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Thursday, July 18,  
Asad 127 , 1913 (Saka)

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## (English Version)

First Session  
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



सत्यमेव जयते

*(Vol. I contains No. 1 to 10)*

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

### LOK SABHA

Thursday, July 18, 1991/Asadha 27,  
1913 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the  
Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

**Draft National Policy on Agriculture**

+

\*81. **SHRI ATAL BIHARI  
VAJPAYEE:**

**SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:**

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Draft National Policy on Agriculture is still under the consideration of the Government;

(b) whether the Draft Policy has been circulated to the State Governments and the Agricultural Universities to elicit their views;

(c) if so, the response of the State Governments/Universities thereto;

(d) the likely date by which the Government propose to introduce this policy; and

(e) when was such policy last framed and what has been its impact?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN):** (a) to (d) A draft of an Agricultural Policy Resolution formulated in March, 1991 had been circulated to all the State Governments and U.Ts and Agricultural Universities for eliciting their comments. Five States/U.Ts and 7 Agricultural Universities have sent their comments. After the receipt of comments from the State Governments

further action will be taken.

(e) No comprehensive Agricultural Policy Resolution has been placed before the Parliament in the recent past.

[Translation]

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, to date, a National Policy on Agriculture has not been brought either before the House or the country. We always say that our country is primarily an agricultural country and agriculture is the largest sector of our economy and that progress in the agricultural sector is the key to the economic development of our country. It is ironic that while we have an industrial policy, a labour policy, a gold policy, but there is no such policy on agriculture. The Agriculture Minister himself is a very reputed farmer, so much so that he has even been adorned with the title of 'Krishi Pandit'. Does he consider the delay in formulation of a National Policy on Agriculture proper? In this regard, I would also like to say that when the draft of the Agricultural Policy has been circulated to all the State Governments, Union Territories and Agricultural Universities for eliciting their comments, the Government could have also placed a copy of the same on the Table of the House so as to make it a topic of public debate and also to make the hon. Members aware of its contents.

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has rightly said that the country entirely depends on agriculture for its well being and that the country has been able to save its economy from crises and has earned a reputation for itself everywhere, all because of agriculture. The hon. Member made a reference to the Agricultural Policy in his speech. Yes, we have not been able to bring forward a comprehensive Agricultural Policy but it is not true that there was no such policy or we did not have any such policy earlier.

All work is carried on the basis of a policy, but unfortunately, we have not been able to give a concrete shape to our Agricultural Policy. Therefore, it may be said that the main points of the draft national policy on Agriculture have been formulated after much deliberations. This draft has been circulated, so that it could be finalised on the basis of the comments that we receive. That final draft would certainly be placed before the House. It is a public document. There is nothing confidential about it. It has been circulated to all the State Governments and Agricultural Universities. There is nothing to suppress about it.

**SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA**

Copies of the draft policy should also be distributed among the Members.

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR** We will definitely do it, that is no problem (*Interjections*). The policy of our party in this regard has undoubtedly influenced the formulation of this draft policy. I would like to repeat that we had specifically made a mention of it in our election manifesto.

[*English*]

It is from the Manifesto of the Indian National Congress for the Lok Sabha election 1991. It refers to package pronouncement from the former Prime Minister. In this, it has been stated that a comprehensive strategy will be formulated and implemented to ensure coordination of agricultural development with conservation of the environment, afforestation, wasteland development, water resources management, forest land and common property resource management including grazing and community lands. And the following items which are also covered in the draft Agricultural Price Resolution circulated to States are:

expansion of allocation of bank loans and credit for agriculture;

strengthening extension services and construction of new godowns and storage facilities.

establishment of agro-based and food processing industries;

promotion of agricultural exports,

high priority to allied activities such as livestock, horticulture etc.

fair and remunerative price for farm produce,

more efficient use of irrigation water and land;

massive thrust for food processing and other agro-processing.

[*Translation*]

Thus it has been included in the manifesto also and I too am personally committed to it. I am prepared to give you the details of all the programmes.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPA-  
NIEE** So, should we take it for granted that the hon. Minister of Agriculture is going to place a copy of the draft National Policy on Agriculture on the Table of the House?

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR** It is there before one and all. It is not being concealed from anybody. It has been circulated to all the State Governments, Union Territories and Agricultural Universities. Similarly, it would be placed before the House also.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPA-  
NIEE** Mr. Speaker, Sir, while formulating the Agricultural Policy, one should take into consideration the relation between the prices of agricultural produce and the prices of goods manufactured in factories. We want to give remunerative prices to the farmers but it has been observed that while prices of agricultural produce are hiked up at a very low pace, the prices of articles of daily use, manufactured by factories, increase by leaps and bounds every other day. If we cannot bring about a parity between the above two prices, the farmer will continue to suffer losses. I would like to know whether this aspect has

been taken into consideration while preparing the draft Agricultural Policy and what has been its outcome?

