occasions, not just one occasion. And the withdrawal of the IPKF is going to be linked squarely with the promised devolution. I get a feeling that there is soft-peddling and the Government does not have the guts to stand up and fight for what has been already signed for.

The second part of the first question is on the security of the Tamils. We had insisted in our talks that the security of the Tamils can only be assured if the Tamils themselves say they feel secure. It is not adequate for the Sri Lankan Government to say that Tamils are secure because the Sri Lankan Government is what the Tamils are scared of. We must have a Tamil body, you may decide what the Tamil body is, but it should be representative. We had come to two Tamil bodies in the last discussions, they may be good, they may not be good, where the Tamils are represented. If you think it can be bettered, by all means change it, but get the Tamils to tell you that they feel secure and not just one section of the Tamils. I know it is much easier to deal with one section. You are trying to deal with one section in Punjab. Don't try to deal with one section in Sri Lanka. We tried to deal with all the sections in Sri Lanka, we tried our hardest to deal with LTTE, we tried all sources to bring

them around. I hope that you are more successful. We were not successful with LTTE, that is why I am saying, 'I hope you are more successful.' But while you are being successful with LTTE, don't get all those Tamils of Sri Lanka who stood up for democracy, who stood up for non-violence, killed by LTTE. I hope you will look after the interests of all the Tamils in Sri Lanka.

Sir, only one more point on Sri Lanka, and that is that, apart from the agreement with the President, we also had an exchange of letters which was very important. The exchange of letters related to the security of our region, to non-interference in our region by outside forces. I hope there is going to be no dilution of this in anything that you do with Sri Lanka.

Sir, I have taken a lot of time. I have a lot to say about what we have achieved, domestically, politically, in ending violence and secessionism in the North-East, in Assam, in Mizoram, in Tripura and in Darjeeling, but I will try and be very short. We did not hesitate to sacrifice our party interests when it came to strengthening India. Even today you ask us for a sacrifice even on Punjab and we will do it. You tell us that you have a solution for Punjab. You tell me that the Congress should not fight elections in Punjab, we will not put up any candidate for Punjab.

AN. HON. MEMBER: You will get no seat. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: We have been accused during the debate here of playing politics in Punjab. Sir, we have not played politics in Punjab. We have not played one Akali group *versus* another Akali group, not at all. In fact, in the last elections in Punjab, we deliberately put up weak Congress candidates to allow the Akali group to come up because we wanted the solution. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

You have been elected recently, if you through the history will come to know.

[English]

I would like to point out one thing which I feel is essential. There seems to be a feeling in the Treasury Benches that India consists of North-Central Hindu belt and nothing else. Sir, it has come in the comments. (*Interruptions*) Let me remind you that India comes from its totality of cultures, it comes from its totality of languages, from all our people. You cannot forget the Northeast, as some Members from the opposite side have tended to do. It may be small. They may be sending only a dozen Members to this House but they are a vital part of this country. Nothing said in this House should demoralise the Northeast, or make them feel that they are not wanted. (*Interruptions*) I would request the hon. Prime Minister to over-rule his narrow-minded colleagues and to ensure the sense of belonging of Northeastern people

SHRI BAL GOPAL MISHRA (Bolangir): Sir, on a point of order. The hon. Leader of the Opposition has said we are narrow-minded Party. It is an aspersion on the Members.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I entirely agree with the hon. Member that it is a well-founded aspersion. It is an aspersion a well-founded aspersion.

That brings me to Jammu and Kashmir. The first question I would like to ask from this Government—the violence in Jammu and Kashmir does relate to the question, I am going to put, not entirely but very greatly to it. The Government must be very clear as to what it thinks of article 370. Is this Government going to remove article 370 or is this Government going to keep article 370? We would like a categorical statement today because only a categorical statement on this issue will help assuage some of the feelings in Jammu and Kashmir. Part of the fire is because of the confusion and the many voices with which the Opposite benches are speaking when it comes to article 370. I hope that clarification will come today.

It is also absolutely wrong to say, as a number of members have said, that the Congress Government at the Centre did not bother about the violence and increasing violence in Kashmir, or the secessionist forces in Kashmir. (*Interruptions*) I will ask the hon. Home Minister to clarify who has been encouraging this because perhaps he knows better than you and me, not only who has been doing it, he knows which house has it been done from. He also knows where his luggage was found. I do not have to clarify very far.

We know precisely where this is starting from and we had taken a number of very tough steps. I will not elaborate them in this House. The Prime Minister will be privy to them, if he has had his briefing, which I am sure he has. Nobody else will know about it. But the steps that we had taken were substantive and they were tougher than ever taken before. Most of my Ministers do not know about it either. (*Interruptions*). Most of my then Ministers I hope the Prime Minister has had his briefing and that he has been briefed adequately by the people who were looking after the security, the borders, the secessionism and the other things that are happening there.

Unlike some members of my Cabinet who seem to forget the oath of secrecy the minute they leave the Cabinet, I am bound by my oath of secrecy.

One more small question the hon. Home Minister fought his election from Uttar Pradesh. We were expecting him to fight from Kashmir. (*Interruptions*) I do not know why he did not fight from Kashmir. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

Kindly listen to what I say... (*Interruptions*)... he would explain if he so likes. You don't know what I am going to say. Kindly listen to me.

[English]

Is it true or is it not true that the terrorists and

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secessionists asked for a boycott of the election in the valley? And is it not true that the Home Minister changed his constituency? His constituency should have been Anantnag. *(Interruptions)* I am talking of Jammu & Kashmir. You are not understanding the significance of what I am saying. *(Interruptions)* You are not understanding the weight of what I am saying.

I am not saying that somebody cannot fight from here or somebody cannot fight from there. But if anybody leaves the valley of Kashmir because of the threat of extremists and secessionist—that is what I am talking about. *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI NATHU SINGH: Why did not Buta Singh ji contest from Punjab?

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Buta Singh ji did not contest from Punjab because elections were not held there.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

18.00 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: Please order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sir, it is a pity that the hon. Home Minister did not have the guts to face up to the threats of the secessionists. He should have fought from there. He should have fought against the boycott. He should have said that no boycott by these secessionists or terrorists by the JKLF counts in Kashmir. By fighting, he would have proved that their boycott does not count and is irrelevant. By leaving the constituency, he left it for only the National Conference—Congress (I) combine to fight. I wish he had fought because it would have strengthened Jammu & Kashmir; it would have strength-

ened the nationalist forces in Jammu & Kashmir. By running away from Jammu & Kashmir, he has beaten the nationalist forces. He has strengthened the secessionist forces. I hope.. *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I am here to control the House. You are not the Speaker. At least our Members should keep quiet. Please sit down.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Rajivji is not yielding.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I am trying very hard to speak in a cooperative tone. But they are making it very difficult.. *(Interruptions)* We would also like to know the policy of this Government with regard to the kidnapping. Now, their policy decision has made kidnapping fashionable. When the hon. Home Minister's daughter was kidnapped, I was saddened by that event. I was saddened for two reasons: first, because it is something personal which should not happen to any Minister or Home Minister. It should not have happened to anybody..but least of all to somebody because of the post he holds. I called the hon. Minister. I expressed my anguish. But that does not take away from what is requested from a Government.

When the kidnapping took place in Kashmir, immediately the same night an aircraft was sent, I believe, because the Government has made no authoritative statement. They keep running away from the statement. In this Rajya Sabha they made a very woolly statement which brought no facts. It did not enlighten anybody. I hope he will bring something concrete that can kill all these rumours that are going around. The rumour is that on the night of the kidnapping, the same evening or very early, at 2 O' Clock or 3 O' Clock the next morning an aircraft

went from Delhi with somebody from the Intelligence Bureau, with the NSG or some Central Government representatives to Kashmir. We did not see any such action when the Telugu Desam MLA was kidnapped in Andhra Pradesh. Is the life of a Telugu Desam MLA any less important? (*Interruptions*). If there is any kidnapping somewhere else... (*Interruptions*). In Tamil Nadu some Customs officials were kidnapped... (*Interruptions*) Was an aircraft or the NSG contingent sent to Tamil Nadu... (*Interruptions*) Or, is there a difference?... (*Interruptions*) Has the Government categorised the citizens of this nation into (a), (b), (c), (d) or VVIP that if this category of citizen is kidnapped we will send an NSG contingent, if that category of citizen is kidnapped we will send CRP, if the last category of citizen is kidnapped we will sit and fiddle our thumb at home? What is the basis on which a decision is taken to send the NSG, to send a Central Team. We would like to know on what basis is this taken.

Will the same thing happen? Will you send a contingent of NSG when a Tongewalla's daughter is kidnapped? This is the question to which I want answer.

[*Translation*]

Would the Government be ready to deploy contingent of NSG in case a poor farmer's daughter is kidnapped.

[*English*]

There must be a fixed method in which the Government operates and I hope the Prime Minister will enlighten us what the basis for this discretion is.

There is also a question that has been raised. I believe that the Home Minister's daughter was not given security. Now, knowing a little bit about how the Home Ministry functions—not very much, but a little bit—the Home Ministry does not give differential orders like this. I cannot believe the Home Ministry sends up a file saying that these are the children of the new ministers, the Prime Minister, whoever else is involved, all of

them must be given security; but the Home Minister's daughter must not be given security. Why was she excluded from security? Who took the decision to exclude the daughter of the Home Minister from being given security? And why was this decision taken, what was the basis of this decision? I do not want to go into the background and the linkages of individuals with secessionists and, fundamentalist elements in J&K—perhaps on another date. But we would like some clarification on this point.

Some very specific questions on the kidnapping in J&K Mr. Chidambaram has asked some, I have some more. I may repeat some—I will try not to repeat them but I may—because I forget what he has asked. If my little note informs me correctly, after the kidnapping took place there was a meeting of the Crisis Management Group—whatever it is called—a Cabinet Group J&K and they decided to try and approach the terrorists and secessionists. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Kindly pay a little attention. I am raising a very serious matter. If you listen to me, you would also realise its gravity (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

Sir, it may be very difficult for us to control our Members if this is how they are going to go about it.

I am told that after considering a lot of people, the Kashmir Government decided that they would approach the terrorists through a gentleman called Mr. Zafar Miraj who is the editor of a local daily in Srinagar. I am told he is a very close friend of the hon. Home Minister also. Out of all the people in Kashmir, the Government of Kashmir thought that the one person most likely to be able to reach the terrorists in the shortest time, the one person with the most credibility with the terrorists is Mr. Zafar Miraj, a close friend of the Home Minister. (*Interruptions*)

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I am not casting any aspersions. I do not want to cast aspersions. It is not my intention. I am just going through a sequence which, I believe, has happened. Mr. Zafar Miraj communicated to the terrorists. They gave some demands. They got the demands back. There were some negotiations. And then, it was decided, I am told...

[*Translation*]

I am reading it out.

[*English*]

Then, it was decided that the Chief Secretary should not deal through Mr. Miraj, but he should try and deal directly with somebody who is in touch with the terrorists. And at that point in time, Mr. Miraj put the Chief Secretary in touch with Mr. Abdul Majid Wani, who was talking with the terrorists, on the other side. Mr. Wani's statement to the Kashmir Government was very clear. He said, after his talks with the terrorists, that the terrorists are totally confused because they feel that they have made a terrible blunder in picking up a girl. If they had a boy or a man, they wouldn't be worried. But they were worried about the girl and I believe, if I am correct, during these discussions, Mr. A.R. Masjid Wani mentioned that the militants had committed a blunder by kidnapping the girl, which was un-Islamic and not in keeping with the traditions of Kashmir.

Please listen. I am coming to the important point.

He also mentioned to the Chief Secretary that public opinion, because of this episode, had very greatly affected the position of the terrorists and that they would have to free the girl even if we did not release anybody. Please note this. This is what was told to the Kashmir Government when the Kashmir Government was dealing directly with the matter. And don't take it lightly.

At that point in time, a little after this, a

new factor was injected in. Justice M.L. Bhatt, suddenly intervened in the negotiations and he cut off the whole negotiations. Again I will give you the words. 'In the mean time, Mr. Zafer Miraj, who was dealing with Mr. Wani, met the Joint Director, I.B., and informed him that he would get off the negotiations. He did not want to be on it any more, because another channel had been opened up. He wanted to get off the negotiations since they, the militants had better sources, that means, now realised that by dealing through Mr. Wani, they were going to have hard negotiations, but through a better source.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): May I ask hon. Rajiv Gandhi whether the information he has gained has been submitted by the State Government or the Intelligence Bureau of India? Where did he get the information from? (*Interruptions*) He is giving minute to minute, hour to hour account. What is the source of his information (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sir, the source of my information, I am obviously not going to reveal. The source of my information is not the Kashmir Government. I have got it through certain journalists. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: Unless he gives the source of information, it is disinformation. He cannot mislead the House like this. He should not mislead the House by giving disinformation. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sir, I said in the beginning, right at the outset, when I started speaking about Kashmir, that there are a lot of rumours; there is a lot of hearsay. If only this Government places on the Table of this House an authenticated version, all this can be thrown out. Let us have it tomorrow. Let us have a commitment.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: But you should not misguide the House.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Let me have a commitment from the Government that they will give us a minute to minute account of this kidnapping before the Session ends, that is, tomorrow. If they give that commitment I will stop talking about it. I understand that this Government is not willing to place a paper on the kidnapping in Jammu and Kashmir on the Table of the House.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: We have already put so many papers.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: No. Sir. Not one paper has been placed. The hon. Minister has just said so many papers on this incident have been placed on the Table of the House. That is not correct, Sir. Where are those papers? The Minister is misleading the House.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: We have not forgotten that when the hon. Leader of the Opposition was on this side many a time the Opposition demanded information, had to walk out of the House, had to boycott the House and even had to resign in order to get information.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sir, I am not demanding information. I am not requesting information. I am placing information with me on the Table of the House. Obviously the information I have got is accurate enough to worry you. Obviously it is too accurate that you are getting worried. That is what is worrying you. Sir, I know that the source of this information.

AN HON. MEMBER: You lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Do not say so because we might and your government will have to resign. We do not want that to happen now.

Let me just finish the sentence I was reading. In the mean time Mr. Zaffar Meraj met Joint Director (IB) and informed him that he would get off the negotiation.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: I again toll the hon. Member opposite, the information he gives that Mr. Zaffar Meraj submitted his account—whatever details—he had to give to Joint Director (IB) So who has given him this information about negotiations? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sir, let the Minister stand up and say that what I have said is incorrect and I will withdraw the part. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: I say, Sir, hon. Leader of the House... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

It does not make any difference.

[*English*]

.Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, whatever fact he has given, I think, this is to misguide the House. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI LALU PRASAD (CHAPRA): Mr. Speaker Sir, I am on a point of order. They have humiliated our Home-Minister's daughter who is in a way the daughter of the entire nation. She belongs to the minorities. He would realise the gravity of the situation only when Priyanka is kidnapped. A muslim girl should be treated as the daughter of every family in the country. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sir, I am not quoting from a document. I am reading from my notes. So, there is no question of laying my notes on the Table of the House. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): I am on a point of order. (*Interruptions*) The Leader of the Opposition is speaking in three voices. In one voice, he says that it is part of a rumour which is to be scotched by the

[Sh. Rupchand Pal]

Treasury Benches and at another time, he says that he is speaking from his notes only which are not a document and then he calls his point correct and wants the Treasury Benches to contradict it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I am on a technical point. I believe that the House ended at 6 O'clock. We need officially to extend the time of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: The House will sit up to 7.30.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Is it not true that the negotiations through Zaffar Miraj had to be given up because negotiations were started through Justice M.L. Bhatt? This is the questions.

The question then that I am asking is: Who authorised Justice Bhatt to start negotiations? Because the Kashmir Government didn't (*Interruptions*) Let us have a debate on this issue in this session. (*Interruptions*) Let us have a debate on the J&K happenings. (*Interruptions*) Let the Treasury Benches agree and I will end now. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Leader of the Opposition has been speaking for the last two hours. That is not the way. I think that laying such documents just on the basis of false rumours is totally against the rules. I would like to tell him in regard to the reference being made by him that in that particular state Congress is in power. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I am not tabling any documents.