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR** We will definitely do it I too have been stressing the point all along which you have raised now We will have to work out a ratio between them. It has to be ensured that there is proper co-relation between them. What is the difference between the rate at which the farmer purchases and the rate at which he sells. I hope special attention in this regard would be paid while framing a new policy and implementing it

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPA-YEE** There is an Agricultural Prices Commission, but there is nothing like Cost Price Commission to monitor the prices of industrial goods. (*Interruptions*) It is a bureau and the reports of that bureau are not even placed before the House

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR** If that is the case, it ought to be looked into

**SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH** In a vast country like ours, where there are many agro-climatic zones, agriculture is a vast subject. Owing to this very reason, National Agriculture Commission was set up about two decades ago and it was on the basis of its reports that the existing policy was formulated. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government proposes to set up a National Agriculture Commission to go into all the aspects of a vast subject like agriculture.

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR** At present, we are doing the first thing. We have elicited opinions from all concerned. As soon as they are received we will consider them.

**SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH** Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is why I would like to submit that unless a separate Commission is set up for this to go into all the aspects of such a wide subject it will serve no purpose. Earlier, it

was done and Shri Ram Niwas Mirda was one of the Members of the committee that had been constituted for this purpose.

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR** No, it was Shri Nathu Ram Mirdha.

**SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH** Anyway, that Commission had presented a comprehensive report, but in the changed circumstances, it has become essential to set up another commission. Will the Government please consider it?

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR** No, it is not necessary now. We will formulate the policy on the basis of the opinions we have called for

**SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN** Mr. Speaker, Sir, there can be no two opinions that ever since independence, the agriculture sector has been neglected and I am sure that the hon. Minister will also agree with me in this regard I don't want to go into the reasons behind it I would like to tell the Government only this much that the National Front Government during its tenure had taken a decision to observe the next ten years that is upto the year 2000 A.D., as the 'Decade of Agriculture' and it was envisaged that the lot of the farmers will be improved and development of agriculture in rural areas etc. will be ensured during this period. I would like to know whether the Government would implement the above decision to observe the next ten years as the 'Decade of Agriculture' and take steps to boost agricultural production and improve the lot of farmers

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR** The agriculture sector forms the very foundation of our economy and if the country wants to achieve self-reliance in economy, agriculture should not be neglected. I am very optimistic in this regard as we have with us all the essentials, God's gift, nature's benevolence and the indomitable spirit of our farmers. We shall certainly succeed in making our country self-sufficient and self-reliant and we shall

encourage them with these objectives in our mind. There is no doubt about it ...*(Interruptions)*. ...

**SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, what I want to know is whether the Government will pursue the decision of the previous Government to observe the next ten years as the 'Decade of Agriculture' or abandon it?

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, we will do our duty.

"Jo diya karte the dava-e-darde dil,  
Ve apni dukan badha gaye"  
*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

**SHRI SOBHANA DRESWARA RAO VADDE:** Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the draft he referred in the answer said to have been formulated in March, 1991, was the same as the one prepared by the standing advisory committee on agriculture headed by Shri Sharad Joshi or was a different one.

I would also like to know whether the Government will restructure its priorities. I hope when Mr. Balram Jakhar is the Minister of Agriculture the priorities will be restructured to give first and foremost priority and allocate funds to maximise the production as well as export from the agriculture sector.

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR:** It was not that committee which you were referring. It was a report prepared by the Department or the Secretaries concerned. Then, it was a sort of a marriage between the two. That has been circulated. I assure that the rest will be done.

**SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether it has come to the notice of the Government that due to hike in inputs like fertilisers, seeds, pesticides, labour, power tariff, the

cost of production of various agricultural commodities has gone very high, and the farmer is asking for a remunerative price.

On the other side, the consumer is asking for the supply at a cheaper rate wherein the Government has to come forward to subsidise. It is very difficult.

Is the Government seriously thinking of removing all the duties and taxes on agricultural inputs so that the farmer will grow at a cheaper rate and the consumer will also get at a cheaper rate?

**MR SPEAKER:** This is about the taxes.

**SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI:** No, this is a policy matter.

**MR SPEAKER:** All right.

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR:** We can answer. But let there be a question. I will reply fully well on that score.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the hon. Minister said just now, the Government will be formulating a National Policy on Agriculture and I also agree with him, but I would like to know as to who formulates this policy? Are they the people who sweat and toil and plough the field braving the vagaries of weather? A great injustice is being done to the farmers. The people who do not have basic knowledge of agriculture and are not aware of the problems of the farmers are entrusted with the task of formulating policies. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether views of the farmers as to what are their real difficulties will be called for and the prices of their produce will be fixed accordingly ensuring at the same time that items of their daily necessity are made available to them at reasonable rates. Will the hon. Minister ensure that these points would be considered while formulating the policy?