[*English*]

I am not quoting from my notes. I believe

that Justice Bhatt started negotiations and contacting terrorists and secessionists before the Kashmir Government even knew that you were doing so. Now, this is very serious. How did it happen? Why did it happen? How did judge of a High Court have contacts with terrorists? How was he able to establish these contacts? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to make a submission regarding this.... (*Interruptions*)....The hon. Leader of the Opposition says that Justice Bhatt has connections with terrorists in Kashmir. I want to know who has appointed hon. Justice Bhatt as Justice of the High Court. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: You ask such questions.

[*English*]

.. (*Interruptions*)....I will answer as to who has appointed Justice Bhatt. He was appointed by the Congress Government on the recommendation of Mr. Mufti Mohammad Sayeed when he was our PCC President... (*Interruptions*)....Let me go beyond that. Now that they have asked, let me answer them, Sir. We wanted to move Justice Bhatt away from Kashmir for some time and we wanted to move him out because there were complaints that he was releasing terrorists on bail. And Mr. Home Minister, may I ask you as to who stopped us?... (*Interruptions*)..Can the hon. Home Minister deny that Justice Bhatt is a close friend of his... (*Interruptions*)....I need say no more about how Justice Bhatt got to Kashmir. I do not know how he got to Kashmir. Rumour has it that he did not get an airline flight but that he got a special aircraft. Justice Bhatt is now in UP and no in Kashmir. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum dum): Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Chatterjee, what is your point of order?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, for the second time, the former Prime Minister is usurping the function of the Speaker in the House. Who is the controller of this House?

Is it the Leader of the Opposition or...
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: May I remind the hon. Member that the Prime Minister is sitting very quietly.

[*Translation*]

.... (*Interruptions*).... I can finish only if you let me do it. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: The request of the House is that you should finish it quickly. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sir, can I request the hon. Prime Minister to keep his friends a little bit under control?... (*Interruptions*).... The specific question is how did Justice Bhatt get to Kashmir, who sent him to Kashmir, on whose behalf was he negotiating before he contacted the Kashmir Government? It was only after he had contacted the terrorists, only after he had agreed to release five for one, whereas the negotiation that the Jammu and Kashmir Government was doing was going to be perhaps less than one to one, that the first series of the negotiation collapsed and they were forced to shift to the second source. We need some clarification on this. Is it not true that the Central Government has very neatly said that the Jammu and Kashmir Government did this and did that? Is it not true that they had people sitting there from the Centre right through? In fact, the first people who went to Jammu in a special plane, picked up from Jammu the Kashmir Government people and they took the Kashmir Government people to Srinagar. That is when the control room was opened. Am I right?

The Central Government was involved

right through. Then, when it came to the final deal of what should be done and what should not be done, I am told that Justice Bhatt had agreed to five terrorists and out of the five terrorists, one was the Pakistani national. They had exchanged the names also. Five terrorists were to be released. The original proposal was for a 48 hours gap. The terrorists are released and then a forty-eight hours gap, and after that the girl was to be released. The Kashmir Government said, "No, this is not acceptable". Then, forty-eight hours came down to twelve hours. The Kashmir Government said: "No, it is not acceptable". Then it came to three hours and the Kashmir Government said: "No, this is not acceptable." The Chief Minister telephoned the hon. Home Minister in the middle of the night and said: "This is what is being proposed. He thinks, it is too high a price, the risk is too high and it should not be accepted. Orders went from the Central Government, from the then Cabinet Secretary to the Chief Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir, Shri Chidambaram has already read out those orders. I do not have to reiterate.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Read out?

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: The sense of the order, not the instructions of the Government. I do not have to repeat that. The Central Government gave categorical instructions to the J&K Government to agree to this. Not only did they do that, the Chief Minister was told somewhere in the early hours of the morning that these are the instructions that have come from the Centre. I forget whether it was 4 o'clock or 5 o'clock in the morning. Two Ministers from the Central Government were also sent to Jammu and Kashmir to ensure that those instructions were agreed to and the formula that the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir had rejected... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): I categorically contradict the hon. Leader of the Opposition. We went there and we said categorically that we are not intervening, nor interfering in the

[Sh. I.K. Gujral]

State Government's spheres.. (*Interruptions*). There were no instructions from the Centre... (*Interruptions*)

I would like to say that I and Shri Arif Mohammad Khan went there only because what were seeing the collapse of the administration... (*Interruptions*) I am on record. It is his Chief Minister, let him deny what I am saying. Let him say what I am saying is not correct... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I do not remember even one occasion in these five years when I had to send my Foreign Minister to go and see the collapse of the administration... (*Interruptions*)

I would not now say much on this. I have made my point. But what I would like to reiterate is that unless the Government comes out with a proper statement, there are too many rumours going around about where the girl was kept by the kidnappers. Rumour is that she was kept in a mosque next door to her house. Rumor is that food was going from the house. Rumour is that people were constantly meeting her. It is essential for the credibility of the Government that a minute to minute, below by blow, account is put in front of the nation. I sincerely hope that this Government will do so, Sir.

Then there is the question of Punjab. I have raised some points earlier. I will not expand. I will talk very precisely. We have raised a number of points in the joint meeting which the Government has not answered, which we feel the Government should answer. The immediate task is to deal with those that are calling for Khalistan. What has the Government done? Is it just sitting and watching while the Jor Mela is going on and harder and stronger statements are being made? Nothing has happened. They have not been picked up for one reason only. That gentleman would have been in jail today. If it were not for the specific instructions from the

Prime Minister's Office to the then Government asking the governor not to arrest him. That is why they are out today. (*Interruptions*)

We will show you the telexes also. The telexes have come in the newspapers and we can show them. We want to know the Government's stand on those people that are asking for Khalistan. Pick them up, arrest them and show that you have guts!

The Government should clarify its position on the Anandpur Saheb Resolution. Somebody has said in this House that the Congress Government has referred it to the Sarkaria Commission. The Congress Government did not refer it to the Sarkaria Commission. If some Sikh from Punjab referred it, we do not know about it. We want to know the Government's position on the Anandpur Saheb Resolution because very senior members of the National Front are mixed up with the Bharat Mukti Morcha or whatever it is called. I have raised this issue in the Rajya Sabha. It has still not been answered. I have raised it in the Rajya Sabha where your members of Parliament have categorically upheld the Anandapur Saheb Resolution. The country wants to know. When you were in opposition you need not have told the country. Today, you must tell the country. How can you not tell the country? We want to know what your position is regarding the fundamentalists in Punjab who are throwing Hindus out of hostels, closing down liquor and meat shops. This has been started in these two weeks. What are you doing about it? What are you doing about Pakistan's training? What are you doing about the take over of religious institutions by the fundamentalists? There are more weapons today going into the Gurudwaras than there were during pre-Blue Star and pre-Black Thunder periods. Why are you not using the Religious Institutions (Prevention of Misuse) Act? When are you going to wake up? Will you wake up when you need another Black Thunder? Are you going to wait so long? Are you not going to act till they are occupied again? For heaven's sake, do something.

In your paper on Punjab, you have raised two points. There are only two specific points which you see as a solution to Punjab—removal of 59th Amendment and taking action on the Mishra Commission.

You have not brought anything to remove the 59th Amendment in this Session. Have you? Will it be removed in this Session? You will introduce it tomorrow and you will pass it in the next session. Right?

SHRI P. UPENDRA: We will pass it tomorrow.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sir, these gentlemen are introducing a Bill to remove the Fifty-ninth Amendment in this session to be passed in the next session, when the Fifty-ninth Amendment automatically lapses on the 30th March! So, what are you doing? Are you fooling the whole nation? If you want to remove it, remove it in this session

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: I want to say that we want to pass it in this session.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: The nation cannot put up with this drama. Let us see something positive.

AN. HON. MEMBER: How long will repetition be allowed?

MR. SPEAKER: He is concluding. Please take your seat.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: On the Mishra Commission we have taken very strong action and I hope that the Hon. Prime Minister talks about the Mishra Commission he will also mention everything that we did. If there is anything more that is to be done, we would welcome the Government to do it.

The last point I would like to raise today is communalism.

AN. HON. MEMBER: Mr. Speaker, I want to... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You have not been permitted.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: The danger to the nation is from communalism. And we feel that this Government has an ambiguous stand on the issues that relate to communalism. Perhaps there are certain compulsions. But they must be very careful, on how much they lean on these crutches lest they damage the nation because of the perceptions that have come up that they are involving and giving credibility to communal elements, which is what you have done, which is the most dangerous thing that you have done, you have caused severe damage. I hope you will not continue doing that. (*Interruptions*)

Not since Independence has the country been under such a wave of communalism. Even this morning in this very House one of the members from the opposite benches from the Treasury Benches had said something which the Chair had to expunge because it was too communal. That is what is happening today. You must correct it.

Who is responsible? I know that you are going to blame the Congress. During these past three to four months our friends on the opposite benches held almost 2,70,000 to 2,80,000 processions mostly in the Congress ruled States, communal processions... (*Interruptions*) Why did you do that. Now, you have sown the seed, you will reap the harvest. For today again you have increased the strength of the BJP by 4000 per cent, by your seat adjustment. (*Interruptions*) We need a consensus on communalism. We are willing to sit with you. We request you this time not to call us with an empty table and an empty mind but to think about it before calling us. Give us something to talk about. Give us something to talk about. We will talk to you; we will talk constructively; we will work with you against all communal forces.

Now, lastly I would just like to say that there is a difference between your secularism and our secularism. We are religious;

[Sh. Rajiv Gandhi]

being religious is not being anti-secular or unsecular. There is a difference between what the Communists think and what we think, what Panditji thought. For a country like India, religion is important, the spirituality is important, communalism is different.

Sir, I have taken a lot of time. I thank you for your indulgence. Let me just say at the end that we will support this Government on every positive issue that they bring out on anything that is for the nation which strengthens our nation and which helps the poor.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I very patiently heard the two and a half hour rigmarole of the leader of the opposition... (*Interruptions*)

Sir, I have had the opportunity of watching the performance of Shri Rajiv Gandhi as the Prime Minister in the last five years in the Eighth Lok Sabha... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N. SUNDARARAJ (Pudukkottai): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your point of order?

SHRI N. SUNDARARAJ: Sir, after the speech of the leader of the opposition the Prime Minister will reply... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No point of order.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, we have had the opportunity today also to see him as the leader of the opposition. I can only say that his performance as the leader of the opposition is better than that of the Prime Minister. It suits him more, better. He can afford to be irrelevant and flippant. He can afford to be vague and banal as the leader of the opposition. Sir, he enjoys flying as he is used to do and he has indulged in kite flying in course of his two and half hour speech that we have heard, been tortured to sit through.

Sir, the leader of the opposition said no doubt that Congress will be back to power. I would request him to give up this hope so that he can get rid of some of the confusions which are in his mind. To remain in power he had to go to Machan Baba. To come back to power to which Baba he will have to go, I do not know. He started by saying that he was offering constructive cooperation. Except arrogance, except a record sheet of his non-performance we have heard nothing. With all his so-called achievements, the people have taken the decision. We are being told that we must only take note of the South. Certainly we respect our people in the South. Certainly we respect the verdict they have given. But what about the people in other areas of the country? Their decision is not the decision? Their verdict is not the verdict? Their mandate is not the mandate because it is not in your favour? Now today, majority of the people of this country have voted for this Government. They have unceremoniously consigned you to that side. And as I said on the other occasion, the people will be happy if you remain there with greater and greater reduced strength.

Mr. Chidambaram is very articulate. He is naturally enjoying the support that he still continues to have of his electorate considering the position of his erstwhile colleagues in the Rajiv Gandhi Government. Most of them are now consigned to the dustbin of history. Now he was joking about AMOS. He is very fond of abbreviations. His leader, the Leader of the Opposition, also referred derisively to this alternative model of governance. I congratulate the Prime Minister and the Government that not only they have referred to this alternative model of governance in the President's Address but they have already started with this alternative model of governance which the people of this country have been looking for. We hope that the process of national reconciliation that has been mentioned in the President's Address will be continued and that there will be an evolution of national consensus as has been referred to in the President's Address. The previous Government, we had experienced, treated every national issue as a partisan issue and

they tried to solve the issue by means of confrontation and ad hocism. But I hope and believe that the Government under the leadership of Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh will treat national issues as national issues and not party issues and will decide them on the basis of national consensus. Is it not an alternative model of governance that this Government has come in the first session of Parliament after the election with the Lok Pal Bill including the Prime Minister in it? Is it not a better model of governance to have the Prashar Bharati Bill which will do away with the misuse of mass media which was taken recourse in a rampant manner during the last Government? Is it not an alternative better form of governance that the respect should be given to the opposition?

Our Leader of the Opposition while delivering his last address, I believe the swan song, from the Red Fort rampart on 15 August, 1989 said this about the opposition:

"These anti—people forces, the Prime Minister said, were indulging in *nach gana* and hobnobbing with the secessionists. These traitors are roaming about freely and have even managed to enter Parliament."

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sir, is it not true that a Member of the Janata Dal in the Rajya Sabha has supported the Anandpur Sahib Resolution? Is it not true that a Member of the Janata Dal in the Rajya Sabha has attended the funeral ceremonies of the worst terrorists? Is it not true that he has supported the terrorists in Punjab?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, what I am saying is that a Prime Minister of a Country... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU (Balasore): Sir, when I made the statement yesterday, the Leader of the Opposition stood up and said: "I have not said like this"...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Sir, the statement made yesterday by Mr. Kundu was that I said "terrorists are in Parliament". I never said that. I said: "The supporters of terrorists are in Parliament".

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, the Leader of the Opposition's memory may be helped by Mr. Vasant Sathe. Probably his memory is better although he is older....*(Interruptions)*. Mr. Rajiv Gandhi says, yesterday he did not use the word 'terrorist' but he used the word 'traitor'. I am an old man, I am prone to forget. A Prime Minister of a country addressing the nation and calling the Opposition Members as traitors inside the Parliament, what more shameful could there be? Sir, I hope the ramparts of the Red Fort of this Country will never be desecrated in future by an address like that... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Mr. Chatterjee, with your permission...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: No, I am not yielding. Two and a half hours you have taken.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Only one word I will say. Sir, anybody that supports people who want to break our nation, I call a traitor. I maintain what I said.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, I am very happy that the present Government has explicitly referred to this Alternative Model of Governance in the President's Address, which shows its seriousness, because through the mouth of the Rashtrapati, the Government has proclaimed its policy which can only be for the better of this country. We were told by the Leader of the Opposition, of the achievements of the nation.... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sathe, please take your seat.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, he spoke of the achievements of the *kisan*, he spoke of the achievement of the *khet*

[Sh. Somnath Chatterjee]

mazdoor, he spoke of the achievement of the women, and he also spoke of his so-called achievements. There are achievements galore which only created problems for the ordinary people of this country. During those five years of Black days of this country, the unity and the integrity of the country had been under the greatest strain. Punjab was on flames. Serious situation developed in Kashmir. Secessionism, raised its ugly head. Freedom of press was interfered with by bringing that infamous Defamation Law.

19.00 Hrs.

The Centre-State relations are completely vitiated. Sir, authoritarianism casts its deadly spell over the country and almost all the democratic institutions including this House were sought to be denigrated and perverted by the then Government. Sir, the communal divide was widened affecting the goodwill and amity among the people. The communal riots and the communal strifes increased by leaps and bounds. There was the embroglio about the 'Babri Masjid Ramjhanambhoomi'. The controversy was not resolved during their days and thought, probably, he could take advantage of that issue during his election campaign. But it has boomeranged on him, Sir, acute economic crisis with rising prices made the life of the common people impossible and unbearable. There is wide-spread unemployment. The unemployment figures, Mr. Speaker, as you are aware, have reached the highest number and two lakhs of factories are closed in this country and in this the Rajiv Gandhi Government's contribution is about 1,40,000 which were closed during the last five years. Instead of getting jobs, people in this country had lost their jobs. Who is responsible for this? Now, Sir, the common people, specially the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as well as the women have been the objects of torture. And last but not the least is all-pervading corruption in the highest echelons of his Government. That was the achievement of his Government and that is

why the 'kisans', the khet-mazdoors' the women, the people and the youth of this country have removed them from here and put them there. This is their verdict. Sir, humility would never be the name of Congress, at least the Rajiv Gandhi's Congress. Sir, they don't ever ask themselves why one party having 425 Members sitting on this side have been reduced to 192 or 193, I don't know.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI (Ghosi): 194.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Yes, 194 and I can take you as 2, 195. Very well 194 Members with so many achievements, so much drumbeating with the misuse of the media, so much projection in some section of the press also. What we witnessed during the last elections which were held during their Government in power was that in the then Prime Minister's constituency, there had to be repolling in 97 booths. The Returning Officer had to be shifted. The District Magistrate, the Superintendent of Policy had to be shifted and no one word from the then Prime Minister was said against it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are further told about what happened in Kashmir during the unfortunate occasion when Dr. Rubia Sayeed was kidnapped. Sir, I very seriously ask the present Government to be extremely careful and if the so-called information given by the leader of the Opposition and also by Mr. Chidambaram, is right, then it is clear that they have access to the Government records and they are being passed on, Government information, Cabinet secrets, by the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir and the former Governor of Punjab, Shri Sidhartha Shankar Ray, and the reports of the Intelligence Bureau. Sir, obviously, they have their plants in very important areas.

AN. HON. MEMBER: What is needed is an open Government.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Open Government does not mean that they should submit or surrender to the forces of disinte-

gration of this country or dismemberment of this country.

Sir, they were talking of publication of reports etc., minute to minute flow accounts of an unfortunate incident that had taken place concerning a young girl. (*Interruptions*) It is for the Government entirely, I am not saying either to give or not to give, it is entirely for the Government. But what is the track record of this earlier government or the former government? Whatever was published of the Thakkar Commission's Report was not published by them, but by a journalist initially, and even when they were forced to publish portions of it, they did not disclose the whole of it. This is the present Government—I must congratulate them again when they are going to introduce a Bill tomorrow for repeal of those sections of the Commission of Inquiry Act which were brought into law of this country by the former Government. Look at the irresponsible attitude of the Leader of the Opposition, I am sorry to use such an expression. He says that Justice Bhardwaj was intended to be transferred from Kashmir and if somebody stopped—so, these are matters which are not to be disclosed in public if a Judge of the High Court is to be transferred. If something was there against him that is serious, there is a method of removal of a Judge (*Interruptions*). Impeachment. They had a very huge majority in the House—now he is openly alleging that a Judge of the High Court of this country was very lenient to the terrorists and this is being said by the Leader of the Opposition on the floor of the House of this country. That is why I said, he can now afford to be irresponsible which he previously could not be. (*Interruptions*)

Sir, we were told during this very lengthy speech, we were reminded of the policies of the Congress Government, we were reminded of the heritage of freedom movement, that India's civilization was as if epitomised in the functioning of the Government headed by Rajiv Gandhi. Sir, I thought there was a limit to frivolousness. It is an insult to the people of this country, to the majority of the people of this country who have voted

very categorically for a change. Even Mr. Vasant Sathe has conceded that it was a negative vote. It was a negative vote means that? Negative vote means the people were sure that they did not want Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Government to come back. And it is the duty of the other Member of Parliament to see that a Government is formed in this country and we are very happy that Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh has formed the Government. And on behalf of my party, we have already pledged our unconditional support to this Government. We hope and believe, and we have no reason not to believe that this Government will keep up the pledges and promises that the Janata Dal had made in their election manifesto to the people of this country.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (Sivaganga):
And if they do not?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: He will do it. I need not go to you for advice. (*Interruptions*)

Sir, there are many difficulties. There are many many issues confronting this country, many many problems confronting this country, which are the direct result of the misrule of the malfunctioning and malfeasance of the Rajiv Gandhi's Government that require to be rectified and remedied and new avenues have to be now explored. We have to see that those distortions and perversities in our body politic, in our economy, are removed as soon as possible and we certainly will support this Government whenever it takes a step in the proper direction for removal of those perversities and distortions in the body politic and the economy of this country. The Leader of the Opposition said that he was complimenting him. He said, "No Prime Minister in this country has inherited a stronger economy." I can only say that he was not very kind to his own mother. We were reminded of Indiraji; we were reminded of Nehruji. But this is the respect which the present Leader of the Opposition is paying to his mother. Therefore, the economy that he inherited was not a strong economy? What is the state of the economy of this country?

[Sh. Somnath Chatterjee]

They have been frequently referring to the document, the report of the Economic Advisory Council. (*Interruptions*)

I have had the great honour to be in this House for 18 years. I need not be reminded.

SHRISONTOSH MOHANDEV (Tripura West): You were removed by Kum. Mamata Banerjee.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Yes, I bowed down to the people's wishes. But I had come back within one year. (*Interruptions*)

They are quibbling about the report, whether the report of the Economic Advisory Council should be treated as a White paper because it is printed on a white paper. This is the type of comments we are having from our distinguished articulate Member, Mr. P. Chidambaram and of course, from his less articulate leader, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Sir, about the question whether it is white paper or whether according to them is a black paper, it discloses a very serious situation about the economy of our country, which is the result of mismanagement on the part of the Government that has been unceremoniously removed by the people of this country. I do not wish to take more time at the fag end of the day because everybody is waiting to hear the Prime Minister. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT (East Delhi): My request is to yield for a minute.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You were not here. You avoided your leader's speech. Now you have come to trouble us. (*Interruptions*) You have won by a bigger margin, I concede.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Mangalore): On a point of order under rule 355.

MR. SPEAKER: He has raised a point of order.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: I will ask him to comment on what the former Prime Minister has said about Panama.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It is not a matter of intervention. I know being out of power, he is totally unbalanced.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: My point of order is, when a Member is on his legs, in the course of the debate, do you think that there is no power or authority on you to permit any other Member of the House to ask or put any question to the Member who is on the legs, even if he does not yield? (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: This is all

....(*Interruptions*)....

MR. SPEAKER: That is my discretion

....(*Interruptions*)....

MR. SPEAKER: I have seen it.

[*English*]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Rule 355 is very clear.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Only Panama is your concern and nothing else. Very well.

With regard to Punjab, we welcome the declaration in the Address, that there will no compromise with separatism and no yielding to extremism. We hope and believe that an attempt will be made to solve this problem by evolving a national consensus.

We appreciate that the Prime Minister went to Punjab so soon after taking charge of his office. I am glad that All Party meeting was held on 17th December and the deliberations of that meeting completely show how the Congress stands totally isolated in

this country and they stand in offering, not constructive cooperation but destructive opposition to the present Government's efforts to solve the Punjab problem and they stand thoroughly exposed and seen.

We welcome the Government's declaration: even the Leader of the Opposition has welcomed it though not with very, I am sure, great hope and faith, that action on the Ranganath Misra Commission report will be taken expeditiously. I congratulate the Government because even on the floor of this House today they have expressed that the 59th Constitution Amendment Act will be repealed. Some sort of comment was made that it is going to expire on 30th March. What is the necessity of repealing this?

We feel that such anti-people, black law should not remain in the statute books in the Constitution of our country. The sooner it is removed the better. Our Constitution should not be allowed to remain polluted by insertion of provisions like the 59th Constitution Amendment Bill.

So far as the very serious issue of communalism in this country is concerned, we are happy that the Government has expressed its determination to solve the problem by generating amity and goodwill in this country. We are very happy that the National Integration Council is going to be reconstituted and it will be allowed to function, not like the previous Government to be put in cold storage although assurance was given even on the floor of the House that the National Integration Council should be called but it was never called. I hope it will be used for taking all the initiatives on national integration issues and we certainly highly appreciate this.

So far as Babri Masjid and Ramajan-ambhoomi dispute is concerned, we hope that the Government will take expeditious steps and adequate steps to resolve the same by an attitude of friendship and goodwill and by agreement between all concerned. We wish this Government well and I have already pledged my support to this Govern-

ment. I am sure, as long as it does and it will do so, it will strengthen national unity and integrity and to bring about an atmosphere of hope, faith and goodwill in this country and solve the basic problems of the people of this country.

I am sure their performance will match the promises that have been made and there is no reason that this Government will not last for its full term and will come back with greater majority at the proper time.

The Address, though does not specifically refer to Bofors and the submarine deals, I would request the Prime Minister and the Government that they should take all steps expeditiously so that those persons who indulge in corruption, with regard to our defence deals stand fully exposed and those who committed economic brigandage in this country should be properly brought to book and they must suffer for the consequences of their action.

We welcome the decision to constitute an inter-State Council. The Centre-State relations came under the greatest of strain, as I said earlier. There have been distortions, perversions and things have been decided on partisan basis. Important laws have not received assent because they were passed by the Opposition Governments. Important public projects have not been allowed clearance because they came from Opposition-ruled States. We hope that there will be now a forum like the Inter-State Council which the Sarkaria Commission also recommended which they have not implemented. It will be able to solve these issues to the satisfaction of all concerned. We are also happy that the Planning Commission is being put on a statutory basis so that the Planning process in this country gets legal sanction with the participation of the different States and different sections of the people in the society.

With regard to two matter, I have referred generally to the economic issues. I do not wish to go into details about the foreign debt, about the Balance of Payments posi-

[Sh. Somnath Chatterjee]

tion, about how multinationals have been ruling the roost under the cover of the Rajiv Gandhi's Government and how there has been uneven development, how the principle of self-reliance has received the greatest attract, greatest shock, set back under the Rajiv Gandhi's Government. I am very happy that there is a clear reference to the land reforms being brought about in this country. I am sure that when there is a model like West Bengal, the rest of the country will follow that model, which the previous Government steadfastly refused to admit.

Sir, there are certain issues to touch upon before I resume my seat. I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Prime Minister one thing. We would have been happier if there had been a clearer mention in the President's Address that right to work will become a fundamental right to the people of this country. I request the Government to do that. I request the hon. Prime Minister to make it clear when he replies that the amendment to the Industrial Disputes Act and several other legislations, proposed legislations some of which have been introduced in the other House, some in this House dealing with the labour and the working people of this country, which are against their interest, which are vehemently opposed by the Central Trade Unions,—there have been industrial actions on them—those black law will be repealed as soon as possible. I would request him to make a categorical statement that the Government will never take recourse to such black laws as the Rajiv Gandhi's Government used to do.

So far as the Mandal Commission Report is concerned, we only hope that this matter will be finally decided by holding discussion amongst all parties and all interests concerned and a national consensus will be arrived at for the purpose of dealing with the Mandal Commission Report.

I cannot ignore my very good friend Shri Bhagat. So far as foreign policy is concerned, our views are well known. We are

happy that stress has been given that the Non-Alignment Policy will continue. This is the result, this is the product of this country's fight against colonialism and imperialism. Therefore, this country can never afford... *(Interruptions)* This is the policy of the people of this country. Therefore, Non-Alignment has to be the basis of our foreign policy. I am glad that this Government has given its due stress on this. Mention has been made about normalisation of relations with China and with our neighbouring countries. With regard to Panama, no doubt we would have been happier with a forthright condemnation of the U.S. invasion on Panama. I am sure what the Government really intended was to condemn the action taken by the U.S Government against Panama. At least, the Prime Minister will make it clear if there is any uncertainty in the minds of the Opposition parties. We have made our position very clear. Therefore, before I resume my seat, I wish to make it clear that this President's Address was prepared only about a fortnight after this Government took charge. We quite appreciate that they have only dealt with broad issues in this, which they propose to tackle immediately. But there are very many issues which are mentioned in their Election manifesto, which we are raising in the House and the people are raising in this country. I am sure, this Government will pay proper attention for the solution of these problems which are affecting the people in everyday life. I know you have got a very difficult role to play, there are very many difficulties in your way because you have inherited a legacy of mess, mismanagement and misrule. But we cannot lose faith in the people of this country. We cannot be untrue to them. We must see that these problems are tackled and solved so that no advantage can be taken by the party which has been indulging in anti-people policies for years together. The time has come when they shall; be consigned for ever to that part of the House.

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling): Mr. Speaker Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the President's Address. I know it is the fag end of the day. However, I do hope that the House and

you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, will bear with me for two reasons. Firstly because it is going to be my maiden speech. And secondly, because I propose to deal with a subject of far-reaching importance to the future of our democratic system

I particularly welcome Paragraph 10 of the Address. In this paragraph, if I might quote, words have been used which we have been praying for and waiting for a very long time. Para 10 reads:

"A healthy and vibrant democracy hinges crucially on the sanctity and strength of democratic institutions. The Government is fully committed to the restoration of the dignity and vitality of institutions which have been weakened in recent years."

As I ventured to say other day, it has been my privilege to watch this House function from the Press Gallery above for almost 35 years I am happy today to have an opportunity now to tell this House how I and many of my friends up there felt times out of number about the conduct of this House. There were occasions when we felt like shouting from above to protest against the total denigration of this House. But we desisted lest involved ourselves in privilege.

Parliamentary democracy as we all know is a civilised form of Government. It provides for rule by discussion, debate and consensus. In the initial period during Nehru's time as also during that of Sardar Patel and Mavalankar's the whole system worked well. Discussions were encouraged debates were held and a consensus forged, as it should be. But I am sorry to say that over the last two decades the system has come into great disrepute and indeed, if I might even add, made a sham of democracy.

Why do I use these strong words Sir? I will give you many reasons for using these strong words. Take one aspect alone. Parliament, as the people's chosen sovereign representative body, expected to exercise a control over the budget. And yet what has

been happenings? Year after year, budgets have been voted, demands have been voted without adequate discussion on the budget. In April this year, shockingly enough, budget grants worth Rs. 54 thousand crores were voted without any discussion. Discussion was held only in regard to the demands of three Ministries—the Ministry of Energy, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of External Affairs totalling to Rs. 12 thousand crores. This only shows the farce to which we have reduced budgetary control. There was no budgetary control. In this abdication we have ignored that the democracy won one of its greatest battles over the issue of the sovereign right to impose taxes. This happened in Britain centuries ago. In this great fight, a very healthy principle was established. The healthy principle was that there was to be no taxation without representation. Yet this is what we have been doing.

I also noticed and found that times out of number, the freedom given to the Members of this House was eroded and denigrated through what I describe as the scandal of expunctions. Every Member has a right to speak and his views are to be recorded. The people outside have a right to know what is said in this House. Yet what is the experience? For a long period, the proceedings of the House were not recorded and a large chunk of the speeches were expunged.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Sir, I am on a point of order. Under Rule 352, a Member, while speaking shall not use offensive expressions about the conduct or proceedings of the Parliament or any State Legislature. Now, what the hon. Member has been doing is that he is expressing on the conduct of the business of the Parliament. Sir, he is casting aspersions. I am just submitting that it is very clear that he is denigrating the function of the Parliament. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No point of order is allowed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Mr. Minister.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: Sir, I propose that the House may sit longer, till the Prime Minister replies and the vote is taken on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

MR. SPEAKER: I hope, the House agrees.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. UPENDRA: It is unfortunate that the Congress Members have taken more time than allotted to them. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Does the House agree to sit longer?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: So, the House agrees to sit longer.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Inderjit may continue.

SHRI INDERJIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was venturing to submit that the unjustified expunctions have undermined our democracy in two ways. Firstly, in taking away the freedom of the Members to speak and, secondly in preventing Members and the country outside from knowing what is happening inside the House. I am sure, Mr. Speaker, you will recall that not very long ago Mr. Feroz Gandhi has brought forward a Bill which enabled the people and the country outside to know what was happening inside the House.

I have some good authority to cite on this matter. In 1986, we had the Commonwealth Speaker's Conference in Delhi. I then had an occasion to talk to two very eminent Speakers, Lord Hailsham, Lord Chancellor from Britain, as also the Speaker Weatherans from the House of Commons. I asked them in all humility as to whether they have

this system of expunctions in their House. What was the reply? They said that such expunctions are unthinkable of. I talked to Speakers of other Commonwealth countries. This kind of expunctions never take place anywhere else and yet it goes on here.