**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR** Mr Speaker Sir I can assure one thing I myself have worked in the fields and my hands are a testimony to it  
(*Interruptions*)

**SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA** I did not want to know about the hon Minister I was enquiring about the policy (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR** I express what I think You are right We shall formulate a policy only after eliciting the opinion of the farmers those who work in the field It would not be dealt with in a casual manner

**SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA** Mr Speaker Sir I have doubts about the reply given by the hon Minister Our agricultural policy is totally one sided Only the interests of the big farmers who extract work from labourers are kept in mind Our policies do not protect the interests of those who actually work in the fields I would insist that the steps taken for land reforms

**MR SPEAKER** Mr Bhogendra Jha you may please come to your question

**SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA** I am doing just that At the meeting of the State Revenue Ministers held in 1986 and 1987 it was unanimously decided to expedite the land reform process including delimitation distribution of surplus land ownership rights to the tiller distribution of surplus lands donated during the 'Bhoodan Movement' protection of the common land set aside for public utility etc Will the Government accelerate the land reform process and implement these decisions under the national policy on agriculture and will it ensure the transfer of ownership rights into the hands of the tiller?

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR** Mr Speaker, Sir, perhaps the hon Member has not gone through the Land Ceiling Act Had he gone through it

he must have been aware of the number of people required for cultivating a piece of land If the production is to be increased a lot of work has to be done even if it is a 15 or 2 acres of land Whoever contributes to farming in my opinion is a farmer and their interests will always be uppermost in our minds We will be able to protect the overall interests of the farmers only if we adopt such an attitude If we don't look after the interests of those who work in the fields it will all be an exercise in futility (*Interruptions*)

**DR I AXMI NARAYAN PAN DEYA** Mr Speaker Sir keeping in view the prevailing financial crisis I would like to know from the hon Minister whether there is a possibility of reduction in subsidy on fertilizer or its being withdrawn (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR** Mr Speaker Sir this is something which future would unfold how can I say anything about it The Finance Minister may be able to comment (*Interruptions*)

**DR I AXMI NARAYAN PAN DEYA** Mr Speaker Sir the hon Minister has said in the other House that subsidy cannot be reduced in this way (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR** Mr Speaker Sir since it is a question for the Finance Minister to answer I cannot reply However there is no contradiction in whatever I have said I had said in the past and I am still maintaining it that we should not reduce subsidy If it is done I shall have to give them full compensation We shall have to safeguard the interests of the farmers no matter how it is done

#### Talks with Nepal on Multi-purpose Projects

\*97 **SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether bilateral talks between India and Nepal with regard to con-

struction of multi-purpose projects on Kosi, Kamla, Bagmati, Mahananda, Pancheshwar and Karnali rivers were held recently; and

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA):** (a) and (b) Bilateral talks were last held in April, 1991 in the second meeting of the Indo-Nepal Sub-Commission on water resources. It was agreed to work for a Project Definition Report for Pancheshwar Project and completion of additional studies for Karnali Project. Concrete programme of action could not emerge for other projects

**SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA.** Mr. Speaker, Sir, subsequent to a 'Call Attention' being raised in the House last year we were informed

[*English*]

"Among the various proposals, Kosi High Dam is of utmost importance to us as it will provide solution to control the River Kosi on a long term basis besides providing immense irrigation and power benefits to both the countries.

A project report has been prepared by Nepal on the Kosi High Dam. The feasibility report of the Kosi High Dam was given by India to Nepal in August 1981 and the matter is still pending."

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in response to my letter to the present Prime Minister he has stated recently that during the talks recently held with Nepal the areas of cooperation in the core sector of water-resource development have been identified. We have opened dialogue with Nepal for various projects in this area including projects on Kosi and Kamla rivers. We shall continue the same. We were given a clear feasibility report regarding the parleys held and I went in

person to Nepal on 1st May, 1984 on the invitation of Nepalese Government. I would like to know categorically the position in respect of each of the Karnali, Pancheshwari, Kosi and Bagmati projects.

**SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, discussions were held on all the projects mentioned by the hon. Member and some concrete outcome was achieved in respect of projects mentioned by me in my reply but as regards the other projects, certain complications developed between us and Nepal and the result was that nothing concrete could be achieved till date. In the light of this we formed a study group but the said group has not submitted its report so far, we will pursue the entire work as soon as we are in receipt of the report. I agree with the views expressed by the hon. Member that Kosi and other projects are very important for us. We will make every effort to go ahead with this work.

**SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA.** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a part of that very reply:

[*English*]

A project Report for Karnali has been prepared by Nepal in February 1990, but without taking India's interests into consideration.

[*Translation*]

The same is the case with regard to Kosi from the Nepalese side. What I want to stress is that nature has created all of us and these rivers are flowing from South to North not because either Nepal or we want them to flow in that direction and as such there exists no clash of interest between Nepal and India and it is in the interest of both the nations. I would like to know whether you propose to start a discussion with Nepal at the political level because of the fact that bureaucrats strain our relationship on petty issues. As such this issue should

be settled at the diplomatic level so that the constraints encountered by both the countries in the field of electricity, flood control, irrigation, roadways and railways can be removed and Nepal would turn into a heavenly abode. From this point of view there should be a negotiation at diplomatic level on this issue.

**SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever the hon. Member has said is a fact. The interests of India and Nepal regarding the water resources issue are common and as the hon. Member has rightly mentioned, whatever progress has been made in this field is all due to discussions held at diplomatic level otherwise whenever we leave an issue to be settled at the technical or official level the progress is hampered and no substantial progress is made. Therefore, progress was made in this field when the Prime Minister paid a visit to Nepal last time and now too we will make an effort to accelerate work on all these projects at the earliest by dealing it on political level and also by arriving at a consensus and our attempt should be to make proper utilization of the time that has been wasted.

**SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that the Nepalese Government has started irrigation projects on the rivers which have been referred to, particularly the rivers in the Bagmati and Kamla Balan areas and this is an encroachment on our rights. Will the Government of India take initiative to implement these projects for safeguarding our economic position, which the Nepalese Government had recommended to the Government of India? Will the Government hold talks with Nepal to safeguard the interests of India regarding Bagmati Irrigation Project and other rivers?

**SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the hon. Member was in the Ministry of External Affairs he took initiative and we were greatly benefited by it. We

will continue that initiative and follow it up.

**SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the projects that have been mentioned by the hon. Minister, namely, Kosi Kamla, Bagmati, Mahananda, Pancheswari and Karnali and those on Indo-Nepal border and also those near Sitamarhi, Darbhanga and the twelve blocks of Madhubani district are badly affected by Adhwara river network projects which include thirteen rivers, namely, Adhwara, Jamura, Khiroi, Jhim, Rato, Marha, Hardi, Dhaunsh, Sanghi, Kokra, Budhnad, Lakhanda, and Old Adhwara. Will the Minister state whether the Government would hold negotiations with the Nepalese Government for working on all the projects including Adhwara group project. Nepal is the origin of thirteen rivers, these rivers originate from the Himalayas from Ram Nagar Ramaya, will the negotiations be held with Nepal to consider the construction of a multi-purpose dam at that place..?

**SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, all the rivers originating from Nepal flow into India and provide water to the entire country. As the hon. Member has said, most of the rivers flow into Bihar. We had discussed this issue earlier also and as per the discussion we had today the question of all the rivers was taken up and the details of those rivers, in respect of which substantial progress has been made, were also given. Discussions on other issues are under way and it will be our effort that an early progress is made.

**SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that it is a question of life and death for the ten crore people residing in the border areas of Nepal and India. Is the Government aware of the fact that a special study team visited Nepal on 17th January, 1991 in connection with Kosi Bagmati, Kamla, Pancheswari, Karnali and Adhwara projects, which

have been discussed here and it has submitted its report in favour of setting up a Water Commission. Does the Government propose to set up a high level committee in connection with setting up of a Water Commission and construction of hydel dam and other projects and initiate Indo-Nepal talks in order to implement these projects immediately.

**SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has very rightly pointed out that the happiness and sorrow of the crores of people of the North Bihar largely depend on these rivers because in the event of floods in these rivers their fields are submerged and their life is affected, they face immense hardships and losses every year. Hence this issue has been discussed at all levels including technical and political levels and as I have already said, in order to expedite the same we will take political initiative so that this work may progress as early as possible (*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

**Security Cover for Tourists Visiting Kashmir**

+  
\*83 **SHRI M. V CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY:**  
**SHRI V SREENIVASA PRASAD.**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the militants in Kashmir kidnapped and opened fire on a group of foreign-tourists at Dal Lake recently:

(b) if so, the details of the casualties in the incident:

(c) whether the Government propose to probe into the incident; and

(d) the steps taken to provide security to tourists visiting Kashmir?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB):** (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

**STATEMENT**

(a) Eight foreign tourists were abducted from a house boat in the Dal Lake on 26th June, 1991.