I mentioned about the lack of budgetary control and the scandal of expunctions. I would also go on to add, what I describe as the scandal of Adjournment Motions. Mr. Speaker, you know that Adjournment Motions are permitted to raise the issues of urgent public importance. When the Members were allowed to raise and bring Adjournment Motions, these Adjournment Motions were mentioned on the floor of the House. Both sides were asked to express their views, whether the Adjournment Motion should be accepted or should not be accepted. But, during the last five to ten years, Mr. Speaker, what did we see? We were reduced to a situation where Adjournment Motions were not allowed to be raised and if at all, only in one or two cases. Not only this. The subject of the Adjournment Motion was not even mentioned. And why was it not mentioned? It was wrong; and arbitrary to use of his power by the Speaker. I do remember that during Mr. Nehru's time, Mr. Mavalankar made it a point to refer to the subject of the Adjournment Motions. But this no longer happens. The subject matter was not even mentioned. With what results and outcome? The net result has been the emergence of the Zero Hour. The Zero Hour has grown and grown up in a big way. Many questions were not allowed to be raised. Therefore, the question is: What is the remedy? In my view there are two remedies and I would like to draw the attention of the Leader of the House to those two remedies. The first remedy is to try and restore to the Speaker of the House his independence and impartiality. The only way to do this is to depoliticise the office of the Speaker. One way to depoliticise the office of the Speaker is to provide for his un-contested return. I know this issue was raised by Speaker, Mr. Mavalankar. It was agreed to in principle by Mr. Nehru but, unfortunately, it was not followed up and adopted.

Now, I come to my main point. The main point is that as in the case of our parliamentary democracy we should take advantage of the experience of the Mother of Parliaments, namely, the British House of Commons. In 1976 they faced the same kind of challenge as we face today. There was hardly any budgetary control and budget accountability to Parliament. What did they do? They set-up in 1976 a Select Committee on Procedure to make recommendations for the more effective performance and functioning of Parliament. This is something which we need very urgently. Parliament is not functioning as it should. I would venture to submit that this Committee sat for two years. I know, Mr. Speaker, you had said in your remarks from the Chair after being elected as Hon'ble Speaker that we can refer this matter to the Rules Committee. But reference to the Rules Committee will not do. It is not a question of streamlining or updating the procedures. It is a question of taking altogether a new look at the procedures.

In this context, I would like to clarify one thing. The Commons Committee which sat for two years addressed itself to more radical and comprehensive tasks than merely updating the rules. It came to an interesting conclusion which I would like to share with you. It concluded that the balance of advantage between Parliament and the Government in the day to day working of the Constitution was now weighted in favour of the Government to a degree which was inimical to the proper working of Parliament.

Parliament is not merely the Lok Sabha. As we all know it is also not merely the Rajya Sabha. As the Constitution provides Parliament of India consists of the President, the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha and in regard to the President's office I wish to make an important point. I feel that the powers of the President have got greatly eroded in the last five to seven years. A particular point is the President's right to information. This right to information was denied time and again to the President in recent years. There could be two views in the matter. But so far as Constitution is con-

cerned it is very clear. The Constitution provides that it shall be the "duty" of the Prime Minister to furnish such information relating to day-to-day administration and also proposals for legislation as the President may call for. The previous Government took the view that it was not necessarily bound to supply that information. Therefore, I say we need two things. One is a Select Committee on procedures and the committee system. And, the second a top level committee which I feel should...

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Inderjitji, your suggestions are very important. Send them to the Rules Committee. We will have a discussion on them in the Rules Committee. Please conclude now.

[*English*]

SHRI INDERJIT: As we are all aware conflict arose time and again in the last 5 years. Therefore, I suggest that we should also have a top level committee which should go into the functions of the President *vis a vis* the Council of Ministers so that there is no scope left for the kind of crisis that we faced in the last five years.

[*Translation*]

SHRI L.K.ADVANI: (New Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me some time on this occasion but the entire House anxious to hear the reply of the Hon. Prime Minister and I am confident that all such points as have been raised during the discussion will be properly dealt with by him. However, while supporting the motion moved by Shri Satya Pal Malik, I would like to congratulate the Government as they have shown a right path to the country with their first policy statement. I know that there were so short of time for the preparation of their policy statement that at one time they were thinking to come out with two President's Address, one in December and the other in

[Sh. L.K. Advani]

February and as the second option they thought to have only one instead of two addresses by the President, in the month of January itself. Being it so, they could have more time at their disposal and perhaps hon. President had also agreed to it but the Government said that even if there was shortage of time, they would do it in December itself because the hon. President had fixed a definite time limit of 30 days to seek the vote of confidence in the House as it has been so laid down under the provisions of the constitution that at the commencement of the first session after each general elections, the President shall address both Houses of Parliament. So they thought to do it in December itself and even if the time was short, they had been able to pronounce the broad outlines of their policies. However, I don't think any expertise is required to find fault with that policy statement made in the President Address after its deep examination for two hours. After a period of six or eight months or one year, the drawbacks of the policies of the Government may automatically come on the surface because by then we will be able to see it on the basis of their work. But today, they have given only a broad outline of the policies of the Government, and I should appreciate the Leader of the Opposition for his deep and exhaustive analysis of this policy statement because it requires a peculiar capability of analysis on his part. I will not deny that had the Leader of the Opposition not dwelt on it so exhaustively, perhaps there would not have been any need of speaking on it even for 10-15 minutes. From our side, all the points have been well-presented by my friend, Shri Jaswant Singh and there was nothing more to add to the reply given by Shri Somnath Chatterjee. But, the Leader of the Opposition was specially dwelling on the reasons as to why such and such things had not been included in the Address. Instead, he should have objected to the way in which the things

had been mentioned in the statement to challenge their veracity. But the whole emphasis was on dwelling deep into the reasons as to why such and such things had not been included in the Address? After hearing his speech for two hours, it occurred to me that this morning, Shri Vasant Sathe has himself accepted the fact that this time the masses have cast a negative vote. Will any one pinpoint it as to against whom they had cast a negative vote? In every election, there are many issues and factors which affect the public opinion and inspire the voters to cast their vote. I think that one such issue which was haunting the masses, during the Lok Sabha elections of 1989, was the corruption in high places. Is it not something particularly noticeable,

[English]

is it not significant?

[Translation]

In his two hours speech, our leader of the opposition never made a mention of the corruption. In my view, his silence on the point of corruption is more explicit than his two hours speech. I was of the opinion that Rajivji will tell us some facts about Bofors in the House today, even though, he had not made a mention of it during his election campaign. The Hon. Prime Minister had made a statement on it yesterday and he shall have to do something in this regard but Rajivji's silence on this point speaks of his guilty conscience.

I will not go into details, but I would like to express my happiness over the Government's decision to re-introduce the Lok Pal Bill. One such Bill was introduced in 1985 by even the Rajiv Government and the same was under consideration for a period of three years. I was also there on that Select Committee, which was constituted to consider the Lok Pal Bill. An objection was raised by the then Members of opposition that if an

ombudsman is appointed to look into the cases of the corruption in high places, the office of Prime Minister can not be kept out of its ambit. It should also be covered there under. Rajiv Government was not prepared for it. No doubt that was the point of our objection but the most surprising this was the sudden decision and announcement of the Government to withdraw that Bill after a period of three years of deliberations and extensive tours by the Select Committee. I am very happy to see it that the Government, in this very first mini-session, have decided to bring in the Lok Pal Bill which will also cover the office of the Prime Minister.

As I said earlier, today we are here to discuss the President's Address and to express our views and make comments on it. It is not the opportune moment to evaluate the performance of the Government in accordance with the pronouncements made in the President's Address, we can examine it later on.

I would like to refer to certain things which has been said about me by the leader of opposition while concluding his two hour long speech. He has alleged that I worked out an arrangement which enabled BJP to increase its strength by 400 per cent in the House. I can understand as to what is pinching him. But, I can assure him that it is not the Government which has got any thing to do with that matter, but if he speaks against the verdict or shows disrespect to a particular individual, it is virtually a disrespect to the Indian electorate. I agree that it was an irresponsible statement in which he made a mention of communalism but I do not agree with his views that communal feelings have increased. He simply said that communal feelings have increased but did not speak a single word in support of his allegation. He simply said that the strength of BJP has gone up by 4000/- per cent. But, I do not agree with it that communal feelings have been encouraged. I object to it and express my resent-

ment over it. In this way, he has identified a major national party of India as a communal party. I am coming to that opportunities we have been getting earlier also, but the opportunity provided me today I would like to avail of to add something to his information. I had told the Chief Whip that I have to speak only 10-15 minutes not more. In my opinion this allegation of communalism is not a new one. This is not so that communal allegation was levelled for the first time when Ram Janam Bhoomi, Babri Masjid and Ayodhya dispute started. There was a senior leader in this House in 1951-52 and he was a member of pondit Jawahar Lal Nehru's Cabinet also. He played a important role in framing the Constitution of India. The same allegation was levelled against Dr. Shyamaprasad Mukherjee which has been levelled today against me and my party, the BJP. Guided by a particular ideology those who call me a communalist today they called communalist to Sardar Patel, the first Home Minister of free India, Dr. Sampooran Nand, Purshotam Das Tandon, Madan Mohan Malviya etc. There were people who said that the provision of ban of cow slaughter was introduced in constitution of India at the instance of Mahatma Gandhi, otherwise this provision should not have been included in the Constitution of India. I can discuss it in detail. It may be a matter of difference of opinion but not a cause of hurling abuses. You can differ with me. I pay my full regards to the Marxists though we differ with them ideologically and for that matter they criticised our stand on Ram Janam Bhoomi and Ayodhya issue. But I am not ready to pay my respect the Congress party because they adopt different postures with Hindus and Muslims on the issue of Ram Janam Bhoomi. They will say one thing to the Hindus and something else to the Muslims. The election results of 1989 might have taught them a lesson that this sort of double policy is not to pay.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I contested election from New Delhi area. Three of my colleagues

[Sh. L.K. Advani]

from B.J.P. and one from Janata Dal have been declared elected in Delhi. After our victory in Delhi, I was shocked at the remarks made by one of the Congress M.P. elect from Delhi. He said that the reason of Congress party's debacle in Delhi was that two communalist forces, the Hindus and Sikhs had joined hands together.

SHRI H.K.L.BHAGAT: I said that Janata Party and Akali Dal were united. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K.ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the election results are analysed several times. Analysing the results of 1984 we were told that the Congress party won these elections because it played Hindu card.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I disagree to at that the Congress party had played a Hindu card. My allegation is that the elections of 1984 in Delhi and its adjoining areas were won on the basis of anti—sikh card. The Congress party had won 1984 elections by creating anti—sikh feelings in the country. The differences created by the Congress party among the Hindus and sikhs during the year 1984, have now been removed by the joint efforts of BJP and Janata Dal. It is really a very big achievement. I agree that the congress party has a right to know from the Government its views on Khalistan, Anandpur Saheb Resolution and the happening in Punjab and I think that the Government would have no difficulty in replying to these questions. The Government will certainly reply these questions and I think that the statement given in the all party meet had contained replies to many questions. It was said in the statement that the students in Punjab are forced to Quit the educational institutions. It was also referred to the exodus of Hindus. But the members of congress party say that nothing was mentioned in the statement and it referred only to Fifty Ninth Amendment and

riots of 1984. I would like to tell him that he made Anandpur Saheb Resolution an election issue in 1984, but after 4 months of the elections, Anandpur Saheb Resolution was made valid under Rajiv—Longowal Accord. In his reply it was stated that he did not refer it to Sarkaria Commission. Some Sikhs might have done that. Any way, I am not concerned with that all. But whenever any official document was prepared before that, we always objected that Anandpur Saheb Resolution should not find a place in that. Even in tripartite talks held in 1983 in which the representatives of the Government, the Akali Dal and opposition parties participated, I alongwith Surjitji and Chitta Basu raised and objection that Anandpur Saheb Resolution should not be referred in the official documents. At that time the representatives of Akali Dal also agreed to this point. But after four months they won the election in which Anandpur Saheb Resolution was made an election issue and after 4 months the election results were declared there was Rajiv—Longowal Accord which in a way granted formal sanction to Anandpur Saheb Resolution. Today again Anandpur Saheb Resolution was made an election issue. I think this dual policy is improper.

[English]

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Advani ji, at no point of time has the Congress been ambivalent about its position on the Anandpur Saheb Resolution. We have said very clearly right through that the Anandpur Saheb Resolution is a very dangerous resolution, whether it was in 1984 elections, whether it was in between or whether it was now. By referring it to the Sarkaria Commission, we got Justice Sarkaria's verdict on it. He also maintained that. But after that, even till today, your friends in the Janata Dal are still not clear about what they feel about it. I know your position is very clear. But the Janata Dal's position is not clear.

SHRI L.K.ADVANI: I have not spoken about ambivalence. Ambivalence was until it became an issue in 1984.

[*Translation*]

Before that his party members did not make any reference to Anandpur Sahib Resolution. First of all the President of BJP Shri Atal Bihari Vajpai had said:

[*English*]

"I regard this Resolution as a charter of the country's disintegration."

[*Translation*]

But nobody had made any reference to it till then.

You started speaking about in 1984. It is welcome but my allegation is that when in your reply it was stated that you had not referred the matter to the Sarkaria Commission and some Sikh might have done so. I had then drawn your attention to the fact that you had formally referred it in the Rajiv Longwal Accord in writing. This was all.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, today the whole country is concerned about Kashmir and the hon. Leader of the Opposition has submitted that the Janata Dal is equally concerned. There is no ambivalence regarding Kashmir but no one has ever analysed as to what has led to the development of the current crisis in Kashmir? I would not like to go into Article 370 because this article.....

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): When the issue of Anandpur Sahib Resolution was raised in this House, the then hon. Minister of Home Affairs Gyan Zail Singh in his reply to my question had shown the same kind of ambivalence as by you have indicated. From the very beginning the Congress Party has maintained this kind of a dual approach.

20.00 hrs.

SHRI L.K.ADVANI: I am not going into Article 370. In that connection, you are not expected to ask questions from the Janata Dal. You may put your questions to me because...

[*English*]

I may be in a minority of one, or minority of one party, but this is a stand which I believe is in the long term interests of the country.

[*Translation*]

Therefore, I know that even if my party wins majority support, it will not be possible to do away with Article 370. This is because in order to scrap this article it is essential to have 2/3 majority in both the House. But my party is not of the sort which changes its stand on account of electoral expediency. Our stand since 1952.....(*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

I am not yielding.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DHARAM PAL (Udhampur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am standing on a Point of Order. Just now the hon. Member has submitted that the Congress adopts a politically expedient policy at the time of elections. Yours Prime(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of Order.

... (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. There is no point of order in this (*Interruptions*)

SHRI L.K.ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the situation in Kashmir had been deteriorating continuously during the past years. Three major errors were committed there for which the Central Government was responsible. The first error was committed when during the Chief Ministership of Farooq Abdullah, defections were engineered and an elected Government was toppled. I was not in favour of that Government but the manner in which it was toppled by engineering defections was absolutely improper. It was improper from the point of view of Centre-State relations and also from the angle of the internal situation of Kashmir. This was the first error committed by the Congress Government. Although me and my party were against the policies of the National Conference Government even then my party alongwith all other opposition parties, opposed the toppling of the elected Government of Kashmir. Thereafter, the second error was committed in installing minority Government of Shri G.M. Shah in the State by extending Congress party's support to it. That Government was in collusion with the pro-Pakistani communal and the irresponsible elements in the State. Ultimaded support was extended to such elements and the corruption prevailing in the State...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Shri Advani, although I do not wholly support your statement, yet there is much weight in what you have said. But I have one complaint that you are looking at the wrong direction while speaking. You must look at that side while making your submission.