(b) One abducted Israeli snatched one AK-56 rifle from one of the terrorists. In the consequent shoot-out, one Israeli tourist was killed and three were injured, while two terrorists are also reported to have been killed and one injured.

(c) The criminal case is under investigation.

(d) Security to tourists is a part of the overall efforts of the Administration to contain terrorism and bring back normalcy in the Valley. The Government of Jammu & Kashmir has identified vulnerable pockets and active gangs for gearing up anti-terrorist operations, organising Nuka ambushes and effective deployment of para military forces in the affected/sensitive pockets. Day and night patrolling in vulnerable areas, raids on hideouts of terrorists have been intensified. Many top leaders of the terrorist outfits have been detained and a large quantity of arms and ammunition have been seized. Intelligence has also been strengthened

**SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the attack on foreign tourists is the first incident of this kind since the eruption of militancy in Kashmir in 1988 and also in view of the Centre's role in Kashmir, I want to know from the hon. Minister in this regard whether the Government is prepared to create a Special Task Force to give security cover to the foreign tourists.

**THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN):** The hon. Member may read Para 'd' of the reply. The reply is very clear. This is the part of the overall security arrangement and we cannot make special security arrangement for the tourists.

**SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY:** I am asking you whether it can be done only in respect of the tourists.

**SHRI S. B. CHAVAN:** That is the reply.

**SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY:** What about the action taken in this regard? I want a specific reply whether you are creating Special Task Force to give security cover to the foreign tourists. You say 'Yes' or 'No.'

**SHRI S. B. CHAVAN:** No.

**SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the growing militancy in the Valley, whether the Government is aware of the existence of training camps in occupied areas and also whether it is a fact that some people were taken over by the Pakistan Army to their Intelligence Service. If so, what steps the Government had taken so far in this regard?

**SHRI S. B. CHAVAN:** Sir, what the hon. Member is saying is a fact that the Pakistan Army is training some people who are forcibly taken out of Jammu and Kashmir, sometimes with their consent and sometimes even without their consent. They are training them, they are financing them; they are recruiting them knowing full well that we have taken up this matter at the diplomatic level. The Prime Minister of Pakistan made a public statement that he will not try to encourage any kind of terrorism in India. But, in spite of that, I do think that it has an impact on the terrorist activities in Jammu & Kashmir.

**SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:** It is a fact that there is an upsurge of militant activities in Kashmir. The militants are targetting foreign tourists to embarrass our country abroad. This will affect tourism in other parts of the country also. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is a proposal to ban or regulate entry of foreigners into Kashmir to reduce such incidents and avoid adverse publicity abroad.

**SHRI S. B. CHAVAN:** It is a fact that there has been a lot of propaganda going on that the human rights are not preserved in Jammu & Kashmir. In fact, we would like to encourage a number of not only tourists but even journalists also going over to Jammu & Kashmir so that they could see things for themselves; if possible, let them also publish their independent opinions.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI RATILAL VARMA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to when they are going to restore normalcy in Kashmir because the tourists do not visit Kashmir due to atmosphere of terrorism. The valley is known as heaven on earth as well as the crown of Mother India. But the conditions are not normal there; so again I ask him as to when the conditions would be normalized there.

**SHRI S. B. CHAVAN:** Hon. Member I could not understand the first part of your question, please repeat the same. . . (*Interruptions*).

**MR. SPEAKER:** He has asked as to when the tourists would be able to go there.

**SHRI S. B. CHAVAN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a fact that the terrorists' activities have adversely affected the main business i.e. tourist business and all the economy of the valley is based on this business. To bring it on the track, efforts are being made at

diplomatic level. Simultaneously, we are making raids on different places such as terrorist hide-outs and other places wherever it is necessary. We are keeping a close watch on the border also in order to lessen the intensity of terrorist activities. We grant acquittal whenever it is necessary

[English]

**SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV:** I am sure, this must have come to the notice of the Minister that even the European Parliament has to pass a resolution in this regard. They made an appeal also to the terrorists to release people who were kidnapped and kept in bondage. When the Israeli group was touring, one person was killed and others were taken into custody at Dal Lake. At least in a well known place like Dal Lake, which is in the heart of Srinagar City, which is an attraction for the tourists, national as well as international, the Minister should take necessary action—this is an important tourist spot—so that such incident should not happen in future. Otherwise, your approach to Embassies to increase tourism will have no meaning, if tourists feel insecure in the heart of the city. Will you take special measures at least to provide security at such places?

**SHRI S. B. CHAVAN:** I am in full agreement with the hon. Member. But at the same time while all efforts are being made, still the infiltrators have entered this area in such a big way that it is becoming rather difficult to tackle the situation and that is why we are trying to ease the conditions in that area so that a large number of tourists are attracted. Actually these people had been abducted and unfortunately for them from their passports they could get the information that they were Israelis; after it was known fully well that they were Israelis the situation accentuated further. Thereafter, I do not think that even the terrorists themselves were interested in kidnapping all the tourists from that area but after their coming to know that they were Israelis it took a different turn altogether.

**SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISSHAN:** Has the Minister's attention been drawn to some other news items, that in view of the extraordinary situation prevailing in Jammu and Kashmir and particularly in the Valley, it has attracted the attention of various international secret agencies and also that there has been a sudden unexplainable spurt in the visits of Israelis themselves to the Valley one of whom was involved in the incident, and has this aspect of security been gone into by our security agencies?

**SHRI S. B. CHAVAN:** For the first part of the question, the situation prevailing in Kashmir is known to all the international intelligence agencies and there is no denying the fact. But for the other part, we ourselves are trying to examine the implications of what result it will have on the entire situation as it is prevailing there.

**SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS:** I would like to know from the hon. Minister what are the steps that have been taken to strengthen our border areas and have some areas been properly identified to check infiltration? Effective steps should be taken to prevent the militants from entering our country and also to see that powerful and sophisticated weapons are not brought in because otherwise Kashmir being a big tourist attraction, the presence of the militants will have a very bad effect on the tourists coming there.

**SHRI S. B. CHAVAN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in fact the Government is making all out efforts to see that they are not able to cross the border. But in spite of that, I cannot deny the fact, that a large number of people have been coming from different areas and if they have already infiltrated I cannot deny it.

[Translation]

**SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, all the measures taken by the Government to control the terrorists in the Kashmir

valley, have failed. Now, I would like to know whether there is any plan either to bombard or to remove the training camp set up close to our border in Kashmir?

**SHRI S B CHAVAN** We have already banned their organisation and it is obvious that they are trained across the border. There is no proposal to bombard that camp.

**SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA** The Home Minister of the Government of India in his reply has stated that they are facing a lot of difficulties in checking the terrorism because a number of terrorist groups have infiltrated into Kashmir.

**MR SPEAKER** Please put your question as there are many members in the queue.

**SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA** It is a matter of despair for the country if its Home Minister expresses his helplessness over the entry of terrorists into Kashmir. I want to know from you whether you will assure the country that you will drive the terrorists out from Jammu and Kashmir within a definite time-frame?

[English]

**MR SPEAKER** I am not allowing this question. It was already asked.

[Translation]

**SHRI RAM NAIK** It is considered inviting trouble by the foreign tourists to go there. They will not like to visit the valley unless the Indian tourists start going there and the domestic tourists will not go there until and unless the migrant local citizens, who have come to Delhi or gone to other places in the country, return to their own native place. So, what steps are being taken by the Government in order to bring back those to Kashmir, who have migrated elsewhere from there and to restore normalcy there?

**SHRI S B CHAVAN** I am agree with the hon Members that it is the Government's responsibility to make an earnest effort to bring back and rehabilitate those in their native places, who have migrated to Delhi or elsewhere after leaving Jammu and Kashmir, especially those who have come to Jammu and elsewhere from the Valley. Your suggestion in this regard would be considered properly. Do not worry. I would like to tell you that they do not want to go back to the Valley. Despite the incident that took place with the Israeli tourists there several journalists as well as others have gone there to collect information and details about the incident, because the propaganda is being carried on that human rights are being trampled and people are being massacred there and this sort of propaganda is being carried on by some interested Agencies on a large scale. We have provided full security to the journalists etc., who went there to gather information regarding this matter. There is no problem in regard to

**SHRI RAM NAIK** Would the hon Home Minister rehabilitate the displaced persons there?

**SHRI S B CHAVAN** This is true that a man after having a fear psychosis takes every step very cautiously even if he is provided full security. We wish that they should go back as early as possible. Efforts are being made to create such an atmosphere.

[English]

**SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH** It is disturbing that more than one hundred Israeli students were in a disturbed area like Kashmir. It is more disturbing that they were not ordinary tourists and they were highly trained in handling sophisticated weapons which the terrorist had and also they could untie themselves when their hands were tied. What were the tourists, from a country with whom we do not have diplomatic relations, doing at that period of time? And did

they have any connection with the secret service agency?

**SHRI S. B. CHAVAN:** The number which the hon. Member has given is not correct. They form a part of the party which had gone purely for tourist purposes. The Government does not have any other information. But it is a fact that the Israeli gentlemen showed exemplary courage by snatching the gun from the terrorists and killed two of them

**SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH:** Sir, my question has not been answered. Would the hon. Minister explore the possibility of involvement of any Israeli secret service agency in this incident?