SHRI L.K.ADVANI. The leader of the opposition can say so because he had stated once before that he is completely bound by the path of secrecy in the cabinet and he cannot violate it outside. It was a very good statement and a very good stand. But a little while after when a reference was made to Justice Bhatt, he said at once that Justice Bhatt was appointed at our

behest...*(Interruptions)*... Then it was not the violation of oath of secrecy alone. But we came to know that during the time of the Congress Government, the judges of the High Court were appointed after consulting the President of the Congress. I was really stunned to hear that.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: it was a cabinet secret.

[*English*]

SHRI L.K.ADVANI: I do not know anything. I am not in a glass house. You cannot throw stones at me.

[*Translations*]

Mr. Speaker Sir, my point is that the second mistake of the Congress Government was the installation of the Government handed by Shri G.N Shah with its support and in effect to allow the situation to deteriorate. There were the three major errors. When after the elections, the National Conference received majority, it was compelled to forms a coalition Government with the Congress. It was threatened with dire consequence if it took a different stand. I am not aware of what Shri Farooq Abdullah has been insisting upon but his colleagues at that time insisted that they would agree to the formation of a coalition Government only if they were compelled in this regard otherwise ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Shri Advani, we had fought the last elections jointly and this was the agreement which we had reached before forming our electoral alliance. Nothing of this kind took place.

SHRI L.K.ADVANI: But even after the electoral alliance, they were in majority. They were not interested in forming a coalition Government but you had already made an agreement in this regard. But due to three errors the Government lost its confidence

and this loss of confidence was a politically contributing factor in the deterioration of the situation prevailing in the State. Yes, I agree with you, that the Government should not keep silent about the role of Pakistan and it should be vigilant and take stringent steps in this regard.

I have a complaint that by applying Article 249, a motion was passed in the Rajya Sabha and which was opposed by the entire opposition. My party was of the opinion that support will be rendered if two-thirds majority is required. Wherever it is convenient for you, put the blame on Pakistan and there is an end to the matter. My allegation against your party is that whether it is a communal matter or a matter concerning the economic situation, relations or the Sarkaria Commission report—

[English]

Electoral expediency, partisan expediency is the sole touchstone and nothing else.

[Translation]

All sorts of things are said. I would definitely say that communalism is a serious issue and it is so serious because it can be observed that the reaction of the common Hindus and the educated Hindu community about the policies of different political parties is not very healthy.

When India was partitioned in 1947, there was large—scale massacre of human beings and lakhs of people were displaced from their homes and there was large scale movement of displaced people from one country to another. Pakistan was declared as an Islamic State. Even then no one opposed the Constitution of India and when it was adopted by the legislative Assembly, it was hailed as an ideal constitution in which the concept of a Theocratic State is rejected. It will be against the tradition of India.

[English]

Theocracy is alien to Indian tradition, Indian history, Indian culture. We reject theocracy.

[Translation]

And that is why the term secular state which was not present in the constitution initially was incorporated in 1976...(*Interruptions*)... The Indian Constitution rejects the concept of theocratic State and that State shall not have connection with any religion whatsoever. All the citizens shall be treated equally regardless of the faith to which they belong to. Everyone will get justice. These are the elements which have been heartily and happily accepted by our country. However, I get worried when I see that even after these 40 years of our independence people come to ask me as to why even today I was speaking of secularism with a word 'positive' added to it. They say that I should not do so, and I shall come out with clear statements. They assert that the Muslims have had their Islamic state in Pakistan so we should have a Hindu state here because that division was based on the principle of separate nations for Hindus and Muslims. I do not accept it and consider the present Constitution as most appropriate proposition which is in accordance with the traditions and history of India. I want to tell you that Dr. Rajendra Kumari Bajpai has rightly pointed out that in India secularism has come to mean that if a Muslim or a Christian says that he has a sense of pride for his religion, then that is well and good but if some one like me says that he takes pride in his being a Hindu it is considered something as communal. That is your attitude. It has generate a reaction which is a thing of concern for me.

(*Interruptions*)

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI (Sitapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am saying so because I take pride in calling myself a Hindu. I have faith in Hindu religion and am a religious woman. I also observe all kinds of formalities of worship. But the way Vishwa

[Dr. Rajendra Kumari Bajpai]

Hindu Parishad, by presenting the holy water of the Ganges....(*Interruptions*).

SHRI L.K.ADVANI: I am not prepared to hear anything about secularism at least from such a Party which had announced in its manifesto in Mizoram that if their Party comes to power and forms the Government in that State it will act on the principles of Bible. It is not the speech of a particular individual but election manifesto of a party. I can show you that and I will bring it next time. When I had showed that manifesto to S. Buta Singh, he said that they had to say so to give some reply to what Shri Laldenga was saying there. Therefore the Congress party had mentioned in its manifesto that if their party comes to power, it will function on the principles of the Bible.(*Interruptions*)

As I said at the very outset that I did not intend to say much except that I welcome this Government. They have given a right direction to this country and have brought in the resolution that in the past the Government institutions have been weakened and degenerated. One such example is that of the Parliament. I remember that during the period of Emergency i.e. between 1975 and 1977, a number of laws had been enacted of which some were against the Press, some against the Opposition parties, and the citizens and a number of them were against the judiciary. But even in those days, not a single law was enacted against the Parliament. However with the introduction of the Commission of Enquiry Amendment Act in the Parliament Rajiv Government took the credit of depriving the Members of Parliament of their rights provided under the Constitution. They just provided it under the act that when the Government will like ...(*Interruptions*)

I am glad to know that a legislation to get the Commission of Enquiry Amendment Act repealed is going to be introduced in the

present mini session. It will add to the dignity of the Parliament. With these words I once again extend my support for the proposal of Shri Satya Pal Malik.

[*English*]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank the Leader of the Opposition for his constructive support, but I have found that perhaps he will take a longer time to assimilate constructive support than critical support and issue based support. The Leader of the Opposition said that there is no mention of the word 'secular' in the Presidential Address. Para 9 says: "A secular India is the very basis of our emotional unity and national integrity." He said, there is no mention of Assam and the North-East. Para 8 says.... (*Interruptions*).

AN HON. MEMBER : No, he did not say that.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Yes... (*Interruptions*). All right, I concede the point... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: What I said was that during their speeches, some of the Members had talked derogatorily about it.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: All right, Sir, I will not press that point; he has conceded it. Then he said, there is no mention on Non-Alignment. Para 30 says: "My Government's foreign policy is deeply rooted in the ideals and principles which inspired the freedom struggle. This is reflected in its firm adherence to non-alignment and our struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism...". Then he said, there is no mention of democracy. Para 10 says : "A healthy and vibrant democracy hinges crucially on the sanctity and strength of democratic institutions. The Government is fully committed to the restoration of the dignity

and vitality of institutions which have been weakened in recent years." I could understand the need of jugglery when he is sitting here. I cannot understand the need of jugglery when he is sitting there. These are things which are on record, which are in the Presidential Address. The Leader of the Opposition is as responsible as the Leader of the House. And if he stands in this House and tells to the people, which is documented here, that it does not exist, what credibility will it have?

Much was told about the guts of this Government well, we have heard a lot of mouthing of terrorism on a daily basis, of the iron hand, and all the synonyms thereof. But it was this Government which had the guts to go to Amritsar and meet the people there. So, do not talk of guts. We will go again. Not once, we will go several times to Punjab, we will go to the people of Punjab, and if they share any risk, we will share it as much... (*Interruptions*). Sir, I am not yielding. For there and a half hours, we have had enough... (*Interruptions*). I will yield, but you have at least one-third of the dose you have given. I will yield after one hour.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: One small question on this.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: After one hour.

MR. SPEAKER: After one hour, he says.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, let them also absorb, as I did, for three hours... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI. Sir, can I ask the hon. Prime Minister one question? (*Interruptions*). He has allowed me. Why do you shout? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have permitted Shri Rajiv Gandhi to ask.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: How is it that a Prime Minister of India is not threatened by secessionists and terrorists who want to divide our country? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I am observing an alternative style of functioning as people shift on that side. And I saw it in hon. Chidambaramji and also in him—an alternative style, more of speech making. If they go on putting questions, yes, we have inherited many things; as Mr. Narasimharaoji said that this Government is not accepting that inheritances of the previous government, we have inherited the Punjab question, we have inherited the Jammu and Kashmir question, we have inherited Bodo question, we have inherited the Ramjan-ambhoomi-Babri Masjid question, we have inherited the B.O.P. question, we have also inherited Sri Lanka question, we have inherited the Nepal question. There are great inheritances we have! (*Interruptions*). But I appreciate the style. And they stand up and say 'We have created these problems. What is your solution?' (*Interruptions*). They suffer from a psychology, and I have been a student of Psychology and Pilosophy, and the psychology is, 'As I have created the problem, who on earth can give a solution?' and therefore, this challenge and the attitude that we have seen of constructive support. (*Interruptions*). Wait for three hours, till Eleven o'Clock. (*Interruptions*).

Narasimharaoji accused this Government of lack of thinking. I cannot accuse Narasimharaoji of lack of thinking. It will be very improper on my part, but I think we do feel that there is lack of doing what he thinks. And if he really did what he thinks, the Congress will change and the politics will change.

AN HON. MEMBER: It was not in that context.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH:

It is in the context of what Kamalpathiji has said. Please search your heart. He also said, admonished us, 'Please don't paint the Congress black.' Sir, if the Congress is not lily white, it is at least lotus white, if not, at least tulip white. You choose your colour we have no paint to make. And the speeches that we have heard are an enumeration of what all the previous government has done and the strain has been consistent and asking every time, 'Immediately you tell whether you follow it or not, tell me just now.' (*Interruptions*). When we were on the other side for days and days, in fact we had to resign our seats to get some information. But after all, we should not grudge. When a person passes away, we only praise him. A Government has passed away and we should not be uncharitable to criticise it

20.25 hours.

[SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE—*in the Chair*]

It is an elegy on the previous Government. I will not say much. But even if I do not say, the facts will speak for themselves which cannot hidden from the country. As far all these arguments they were the same which were mouthed for five years and told to the people and they were not even half-convinced about it; and the results of those arguments are there to see. We do not have to say anything.

About the manifesto, agenda of work, it has been said that it is bland, it does not have content, it is not specific. Sir, at least, we have spelt out a goal. As a first things, it is necessary to spell out the goal, not the steps. Unless you know your goal, you cannot take proper steps; you cannot know in which direction to go. This is our goal and we will be judge by it. We were not the one who, in the past elections, filed the nominations without a manifesto. We have witnessed the

Prime Minister of our country, now the leader of the largest party in the Opposition...

SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Largest in the House.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH:

All right, largest in the House. Why such a small things, "in the House"? They are global. A global Party like Congress, its leader and its Prime Minister files his nominations in Amethi without the manifesto, without any specifics. Not only he files the nominations, but he goes on campaigning also without the manifesto. Now he is asking our specifics. Yes, we will give specifics. Not even before the debate is finished on this document, we have taken action on Lok Pal Bill. That is the action. We have brought it. The Bill which was conceived by you for 3 years you could not deliver and finally, it was aborted. we have brought it even before the President's Address debate is finished, and we are going to pass it. On television and radio....

SHRI VASANT SATHE: So, you deliver even before conception. That is the new model !

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Well, trouble with hon. Vasant Satheji is, he conceives and is never able to deliver.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: That is the law of nature. But this, I cannot understand.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH:

Yes, we know why he says this, because there is one difference between our attitude and theirs. For them, success is an event. For us, success is a process. Therefore, when they won last time, they thought, the event is over and they had nothing to do. For us, we know, it is not an event, it is a process and the process has to be continuous. That is why, we will be alert and will stick to our commitment. First I am giving freedom and autonomy to a powerful media like electronic

media, TV and radio. We will do it. We may get the first taste of it. We are ready to commit the government to establish one democratic precedent and norms rather than flout and destroy all democratic norms to sustain and protect one government. That is the difference and that is the alternative style of politics and alternative functioning and model of politics.

He talked of the 59th Amendment. The great Leader of the Opposition picked on it, and said "You are introducing it now and it is going to expire by next session; what is the big thing about it?". The point is, the very thought that right to life can be suspended is a thought which should be killed at the first occasion. Will you commit that if we introduce the Bill tomorrow for the withdrawal of 59th Amendment, you will sit till the night and enable us to pass it tomorrow?

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Yes, we will do it.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Okay, it is on record, Mr. Speaker.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : We were willing to sit longer in this Session but it was your Party which wanted to cut it short.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I think this is a great achievement. This is a victory. (*Interruptions*).

Because as citizens, we felt a sense of guilt, that we have a statute passed by this House, the highest legislative body of the country which has taken away the fundamental right of life and one minute of its existence was a national shame to us. I am happy the Leader of the Opposition has recognised it and willing to withdraw it even before it expires.

Regarding the Postal Bill also, soon we are moving the President for its withdrawal. Not only this. It is not a bland agenda. These

are some points of action. We do not have grandiose ideas about ourselves. We come in humility. We never say that what we have done has never been done. The Leader of the Opposition says that the dignity of the country was so high, that it never was so high neither in the time of Jawaharlal Nehru or Indira Gandhi. We do not have such grandiose ideas about ourselves.

On the first of January, this Government, each Department, will spell out the real content and give a time-bound programme for the fulfilment of the items in this. We will not wait for the Budget session. People cannot wait the long. We know it because we are in touch with the people and we are ready to be adjudged by what we say and what action we take.

Regarding labour participation in management, we are calling all the unions and also the parties on 8th January itself for interaction and labour participation in management with secret ballot will be a reality within this year. We will pass the Bill in the Budget Session. I commit myself that it is the content of our action and not plain words.

On the industrial Bill also, we will have inter-action with the labour unions and the opposition parties, and we will correct the anti-labour laws that have been passed and it is a time-bound thing. Regarding electoral reforms, we have gone into action. We propose on the 9th January itself to have an All-Party interaction on the electoral reforms and by the next Budget Session we will bring a proposal on the electoral reforms. That is a time-bound action programme.

On debt relief, the schemes are under process in the Finance Ministry and they will surely be reflected in the Budget.

On land reforms concept, they ask: "Why are you saying you will bring land reforms legislation in the Ninth Schedule?..." They

[Sh. Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

ask me: "As Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh what experience did you have?.." I did have experience. That is why I put it here. We were having a drive for distribution of surplus lands. There were a lot of litigations. As Chief Minister, I wanted to legislate in the State. But after this normal litigation process, poor people cannot afford that process of law and I was told: "You cannot bring a law unless it is there in the Ninth Schedule." Therefore, the necessity of a commitment.

[*Translation*]

SHRI R.N.RAKESH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of order. 5400 acres of land was surplus with the Dehia Trust. Will the Government restore the lease made to the landless during the Chief Ministership of Shri Bahuguna, which was cancelled later on by you? The Ram Janaki Trust which holds gems and jewels worth Rs. 10000 million

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please order, He has not yielded.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I also commit myself to the content and specifics. These are specifics which I am committing on the Floor of the House. The National Integration Council, we will form within the month of January and we will be calling it at the earliest—may be by the end of January or by the first week of February before the Budget Session.

[*Translation*]

SHRI R.N.RAKESH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, he has not said anything about the Dahia

Trust in his reply.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Do not worry. I will give a reply to that also...(*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

I am now not giving a bland agenda I am committing myself on the Floor of the House a time bound action programme. Before the Budget Session, we will constitute the Inter-State Council and we will have interaction with the Chief Minister.

Regarding Judicial reforms and Panchayati Raj, we will bring in the next Budget Session legislation giving power to the people. Also Official Secrets Act and right to know—these are the fundamental things on our agenda. Our Planning Committee will have much more power than it has today. This is an agenda, a time-bound agenda and by the end of the Budget Session it will be here as a reality in the country. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): What about right to work?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Right to work also. Right to work, if you cooperate, we will put it in the Constitution. (*Interruptions*).

The Leader of the Opposition and his colleagues are saying: "We are handing over a magnificent economy to you, with a very high growth rate." I am quoting from this document i.e. the Economic Advisory Council document. The Members of this Council were not nominated by us. They were nominated most probably, with the consent of the Leader of the Opposition. We have not change that Council. This is what it has to say "Industrial production for April—August 1989.." This is what we are getting. " .. indicates growth of only 3.8%". It is not even

touching 4%. Where are the growth rates?