**SHRI S. B. CHAVAN:** No please

[*Translation*]

**SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think it futile to discuss about Tourism in Kashmir until the Government succeeds in restoring normalcy there. For the last 25 days, we have been reading in newspapers about certain steps taken by the Government in order to restore normalcy in Kashmir at political level. In this context, it is being said that Dr. Farooq Abdullah went to Srinagar and stayed there for three days. After his return, some more talks were held. In this context, he invited the Prime Minister and others to his house for a dinner and discussed this issue. As it is said that some concrete steps have been taken in order to resolve the Kashmir problem. So, I would like to know the concrete steps taken by the Government during the last 25 days to restore normalcy there so that the economy of Kashmir may be brought back on the track.

[*English*]

**SHRI S. B. CHAVAN:** This question will have to be tackled on both the levels. One is to take stringent measures against the terrorists who are involved. Do not allow them to cross. If they are able to cross, ne-

cessary action should be taken to find out where their hide-outs are and raid them. That is one part of it. Another will be to start the political dialogue. Whether it is Farooq Abdullah or anybody else, certainly the political discussion will have to be started. I think, the hon. Member himself had done the same thing when he was Incharge of Kashmir Affairs.

**SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:** Will it have to be started or have you started it after assuming the office?

**SHRI S. B. CHAVAN:** It has been started already.

#### Sharing of Yamuna Waters

**SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state.

(a) whether the issue regarding sharing of Yamuna waters amongst the concerned States was considered in a meeting of the Standing Committee on inter-State issues in Water Resources held in September, 1990.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government recently held discussions with the representatives of the concerned States on this regard, and

(d) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA):** (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House

#### STATEMENT

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It was decided in the meeting of the Standing Committee that the Chairman, Central Water Commission would convene meetings with the representatives of Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh,



Rajasthan Haryana and the Union Territory of Delhi to imalise the figures of their committed utilisation of Yamuna waters, that the Minister of Water Resources would thereafter hold discussions separately with the Chief Ministers and that the matter would be brought up again before the Standing Committee with a view to arrive at a consensus on the allocation of Yamuna Waters.

(c) and (d) In pursuance of the decision taken in the Standing Committee the Chairman Central Water Commission had discussions first separately and then jointly with the representatives of the States. No consensus however could be reached on the figures of committed utilisation and it was agreed that the Chairman Central Water Commission may submit his report to the Ministry on the basis of these discussions with the States. His report was received three days ago.

[Translation]

**SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHAR-GAVA** Mr Speaker Sir through you I would like to submit that 46 per cent land out of 60 per cent land of the Rajasthan State constitutes desert area and it is spread over 11 districts of the State. The 5 per cent of the India's population reside in the State but the whole State of Rajasthan has been getting only one per cent water. There are neither perennial rivers in the State nor any other resource of water. There is always insufficient rain and the situation of drought in the State is very common. Hence even drinking water is not available there and we have to depend on the neighbouring States for that. So I want to know from the Minister of Water Resources whether a technical committee was set up under the supervision of the Central Water Commission if so in which year? My another question

**MR SPEAKER** You can ask only one question.

**SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHAR-GAVA** My second question is as to

how many times and when the meetings were held between the State Chief Ministers and the authorities of the Union Ministry of Water Resources and when the meeting was held to discuss the shortage of water in Rajasthan? And my third question is whether reports of each meeting held with the States have been sent to the Central Water Commission?

**MR SPEAKER** It is not the way to put questions. You can ask like this whether the report has been received or not. It is the important part.

**SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHAR-GAVA** All right I put my question like this.

**SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA** Mr Speaker Sir this is true that there is acute shortage of drinking and water for irrigation in Rajasthan. So Rajasthan also had been included in the discussion regarding the division of water of the Yamuna. I would like to say that many other committees also have been constituted besides the one mentioned by the hon. Member and discussions have been continued in this regard. Keeping in view the geographic condition of Rajasthan more water from Yamuna cannot be provided to Rajasthan unlike other States such as Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh. Therefore we are trying our best to give maximum water to Rajasthan with the consent of other States. But unless the States which have a natural right on this water are themselves prepared for this we cannot give this water on the terms put forward by the hon. Member and in the quantity they desire. I may give full details of the efforts we have made and the meetings that have been held in this regard. If you kindly allow I may read it out or lay it on the table if you so direct.

**MR SPEAKER** Please lay it on the Table if it is lengthy.

**SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHAR-GAVA** Mr Speaker Sir I would like to submit that this matter should

not be made complicated by referring it to a committee because it is the question of water and it concerns the whole State which is completely a desert and where only one per cent water is available. He has stated in his reply "no consensus, however, could be reached on the figures of committed utilisation and it was agreed that the Chairman, Central Water Commission may submit his report to the Ministry on the basis of these discussions with the States. His report was received three days ago."