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: 3% in four months.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: No, no. Rate of percentage. (*Interruptions*).

Hon. Members, now you can understand my difficulty as Finance Minister when I had to work with him. (*Interruptions*).

About the deficit ratio figures that they have been quoting when I was the Finance Minister.. (*Interruptions*) .. And I see in the newspapers that Rs. 1000 crores has been given away to some State. Rs.1000 crores was given to J&K because the election was near, when election was near it was given to Haryana, when election was near it was given to West Bengal.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Not given *bhai* but promised!

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Yes. I was asked, Vishwanathji you must be very worried by seeing this announcement. I said, I am because there is no money. Now I could not hunt those thousand crores and I think even Forooq has not been able to hunt out even a hundred crores.

And the same Economic Advisory Council says, "The net RBI credit to the Central Government has gone up by Rs. 12,403 crores since the beginning of the financial year, upto November 17" It is now for months. "The budget deficit even as of now is clearly running at a level very much higher than the projected in the Budget Estimates. The fiscal imbalance spills over into the growth of money supply which increased by 12% between March 31 and November 17. " This is the grand economy we are getting.

On balance of payment, "The macro

economic imbalance has clearly spilled over on to the balance of payments. By 1988-89 the BOP was under severe pressure and significant loss of foreign exchange reserves was being experienced. Indeed reserves losses would have been substantially higher if they had not been bolstered through expanded programmes of borrowings." And that too commercial borrowings.

The same document I want to share, you may please bear with me.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Is it a new thing?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Yes, this is what is new.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: When you were there, it was the same thing.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: It was not the same thing. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: The debt service ratio was not this. Poojaryji was my colleague.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: That is why I am raising this.. (*Interruptions*). Madam Chairperson, when he was the Finance Minister, inside this House and in the other House also he had been telling that "We have never been the defaulter, our credibility is so high." This is the word he had used. This is not the first time this is happening. He has been praising our leader day in and day out; today he is telling so many things. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, one good thing Shri Rajiv Gandhi did was to remove him from the Finance Ministry.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Madam, I am not telling; it is the Economic Advisory Council, appointed by the Leader

[Sh. Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

of the Opposition, when he was in power, that is telling and not me. What is tells?

"Thus, while rising trends in India's external debt and debt service constitute serious concern, the situation is not one that threatens immediately and solvency or credit-worthiness of the country".

That is all about it.

"The real problem is that the burden of debt service reduce greatly, the room for manoeuvre on the developmental front as well as the choice of development strategies".

We have no manoeuvre. That is why, I say the treasury is empty. There is no manoeuvre and this is the document of the body appointed by them. One great thing. The Leader of the Opposition, on figures—I do not know—he must have got a lot of courage to tell the House, something which is on record, as something otherwise...*(Interruptions)*.

About the agricultural production, he has praised its performance but this is what the document says:

"The record of aggregate economic growth during the current decade has been strong and GDP, at constant prices, grew at about 5 per cent per year on average upto 1987-88. At the sectoral level, value added in agriculture grew at around 2 per cent"

This is the crunch. That is the difference between your perception and mine. The growth in agricultural sector is only two per cent and while in order sectors, it is five per cent. We are concerned with this sector. It is just equal to the rate of growth of population;

the per capita GDP in agriculture remains nil. That is the point. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: The agricultural production was two per cent? Then, there is something seriously wrong, there. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: It is value added growth which was around two per cent. *(Interruptions)*

They understand not. It is relevant. It is the GDP value added. If this growth is equal to the population rate, per capita growth is hardly anything. It goes on to say:

"On the other hand, gross agricultural production (as distinct from value added in agriculture, referred to above) which grew at 6.5 per cent year in the Sixth Plan period has decelerated to a little over four per cent per year in the first four years of the Seventh Plan."

It has decelerated. Now let us see how they achieved the target. Grand total is not the percentage growth. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Sir, I rise on a point of order under Rule 355 which says:

"When for the purpose of explanation during discussion or for any other sufficient reason, any Member has occasion to ask a question of another Member on any matter than under the consideration of the House, he shall ask the question through the Speaker."

Now I am asking through you...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It also says: Provided the Speaker agrees

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am on my legs. Please take your seat. Your point of order is not in order. It is the discretion of the Speaker. The Prime Minister may continue with this speech.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: This is how they achieved the target.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: May I read the same part to you, Sir? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: After three hours is there something left?

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I am pointing out to you the jugglery

[English]

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Please let me have my say

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: This document says 20 per cent agricultural growth, not 2%

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I am also quoting the same document. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Please read para 4.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I have read it.

(Interruptions)

The target for the Seventh Plan was earlier set at 178-183 million tonnes. It was revised downward in the mid-term review to 175 million tonnes. So they have revised their target downward and achieved it.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I rise on a point of order under Direction 115. This is not fair. I have been repeatedly saying that the House should not be mis-informed on this important matter. He is reading from this document. I just want to quote para 4 from this document. *(Interruptions)*. Please allow me. *(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sathe, will you please listen to me? Direction 115 issued by the Speaker says:

"A member wishing to point out any mistake or inaccuracy in a statement made by a Minister or any other member shall, before referring to the matter in the House, write to the Speaker pointing out the particulars of the mistake or inaccuracy and seek his permission to raise the matter in the House.

This is the rule. Therefore, there is no point of order

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Is he challenging your ruling?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am not challenging.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sathe, this again requires the permission of the Speaker.

(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sathe, Shall I take it that this is misrule?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not the way.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Prime Minister has yielded now. One of you can take my permission and speak. All of you cannot do so. Yes, Mr Sathe.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am reading from para 4:

"In 1988-89, the economy rebounded sharply.." (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, it is already quite late. Will all of you kindly take your seats? Be quite and speak one by one.

(*Interruptions*)

21.00 Hrs.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Madam, you have to control them.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why are you shouting now. Please sit down.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I am reading from the same report of the Economic Advisory Council on the Current Economic Situation, which the Prime Minister referred to. Page 1, para 4 reads:

"In 1988-89, the economy rebounded sharply from the setback of the countrywide drought experienced in the previous year. GDP is estimated to have increased by 9 per cent or higher in real terms, with agricultural production increasing sharply by 20 per cent or so and industrial production recording a growth of 8.8 per cent. In the current year, though Monsoon rains have been close to normal, it is unlikely that the agricultural production will raise markedly from the high base attained last year."

It will, therefore, be seen that 20 per cent is the increase in agricultural production. ..(*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: No interruptions please.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: There is no point of order. But you have been rightly indulgent to the Congress Party and I will appeal to my colleagues on this side also to be indulgent towards them, because it is impossible for them to reconcile to the humiliating defeat that they have faced...(*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. May I request the hon. Members to cooperate. It is very late in the night. Both the sides should cooperate when the Prime Minister speaks.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I though that hon. Shri Vasant Sathe would have done better and he has brought this great fact that agricultural production in one year went up by 20 per cent. When? After the drought year. Had the drought been more severe, his performance would have gone to hundred per cent...(*Interruptions*).

I will not take more time of the House of figures and statistics...(*Interruptions*). It is precisely here that we too are concerned about the agricultural sector...(*Interruptions*). 70 per cent of India's population does live in the rural sector, and this happens to be the fact that while we are concerned about it, you are not. This is the difference in our approach. There is, in this area, persistence of poverty. The population which live there is about 72 per cent. The labour force is growing. So, employment will be our central theme and it will be the focal point of our development.

Not pure development alone but where this development reaches. Equity will be the

central focus in our development and not pure development. We have seen that the more populous an area is, like agricultural area the more poverty is there. Our strategy will be to increase agricultural production in these populous areas. This agricultural growth will lead to a different type of industrial growth as well. By reorienting agriculture, there will be a reorientation of industry also. (*Interruptions*).

Just hold one please. This is a serious matter and I want a debate.

In the present strategy of elitist consumption, the demand is on durable consumer goods. There is enough market to deploy all our resources.

When we create employment opportunities in the rural sector and increase production, the buying capacity of the people living there will increase. But there demand will be different from elitist demands. Their demand will be for wage goods. Once this demand is generated, industry will be recast. That will be our strategy and that is the basic difference in our approach. This will not only restructure industry, but also provide non-agricultural job opportunities in the rural area itself and reduce the pressure on urban drift and pressure on land. That is the basic difference of approach that we have regarding agricultural and industrial development.

Queries were asked by the leader of the opposition on national security and on defence. I have already stated why we were bringing supplementary demands. I want to make it clear that many a time our Defence Budget has to respond to threats across the border, and we will not compromise with the security of the country. But I want to point out to what is now lacking. I think the leader of the opposition must also be sharing my view. On matters of Defence, I do not draw party distinctions and he must have noted it. It is a

matter of national concern. But there remains no memory reservoir of long term strategy planning on defence matters. Ministers change, officers change, chiefs change. It is not as if every day it is erased. But we do feel that there need be some sort of continuous national thinking on it. Security is not only a question of weapons system. Of course it has to be there. Defence preparedness has to be there, but it has to be coupled with foreign policy initiatives, international security measures, and economic measures in the industrial sector. Now security and smuggling have also got connected with the issues of security threat and other agencies have also come into play. To have an integrated view and to have a stable basis for the security of our country, this Government is going to come up with a National Security Council. We will bring it before the Budget.

AN HON. MEMBER: We are waiting.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: And about the nuclear responses, it is for Pakistan to provide whether it is going nuclear or not, but our commitment is to peaceful uses of nuclear energy. We are following that path, but if Pakistan does go nuclear, I think it will have a profound effect on our Defence thinking and security thinking and we will have to have a second look.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: May I ask a question?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I never asked any question when he was speaking.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: It is a very important issue. You have spoken about Pakistan's nuclear programme. It is not something to be taken lightly. I am not asking a frivolous question.

Am I to understand that you have doubts in your mind about Pakistan's nuclear programme?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Madam, one thing I will suggest. There is something like equity and fairness. I withstood three hours without questioning. I think the Leader of the Opposition understands fairly very well the delicacy of this question. It is for Pakistan to prove its credentials that is not going nuclear.

AN HON. MEMBER : What is your stand? (*Interruptions*).

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I have given my assessment. There is no question on Agni and our missile development programme. I have expressed myself as clearly as I can.

AN HON. MEMBER: You have closed your eyes.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: We are not closing our eyes. I think you just do not understand the language. And on our missile programme, I think, no country can dictate us. In the interests of the security whatever will be needed for this country will be done.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: You have to be a little more specific.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I do not think without action. That is the difference. When I think I act. I have said it.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Not categorical! (*Interruptions*).

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: No. We will go ahead with our missile programme. What do you want? Agni is finished?

(*Interruptions*)

We should not forget our ex-Servicemen. (*Interruptions*) Please do not make

noise. (*Interruptions*) I will appeal to you, Madam, Chairman. This is not the way. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. members, if you go on shouting like this you will all be thirsty. Therefore, I will appeal to you not be thirsty and not to shout.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Do not be impatient. (*Interruptions*) They should show the same patience as we did when the ordeal was being inflicted on this side for three hours.

We should not forget our ex-Servicemen and we will fulfill our commitment of one rank and one pension. There will be no doubt.

Jaswant Singhji raised many a question on Bofors, and he has made many suggestions what to do, to make a formal request to the Government of Sweden to divulge all information and Switzerland and all these suggestions he has made. I want to make it clear. No options are closed for us and we have taken stern action, and we have made the decision to debar Bofors from further contracts till it explains its conduct regarding this 155 millimeter Howitzer guns and the conduct includes the willingness to give the names and their willingness to return the money. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I would just like to say, Madam... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: He did not mention Bofors once. So, I am not going to yield... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: That is why I would like to say... (*Interruptions*) We would like you to find the people who have taken money because we know when you find the people, all the accusations that you have

made during these years will turn out to be false... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Mr. Jaswant Singh asked whether the previous Attorney General or his office had given any opinion on this matter of Bofors. The Attorney General had given an opinion, legal opinion—I am told by the office—and here is a copy on this matter.

Bofors entering into the contract, it was made explicit to AB Bofors that the Government of India would disqualify a firm if it came to its notice that its agent has been appointed by a foreign firm; that this was a condition insisted upon by the Government of India and agreed to by AB Bofors. It is clear from their correspondence. Therefore, in the present case, if AB Bofors have engaged an Indian agent, it is contrary to the condition precedent to the contract and the Government of India has an option either to treat them as breach and sue them for damages or keep alive the contract and sue them for the breach of warranty.. (*Interruptions*) This is the advice given by the Attorney General as far back as 4th of July 1987 and the Government was aware of this advice and could have acted there and then. This was very clear. The Attorney General gave the advice that there has been a breach by AB Bofors and the Government can take action. But then what happens in the next para?

The comments by the Prime Minister are taken into consideration by the Attorney General; etc. legal consideration is coming into it... (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: Please read.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I will read everything. As you read everything for three hours, I will also read.

I recollect, as to whether the contract should be terminated or not has to be decided not merely on legal consideration—legal advice is given, it can be done—but also on political consideration. (*Interruptions*) in view of the political turn which the case has

taken. I recollect now, this is impinging on the mind of the Attorney General, who as a professional, has already given his opinion. I recollect that a statement appeared in the newspapers said to have been made by the Prime Minister that he did not propose to terminate the contract and deprive the Army of the Gun.

The last recommendation in it... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I think you have been grossly unfair. If you read my notings, my notings relate very clearly to the security perception, the cost of cancellation. About 7 or 8 points have been made. Those records are still in your office. They are not available to me. Please read my notings to this House... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Yes, I will read it. Tomorrow I am coming with a full statement including your notings.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): I am on a point of order. I would like to remind the Chair that it is outside the etiquettes and against the rules to look to the press while speaking.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: It was the Leader of the Opposition who was not only looking at the press but he was smiling at the press. The whole House is witness to it... (*Interruptions*)

I am responding to a specific question which Jaswant Singhji had raised. He asked a very specific question: Did Attorney-General give any opinion? I am answering to him to this very question. And in conclusion this is what he says:

"On the material I indicate the following aspects for the consideration of the Government when taking a decision:

(1) Clause 17(1) of the contract at page 45 clearly stipulates that this contract shall be governed and interpreted according to the laws of India. As Bofors

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clearly admitted the insistence of the Government of India as a condition precedent that Bofors should not utilise middlemen for the purpose of winning the contract, this condition precedent through the entering into the contract can be enforced in law. Such a condition precedent though not expressly written into the contract can be proved under the provisions (2) and (3) to section 92 of the Evidence Act."

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am on a point of order under rule 368. I want to know which document the hon. Prime Minister is reading because if you see the rule it says:

"If a Minister quotes in the House a despatch or other State paper which has not been presented to the House, he shall lay the relevant paper on the Table:

Provided that this rule shall not apply to any documents which are stated by the Minister to be of such a nature that their production would be inconsistent with public interest:

Provided further that where a Minister gives in his own words a summary or gist of such despatch or State paper it shall not be necessary to lay the relevant papers on the Table."

Rule 369:

"A paper or document to be laid on the Table shall be duly authenticated by the member presenting it."

I would like to know from where the Prime Minister is reading. If he is reading from the documents which are available with you, from the Government files, then it would be best that you lay them on the Table of the House.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I would also request the Prime Minister to lay on the Table of this House all the documents of the Prime Minister's office on Bofors...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I am reading this document which is a part and...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I had allowed both the Leader of the Opposition and Shri Vasant Sathe to place their viewpoints. And after that the Prime Minister was replying. In all fairness you must listen to the reply. Therefore, please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: This document is a part of the file in the Defence Ministry, to be the opinion of the Attorney General. As told by my officials, this is the opinion that was given by the Attorney General and is part of...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Are you ready to place all the Prime Minister's office files on the Table of the House, Sir?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please let him finish.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will you place it on the Table of the House or not, under rule 368?...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Madam, after questioning, I should be allowed to answer also...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has been put a question, now he is answering to that question...

(Interruptions)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Yes, I am ready to place the document on the Table of the House. As regards, what the Opposition Leader said, all the notings of the

Prime Minister...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: All the P.M.'s office files, not just the notings.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: All right. The problem will be...(*Interruptions*). I am asked a question and then not allowed to answer.

21.27 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, regarding these files, I found they are stored and distributed at various places. Even the Principal Secretary did not have knowledge of all these files. Some are with some, some are with some. That is why time is consumed in collecting them and getting the true picture...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: None are with us.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I know what you have. If you help us as to where you have placed them all, it will be easier to collect them.

The Attorney General has said: "Such a condition precedent, though not expressly written in this contract, can be proved under provisions (2) and (3) of Section 92 of the Evidence Act. (*Interruptions*)"

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, you have not given the ruling. My hon. friend, the hon. Prime Minister has not yet told whether under rules 368, 369 and 370, he will place this document, to which he is referring, on the Table of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: He has already said so.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Yes, I will. "When this was the clear understanding", this is the Attorney General,

"between both the parties Bofors has no right to claim that the company has to maintain secrecy of utmost importance, specially within Defence area. If this plea is tenable, they can violate the condition precedent insisted upon by the Government of India and agreed to by them, to the effect that there should be no middlemen. They can, with impunity, enter into a contract with the middlemen and, on the pretext of secrecy, can refuse to divulge particulars. This cannot be the true position because if the matter goes to the arbitration or court, as it is the Indian law which governs, they will be bound to disclose the particulars of the alleged middlemen and the payments made to them. The onus of proof will be on them as it is a matter within their exclusive knowledge. If their present stand is permitted, it will enable them to defeat the very stipulation in that they can have middlemen and payment of commission, and claim secrecy for disclosure. Just as they claim that they have a duty to honour the contract with the middlemen on the question of secrecy and for the very same reasoning they have a duty to honour the contract with the Government of India of not having the middlemen. Since commissions are alleged to have been paid in the context of the Indian contract, they have a duty to disclose the particulars to the Indian Government. If there were already contracts with middlemen in existence, when negotiating the Indian contract which they claim require to be now wound up by payment of compensation, it was their duty to have disclosed that to the Indian Government at the time the contract was entered into, specially when the Indian Government stipulated that there should be no middlemen. Bofors, on 10-3-1986, confirmed in writing, which was before the date of signing the contract by both parties that they had no agents specially employed in India in this project and that however for administrative services using the local firm, A.B. Corporation. They have further confirmed in the telex on 26-4-1987 that for this administrative service, they had stipulated to pay to them one lakh per month, commencing from January 1986. On this admission, in relation to this contract, there should be no other agreement for payment except this

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agreement to pay one lakh per month. Therefore, there can be no other payment which they could legitimately make for winding up of any alleged agency agreement, as nothing of that sort was disclosed to the Government of India except the service contract on payment of one lakh. So, it goes on. I can read the whole thing.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Is there not a separate noting where I have categorically asked what the cost of cancellation will be, cost in terms of security, keeping in mind the security environment at that time, cost in terms of money loss which has already been paid, cost in terms of a new weapons that had to be bought? And if you look at that note, you will find that the cost was much more than the Rs. 64 crores that you were getting back. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: There is also the letter of Sundarji there. I can read it out.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I am requesting you to lay all the files on the Table of the House.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I will bring it tomorrow. I will lay it tomorrow on the Table of the House. Tomorrow itself, not much delay. *(Interruptions)*

Now, much has been mentioned about succumbing to foreign pressures, and the question of 301 was raised. In April, 1989, in Geneva, the Government of India agreed to negotiate the establishment of new norms and standards of intellectual property rights, in spite of the fact that it had no mandate to change the Indian Patent Law. This is the protection that the previous Government had given to our laws. *(Interruptions)*. I know it is painful for hon'ble Dinesh.

In Geneva the Government of India agreed to drop... *(Interruptions)*. Please, let there be noise only from that side, lest the

task becomes more difficult.

In Geneva the Government of India agreed to drop the idea of balancing the need to protect Intellectual Property Rights with the development and technological objectives and public interest. And in Geneva the Government of India also agreed to drop the idea of discussing the IPRs (Intellectual Property Rights) in the international forums of WIPO and UNCTAD to which the subject belongs and I remember this is the stand which I always took when it came to all these various services and others. I could scuttle services out of GATT while referring to WIPO and UNCTAD etc. Thus indirectly India has to agree to discuss IPRs (Intellectual Property Rights) in GATT only. That has been the net result, and I think the basic national interests have been bartered away.

SHRI DINESH SINGH (Pratapgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister had... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is your problem?

(Interruptions)

SHRI DINESH SINGH: All that I am saying, Sir, is that the hon. Prime Minister, and I am very sorry to say, is misrepresenting the facts. I would request him to read the statement that was made by our representative in Geneva in the Commission and then he will see that not only our position as regards the WIPO and others was protected, but also it was made quite clear that the development dimensions of the developing countries would be borne in mind in any discussion regarding the Intellectual Property. In fact, although our leader has paid him compliments for his performance in Punta Del este, I am sorry to contradict him to say that it was he, as the leader in Punta Del este, who agreed to include Intellectual Property in these discussions. When he had taken out Services on a separate track, that was the time to keep Intellectual Property also on a separate track, he did not keep it on a separate track, he made it obligatory that it

would be discussed in the Uruguay round under the normal procedure. It was he who let down, not our leader... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: If I may make the record straight on this issue, in fact the plea that was given was, at that time Shri L.K. Jha, who was the Economic Adviser, he is not here, I will not comment, was told that 'you get it accelerated and agree to the US stand'. That is why we could not get much more out of that and even then there was stipulation that...

SHRIDINESH SINGH: We should have a discussion on this. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a Question Hour.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: The development and technological objectives and public interest, which has been given the go-by, will be there now. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Don't mislead the House.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: And of the team, the Leader of the Opposition was saying, "The team that performed very well in Punta Del este, I am proud of those officers that were there." But would you just consider where were they placed after that? It is the outside pressure, because they resisted pressure. (*Interruptions*). I do not want to bring them in. Now, out of the cupboard he brought our Hubbard. I don't know who is this Hubbard. I am told he is an ex-Ambassador living in the University of California, I have never seen his face. I do not know what more is in his cupboard. But you know, he was saying that the previous Prime Minister was making all this tall-talking, as an election stance. Well...

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Have you denied what he said?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: There is no question of it. I have already said

it. There is no question of acceding to this. We will fight it.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Mr. Speaker, can't that be undone now by this Government, about the intellectual property right?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: We will try to safeguard and try to protect it as much as we can. What they have done we will try to undo.

We have given a strong expression on Panama. We stand by it. But let us remember, when the Leader of the Opposition was in office, and there was invasion of Libya, then the tail was between the legs. You did not condemn it. Did you use the word "condemn"? You did not.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: We did. We had a Non-aligned meeting in Delhi and we made a very strong statement at the Non-aligned meeting. It was on the same day.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: U.S. invasion in Grenada—what was the word used, when there was U.S. invasion on Grenada. You said, "India views with grave concern". That was the end of it; and Grenada gone! There is not even a word used like "deplore", "strongly deplore". No "condemn". So, please do not stand and try to project another image.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: You go through my statements on Libya also.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I shall certainly go through those also and it is not long that we will be able to read between the lines.

[*English*]

Now, much has been said on foreign policy. I will answer each thing because everything has been raised—foreign policy, Punjab, Nepal and everything. Up to 11 O'clock, I have got my time.

In Panama also, we have been a party to the Non-aligned statement condemning the U.S. invasion.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: In spite of your stand? (*Interruptions*). On the Libya statement, we had given a long explanation as to why it had happened and what had happened.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: You did not condemn it.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa): Mr. B.R. Bhagat was removed for strongly condemning U.S. aggression on Libya.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: He was snut down.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: On his statement about the U.S. aggression on Libya, he lost his job.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: He paid the price for that statement.

Now for quite an hour, I think, half of the time was devoted to foreign policy—rather 2/3rds time. Now, we very well know, when it comes to foreign policy, it is not partisan consideration that is there. Many a time, we will agree because foreign policy is not the private property of a single Party.

Our foreign policy is the product of the freedom movement. It got its foundation in the freedom movement. Yes, Jawaharlal Nehru was a great architect of our foreign policy. I do acknowledge it. We all acknowledge it. There is no question on that. (*Interruptions*)

I request the Leader of the Opposition, we are discussing a serious question and non-serious comments do not have a place.

The foreign policy is dictated by the geopolitical considerations of the country. It has evolved through a process of history and the consensus of the nation is there, and the

non-alignment policy that we have evolved is a process of national consensus. We all contribute to it; to our solidarity with the developing countries, our opposition to apartheid, our commitment to the Palestinian cause and their inalienable right to Statehood, strengthening our relations with neighbours and strengthening South-South cooperation,—these are national policies and the Leader of the Opposition knew on this there will not be much opposition. So, every time he asks "What is your position?" because he knows our position is that there cannot be any opposition to these policies.

[*Translation*]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (New Delhi): That is why both Shri Narsimharao and he were quoting Shri Vajpayee.

[*English*]

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: On Sri Lanka, we are for peace and amity among the Tamil groups, for their democratic aspirations being fulfilled through devolution, to help that process. At the same time, the problem we have inherited is, we are confronted with other groups which are fully armed and in battle and in clash. Somehow we have to get out of this situation and the de-induction of our army has to be with respect but let us also think of the sacrifice which our army has done, what national cause was served all this time. It is a great army. We are proud of our army. It is the last resort and last sacrifice, for what? It was only for a national cause.

With Nepal, we have taken initiative. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M.P. JANARTHANAN (Trunelveli): There is no security for Tamils. We are suffering being killed. What have you done? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I have concern for Tamil lives. It was during this previous government that is now sitting in the Opposition that Tamil lives have been

lost on both sides. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M.R. JANARTHANAN: For over two weeks, refugees have been coming there.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: The Leader of the Opposition sitting there, when he went to Tamil Nadu, he talked of Dravidian culture of Tamil Nadu. Now that very Dravidian culture of the South has at least saved his party. (*Interruptions*)

On Nepal, initiative has already been taken and their External Affairs Minister is coming. We have invited him. He is coming. The security and national interest will be taken care of. There is no question of neglecting our security concern and I think Nepal should also appreciate it. But at the same time, we also appreciate Nepal has a problem. We have very special relations and it is also a land-locked country and we should be sensitive to that. There has to be sensitivity on both the sides. That will be our approach. Then regarding China—Yes, we do have it on our agenda—high on our agenda—to improve relations with China. We have been taking full care of our national interest and it is in this context we will pursue these initiatives and those meetings that the Leader of the Opposition mentioned, those meetings we will be holding soon. There is no question of putting hurdles. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

AN HON. MEMBER: What is your stand on Tibet?

[*English*]

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Tibet is an autonomous region of China. That is our stand.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: What is the view of your Railway Minister? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: When I am saying, I am speaking on behalf of the whole Government.

Sir, much has been said about Jammu & Kashmir. In fact if anything has saddened our hearts most on assumption of office, it is

the situation of Jammu & Kashmir which we have gloriously inherited. About the Home Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, much has been said. I know his agony. I know at the last moment he said: "I am not going to compromise, whatever the Jammu & Kashmir Government does and on my behalf I am not going in for a compromise." This is what he said. I know this much about it.

This is what we have got. The total number of violent incidents in 1988 was 390; in 1989 it is 2080. Number of deaths in 1988 was 31; in 1989 it is 90. Number of explosions in 1988 was 24; in 1989—476. I know they will have a tendency to say all has happened in 15 days... (*Interruptions*) Armed attacks by terrorists—7 in 1988 and 117 in 1989, Police firing in 1988 was 51; in 1989 it is 270. If the people there and the extremist elements have been emboldened, it is because the previous regime was so incapacitated, all round drift was there. There was virtually no law and order situation. This is what we have inherited. Then we are asked: "What are you doing about things we have done?" I think let us not make it a debating point. So far as Jammu & Kashmir is concerned, I am ready to knock at every door, every party including that of the Leader of the Opposition to save the country. We have to be one on Jammu & Kashmir. We have to be one on Punjab. We have to be one. It is not a question of prestige on these issues. People have laid down their lives for the defence of this country. This is one issue where no party consideration comes anywhere. So, for the integrity of the country, I am ready to cooperate with him and take his help.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: What about kidnapping?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I tell you what I have said. Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed as Home Minister has shown great courage, as father of Dr. Rubiya. When it came to his duty, he never compromised his duty. I can vouch for it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I understand that you don't contradict anything that I have said, which I said was hearsay and I was not sure about.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH:

The great prophetic words that have been said by the hon. Leader of the Opposition have been for three hours it was difficult to keep track of all that he has said. I have to read what he has said now, in document.

On Punjab I want to make it clear that there is no question of compromise with secessionist forces. There is no question of compromise with the Constitution of India and in whatever descriptions and forms the challenge may come, we will face it. There is no question on these cardinal points of unity and integrity of the country and the Constitution of India—descriptions and names apart.

Regarding protection of boys in the hostel, we have given instructions and we will stand by them anyone who is threatened, because the security is prime for any citizen, any person in Punjab. And on this, let there not be a confused signal. Any exodus or any fear is something which we feel with great concern. We will do best to see that does not happen. So there is no mincing of words on these issues.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: And collecting of arms in Gurudwara will not be allowed.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Whatever it is, these things about misuse of temples or religious places. But let us remember, beyond this you did not take any initiative.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: You do.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Yes, we will take it. The bridging of the gap about which as Advaniji said and as Somnathji said, this new initiative that has come, let us not lose it in the administrative cobwebs. We will go to the people, we will talk to the people, we will try to build confidence. And we will go again and try to build this confidence. Other measures are also there—action on Mishra Commission Report, 59th Amendment and other actions which are there. These are parts of the same process.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I think you are not going to allow swords to be carried into the chamber.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: For some people sword may pose a danger while for others it may not be so. During the regime of your government gunmen used to hang around in the corridors here. You did not feel scared then. This is for the Chair to decide. We will abide by the ruling from the Chair. We are not the masters of the House.

[*English*]

In the end, in all this debate what I feel is at one important aspect has been missed. I expected it from the Leader of the Opposition because he belongs to the younger generation—the mention of youth. The youth has played a very dominant part of this. For four, five years he was from the younger generation—the young Prime Minister, that was his description. But the young Prime Minister did not remember the youth, for involving them in the shaping of the country. It is when we gave the threat that we will have all-India agitation, that the voting age was reduced to 18 years. It was on our agenda, never on their agenda.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, it is a misrepresentation. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Employment is the cardinal principal of our education policy—not the elitist policy that was followed. Now, we have got three educational policies, three educational schemes. One for the poor who get educated under the tree without a roof. Then, there is an educational policy for the middle-class who go to private schools and Government schools.

22.00 hrs.

Then, there is an educational policy for the rich, who go in convents and elitist institutions. After this distinction, then, you say, all

compete together. And, I think, there has to be equity and justice in this. (*Interruptions*) We will, in January itself,—I assure you,—call the youth leaders of the country, all the youth leaders of the country and share with them, interact with them, involve with them, to have a policy for them and I think the country needs a youth movement for changing and transferring the society in a more credible way.

About the communalism and riots, we have made it clear and on this, there is no difference of opinion, that is, secular India is the India that will be strong and united. We stand for the emotional integrity of the country and we will not allow it to be divided in any fashion and communal harmony will be our cardinal principle there is no question but to involve the minorities, not only give them security, but to involve them in its economic development and wherever they are handicapped, to see that they share in the fruits of development and they feel, they are part of the great country. So, this will be our main thrust on Bhagalpur. From the Centre, I assure you, we will contribute our mite to the relief of Bhagalpur and there again, on third, even before I started the campaign—I did not start my political campaign—I went to Bhagalpur and my commitment still stands for bringing amity. And with these words, I think—there may still be many questions, but, Sir, I think I tried my best to do justice—the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address...(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: With the permission of the Chair and the Prime Minister, I would like to ask—about women, at least, you should say something. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: For women? I think, it is part of our developmental strategy—30 per cent reservation in local bodies. Then, they should have a share in the Departments and whatever jobs are suited for women, they should get a place in them. It is a part of our strategy. One more thing. About the problem of population growth, it is a subject which was not touched, I think,

if we are to approach the problem of population growth, education of women is the most essential thing and if we link it to jobs, education is automatically given a thrust. And with these words...(*Interruptions*)

AN. HON. MEMBER: What about the reservation? You make the policy clear.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: We could pass it. There was no objection, but certainly procedural obstruction was there. But in spite of it, a Constitutional Amendment Bill on the reservation for SC, ST has been passed. I think, if we are to test what we do here, we should keep the lowest strata of people in the economic ladder and the social ladder in mind and then test what we are doing here, how it affects their lives. I think, that is the acid test for what we do here. Thank you. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No more questions.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: A number of amendments have been moved by the Members to the Motion of Thanks. May I put the amendments to the vote of the House together? If any hon. Member wants a particular amendment to be put separately, he may say so.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, with great respect, may I make a submission?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Chidambaram.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, there are a large number of amendments. Now, you know the composition of this House. Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee just now said, "say something about women". There is an amendment on women. Now, I do not think, it can be assumed that all the amendments will be either voted in or voted out. You would have to ask us—you asked us, I think two days ago—to give a slip on the amendments we are pressing. I think, the Chairman in the

[Sh. P. Chidambaram]

Chair. Dr. Thambi Durai gave us 15 minutes to tell which are the amendments we are pressing. Each one of us has listed which are the amendments we are pressing. You have that list. You have to ask each Member if he is willing to have his amendment clubbed together or he wants to put it separately.

MR. SPEAKER: Is Prof. Saifuddin Soz there? No. I put now amendments No. 1 to 3, 5 and 11 moved by Prof. Saifuddin Soz to the vote of the House.

Amendment Nos. 1 to 3, 5 and 11 were put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: I now take up amendment No. 12 moved by Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev.

SHRISONTOSH MOHANDEV (Tripura West): Sir, I was very much happy to listen to the speech of hon. Prime Minister. I think the year 1990, the month of January will be a golden month for the whole country. He has assured 32 assurances for fulfilling. I congratulate him. But unfortunately, Mr. Prime Minister, during the elections of Mizoram and Nagaland when we won the elections you said North-East does not matter. Today in your speech you never mentioned about North-East. (*Interruptions*)

Sir, in the President's Address North-East has been mentioned but it has not been mentioned, namely, the trouble fomenting in the North-East in respect of Bodo agitation. The AGP which is a partner to this Government wanted a change in the INDT Act. That has not been mentioned in the speech of the President. The hon. Prime Minister in his speech to the nation gave preference for Kashmir and Punjab. That means AGP which has been saying Assam accord has not been implemented at least he accepts it is implemented. I would like to know from him whether he still stands on his assessment.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Assam refinery was part of the Assam ac-

cord but the previous Government did not fulfil it. We have cleared it from the Cabinet only yesterday. So do not talk about Assam.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, I will not say that the hon. Prime Minister is telling something which is not correct. I was incharge of the Assam accord. Whatever he has fulfilled every decision had been taken by me. With the concurrence of the Cabinet he has only passed it. I congratulate him, no doubt, for what he has done about refinery and other things but I would like to say that President has not mentioned about Assam accord. I only wanted to put it on record.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put amendment No. 12 moved by Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 12 was put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Dharam Pal. Amendments No. 13 to 16.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DHARAM PAL (Udhampur): I wanted to speak on the Motion of Thanks on President's Address but that was not possible. I would like to say that during Zero Hour in Rajya Sabha the matter relating to refugees of 1947, 1965 and 1971 in Jammu and Kashmir was raised..... (*Interruptions*)..... the point is that there are refugees of 1947, 1965 and 1971 in Jammu and Kashmir. The Committee on Petitions had recommended that the refugees of 1947 be given a grant of Rs. 12,500 and a loan of like amount. The previous Government had given an assurance that a corporation would be set up for this purpose. I request the hon. Prime Minister to set up a corporation which should sanction an amount of Rs. 25,000 for the resettlement of the refugees of 1947. The refugees of 1965 and 1971 come under the Simla Agreement. The refugees who came in as a result of the Indo-Pak conflict in 1965 and 1971 have not been provided proper rehabilitation facilities. There is a shortage of land, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir. I want that the cost of land at the current

market rates be paid to them so that they are resettled properly. The Government is least concerned about it and I demand a firm assurance in this regard.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put amendments No. 13 to 16 moved by Shri Dharam Pal.

Amendment Nos. 13 to 16 were put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER Mr. Rajeshwaran
Amendments No. 17 to 24

SHRI V RAJESHWARAN
(Ramanathanpuram): There were 5,000 IPKF soldiers who lost their lives in Sri Lanka. I was very sad that no mention was made in the Prime Minister's speech

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put amendments No. 17 to 24 moved by Shri Rajeshwaran

Amendment Nos. 17 to 24 were put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put amendments No. 40-41 moved by Shri A. Charles to the vote of the House.

Amendment Nos. 40 and 41 were put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sultanpuri. Amendments No. 76 to 80.

[Translation]

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Shimla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak on Amendment Nos. 76 to 80. Sir, there is no mention of hilly areas in President's Address. Nothing has been said about the development of hilly areas in the country. May I know the Government's policy regarding hilly areas development?

Secondly, Doordarshan programmes are not reaching the interiors of hilly areas.

The hon. President's Address does not mention the provisions being made to relay Doordarshan programmes to the interior hilly areas.

Thirdly, there is a fixed quota for soldiers in hilly areas. While a reference to pension of the soldiers has been made, nothing has been said in President's Address about the fresh recruitment of soldiers from Himachal Pradesh.

Lastly, an assurance has been given that fair-price shops would be opened for the sale of commodities at low prices to the public. But the hon. President's Address does not make any mention about co-operative societies or corporations to be set up in pursuance of this assurance

[English]

MR. SPEAKER. I shall now put amendments No. 76 to 80 moved by Shri K.D. Sultanpuri to the vote of the House.

Amendment Nos. 76 to 80 were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri G.M. Banatwalla; amendments No. 81 to 91

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for this new procedure of allowing Members to speak on their amendments to the Motion of Thanks on President's Address. This is a new procedure that you have followed. It will definitely go to strengthen the parliamentary institution. I thank you and congratulate you for this. I hope you will always follow this new innovation which we are having today.

I will not take much time of the House. I have made my points clear. My amendments are also very clear. I appeal to this House to adopt these amendments in the interest of secular democracy that we have. Of course, I know the fate of my amendments. All my amendments may, therefore, be put together for voting. I submit, for a general massacre.....(Interruptions).

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: What about my amendment No. 49, which I had moved while speaking.....(*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: You did not move your amendment. You have to follow the procedure.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The procedure is that you have to give it in writing that you want to move your amendments.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: How many times do we have to give notice?

MR. SPEAKER: You did not give it in writing.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: I have given it in writing.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: The Chairman had announced it. It was notified in the Bulletin also. You should have given it within 15 minutes of the announcement by the Chairman.

[*English*]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: My amendments cannot be bypassed like this.

MR. SPEAKER: You should have acted according to procedure. They cannot be taken up now. Please sit down.

[*Translation*]

You are a veteran Member. The same procedure is being followed as before. There is nothing new in it. You should have given it in writing. You did not do so. What can be done now?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Amend-

ment Nos. 81 to 91 moved by Shri G.M. Banatwalla to the vote of the House.

Amendment Nos. 81 to 91 were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment Nos. 92 to 94 moved by Shri J Chokka Rao to the vote of the House.

Amendment Nos. 92 to 94 were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Manoranjan Bhakta, Amendment Nos. 95, 103 to 107.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman & Nicobar Islands): Sir, I just want to say a few lines on my amendments. I am frustrated to note that in the Presidential Address, there is no mention of the Island Territories. There are two Island Territories, Lakshadweep and Andaman and Nicobar. These territories were getting the highest priority and support from the earlier Governments. Unfortunately, this Government has not even specified what they are going to do about the development, about the transport problems of these island territories and also about the constitution of Assembly in Andaman & Nicobar, Delhi and other Union Territories. I say this because the Union Territories are having a different kind of administration and people living in these Union Territories do not enjoy the rights which the people of other States enjoy. That is why I appeal to the Government that if they give an assurance that they will look after these union territories and island territories, I am ready to withdraw my amendments.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment No. 95, 103 to 107 moved by Shri Manoranjan Bhakta to the vote of the House.

Amendment Nos. 95, 103 to 107 were put and negatived.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI T. BASHEER (Chirayinkil): I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: What is the rule you want to mention? What is the point of order.

SHRI T. BASHEER: I want to cite Rule 86 of the Rules of Procedure, which says:

"When a motion that a Bill be taken into consideration has been carried, any member may, when called upon by the Speaker, move an amendment to the Bill of which he has previously given notice:....

So, the Speaker should call the member to move it.

MR. SPEAKER: That is already done.

SHRI T. BASHEER: I was not called upon to move the amendment. You cannot do it like this

MR. SPEAKER: I told you all to send in the slips at that time and you did not do it in time. I am proceeding with the amendments.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I now put the amendments Nos. 100 to 101 moved by Shri P.L. Handoo to the vote of the House

Amendment Nos. 100 and 101 were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Mr. K.S. Rao.

SHRI K.S. RAO (Machilipatnam): I want to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Prime Minister as well as that of the Deputy Prime Minister—more in particular of the Deputy Prime Minister—because he considers himself as very nearest to the farming community of India. What is it that he is doing? While we are paying thousands of crores of rupees to industrialists and traders it is the farmers who have not been compensated for the suffering they had to undergo due to natural calamities.

May I also ask the Hon. Prime Minister as well as Deputy Prime Minister whether

they will bring a new scheme for crop insurance to help the farmers who have suffered very heavily due to natural calamities so that they can be compensated based on the individual losses suffered by individual farmers?

The second one is, it is known to everybody that there is a shortage of housing in the country to the extent of 20 to 30 million houses. But no mention has been made of it. What about rural housing problem in particular? It was also not referred to in the reply by the Prime Minister. I wish to draw the attention of the Prime Minister in regard to giving some incentives and also bringing out a housing incentive to people as housing is one of the basic requisites after food, cloth and shelter. Rural housing does not require any budget provision also specifically and it can generate enormous employment of the people also for using the natural resources that are available without any foreign technology or foreign exchange.

The third one is, while we giving pensions to the employees working in various Government departments and even private establishments, but we have to consider the factual situation of millions of people who have suffered for decades in the villages who are landless and poor. Now, to provide for a pension scheme would help them.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude. I am putting the amendments to the vote of the House.

SHRI K.S. RAO: So, the Hon. Prime Minister may mention this while replying. We want to have the right to work also to be recognised. *(Interruptions)* We welcome it.

All these important aspects may be considered.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put amendment Nos. 131 to 161 moved by Shri K.S. Rao to the vote of the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM (Salem): Sir, we want a division...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Then the Lobbies have to be cleared.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been the convention of this House for the last 37 years that on President's Address—amendments and on other issues. Cut Motions are in hundreds—it is the understanding on both sides of this House for the last 37 years, except in a few sample cases of amendments, both the sides have not pressed them...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order under Rule 183...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is your point of order?

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Amendment may be moved to such Motion of Thanks in...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: He says that this is the convention. When you want the division, in the Constitution the right to work.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Through you, Sir, I will appeal to the leader of the opposition, that this is there for the last 37 years...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: May I suggest that it is getting rather late and the right to work is a programme of the Government also as certain private Members have stated. If the Prime Minister agrees to include it, then we can avoid the division and carry on.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: We will bring out our own proposal on right to work. Amendment to the President's Address, we are not accepting.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: If the Leader of the Opposition wants to divide the House we are prepared for the division.

MR. SPEAKER: Let the lobbies be cleared—Lobbies have been cleared Now, I will put Amendment Nos. 131 to 161 moved by Shri K.S Rao to the vote of the House.

Amendment Nos. 131 to 161 were put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: Amendment No. 172, by Shri Shikiho Sema.

SHRI SHIKIHO SEMA (Nagaland): I have already moved my Amendment—I read out: That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that in the Address there is no mention of any solution of political problem faced by the State of Nagaland in particular 'political problems and its solution'".

When the Prime Minister addressed the nation, unfortunately, problems of Nagaland State were not mentioned. Again when the President Address came, the name of Nagaland did not find a place in that. This Government is taking callous attitude towards the problems of Nagaland State. However a small State we may be, we have our own problems and we should be given attention to. But unfortunately, such attention is not being paid to Nagaland people's problems particularly political problems. Therefore, I have moved this amendment and I request the House to support my amendment.

MR. SPEAKER: Now I will put Amendment No. 172 moved by Shri Shikiho Sema to vote.

Amendment No. 172 was put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. P. Chidambaram;

(Interruptions)

SRI KAMAL NATH (Chhindwara): Sir, I have amendment No. 173. Mr. Madhu Dandavate very rightly pointed out that it has been a convention in the House for the last 37 years...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, I have not permitted you. I have called Mr. Chidambaram.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not wish to make a statement, but since I find that a large number of Members are voting against the amendments, without knowing what these amendments are, I wish to say...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: You have already spoken on the amendments. Please take your seat now. The Members are knowledgeable. They know what the amendments are.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, he cannot challenge the bonafide of the Members...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat now. You have already spoken

(Interruptions)

SHRI ERA ANBARASU (Madras Central): Sir, in 1980, Mr. Advani had moved this amendment and this was debated in Rajya Sabha. I want to support his amendment. Amendment No. 175 deals with women. I want to know how Geeta didi is going to vote on this amendment, I want to know how the Members of the BJP are going to vote on this amendment...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Anbarasu, please allow your own party Member to speak. I have called Mr. Chidambaram.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I am pressing my amendments.

MR. SPEAKER: I put amendments No. 174, 175 and 199 to 211 moved by Shri P. Chidambaram to the vote of the House.

Amendment Nos. 174, 175 and 199 to 211 were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: Amendments No. 176 and 177. Are you pressing your amendments, Mr. Anbarasu?

SHRI ERA ANBARASU: Yes. Sir, in the Presidential Address, there is no mention regarding the supreme sacrifice made by Mrs. Indira Gandhi for the sake of the nation...*(Interruptions)*. *Suo motu* they should have declared Indira Gandhi as the Mother of the Nation...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat now. You have already made your point. I now put amendments No. 176 and 177 moved by Shri Era Anbarasu to the vote of the House.

Amendment Nos. 176 and 177 were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri P.C. Thomas. He is not here. I put amendments No. 178 to 180, moved by Shri P.C. Thomas, to the vote of the House.

Amendment Nos. 178 to 180 were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Madhavrao Scindia. He is not here. I put amendments No. 181 to 198, moved by Shri Madhavrao Scindia, to the vote of the House.

Amendment Nos. 181 to 198 were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the motion to the vote of the House. The question is:

"That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms:—

"That the Members of Lok Sabha as—

sembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 20th December, 1989."

The Motion was adopted

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): Hon'ble Members have expressed their desire that the Government should come forward with a legislation to repeal the provisions made in the 59th Amendment to the Constitution. The Government is ready with the Bill. In fact, the Home Minister wanted to introduce it this evening itself, but because of the procedural difficulties in circulating the copies, the copies could not be circulated this evening itself.

They are being circulated in the night. The hon. Home Minister will introduce it tomorrow after Question Hour, with your permission and all the party leaders have agreed that this should be passed tomorrow, subject to your approval. Sir, we propose that this should be taken up tomorrow and passed before the Lok Sabha adjourns.

One more thing. I express my sincere regret, on behalf of my Ministry, to the Members present here that the dinner arrangement could not be made because many Members did not want to leave the House because important speeches were being made. We will make arrangements for dinner hereafter. Now, buses have been arranged for the convenience of the Members.

22.47 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned to meet at Eleven of the Clock on Friday, December, 29, 1989/Pausa 8, 1911 (Saka)