I would like to ask a specific question from the hon. Minister. There has been no rain in Rajasthan so far this year. No river flows through the State. The entire State is experiencing severe drought. There is no doubt about the fact that the State is very rich in mineral resources. Please say this much only as to the time by which you will be able to take a final decision in this regard. Will it take so much time that three Lok Sabha elections may be over or it will be done in three years. Please give a specific date. However, I would like to tell you that if this request is not conceded, I, along with other hon. Members of the State, would launch a hungerstrike and hold demonstration against the Government.

**SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:**  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have deep sympathy with the hon. Member and the people of Rajasthan. The difficulties, which he has narrated, are genuine and there is no exaggeration at all. He has depicted a correct picture. If the hon. Member wants me to fix an exact time or specific date for this, then he should first obtain the consent of the Government of his own State and other State Governments which are concerned with Yamuna waters. Please let them give me an assurance that whatever decision I take, they will abide by it. *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the whole State of Rajasthan is experiencing drought. All of us, irrespective of our

party affiliation, are very much distressed over it. At least please take steps to supply water at the appropriate time. *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

**SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK:** Sir, Haryana is a concerned State. There is a great difficulty faced by the farmers of Haryana. We have not been able to get the share of the water of SYL canal since 1955 and there is a great difficulty about the water of Yamuna also, as we are not getting our share. So, I want to know from the hon. Minister what is the share of Haryana in the Yamuna river water. We have a share, which we are not getting. Then, is there any deadline fixed by the Government for the completion of this project so that we can get our share?

*[Translation]*

**SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:**  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, an agreement in this regard had been signed in 1954 before Haryana came into existence. Under the agreement Haryana gets considerable quantity of water from the Yamuna today. So far as the question of fixing a time frame for arranging a new agreement in this connection is concerned, there are conflicting claims from the concerned States and it is very difficult to meet them. These demands cannot be considered because they are four times more than their actual requirements and there is no consensus among the States over it. So, we are making our efforts to bring about an agreement among them over this issue. As soon as we succeed in our efforts, we shall distribute water among the States accordingly.

**SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:**  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is acute shortage of water in Delhi because it is not getting its due share of water from Yamuna Canal from Haryana these days. I had made a submission in this regard. Total expenditure made on the construction of this canal was borne by Delhi but it is fully managed by the Haryana Government. So,

they supply water to Delhi according to their will. They supply water when they wish and stop supply in the same manner leaving Delhiites to die of thirst. Now a stage has come when the Bhakra-Beas Management Board has recommended that water should be supplied to Delhi but Haryana is not complying with that. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether a Yamuna Management Authority comprising of a representative from Delhi would be constituted so that the Delhiites may not have to be on the mercy of Haryana for getting their due share of water. Hence, Delhi must have its representative in the said Canal Authority. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the steps he is going to take in this regard so that Delhi could be saved from drought.

MR. SPEAKER: Please state whether there is any such scheme?

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: The statement of the hon. Member that Delhi is on the mercy of Haryana for supply of water is not correct. It tantamounts to an allegation that Haryana is not supplying water to Delhi. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: In regard to the question of supply of water to Delhi raised by the hon. member, I may tell him that I have talked to the Chief Minister of Haryana in this connection. But it is not correct to say that Haryana does not supply water to Delhi. *(Interruptions)* Please listen to the whole thing first. We get water from there, but not according to our requirement. I had requested him to increase the quantity of water a little more so that water could be supplied to Delhi in accordance with their requirement. The hon. Member's suggestion of constituting a River Valley Authority is very good and we would like to take further steps in this direction.

SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, just like the plea made by the hon. Member from Rajasthan that his State should

be given water from Yamuna, Haryana too requires water both for drinking as well as agriculture purposes. It too depends on the Yamuna for water. Some time back there was the Kisau Dam Scheme involving the States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. There was a proposal that the water of Yamuna which goes waste during the rainy season would be stored through Kisau Dam so as to utilise the same at the time of need. May I know the stage at which this scheme is pending?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I held discussions with the Chief Minister of Haryana on a number of issues including that of 'Kisau Dam' but no agreement could be arrived at in respect of this dam.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the hon. Minister stated in his reply to parts (a) and (b) of the question, it was decided to convene a meeting of the representatives of the States in this regard. But no consensus could be reached on the figures of committed utilisation. I would like to know the points on which a consensus could not be reached. Due to this we people have been clamouring for water for the last several years. Please let us know as to the time by which a consensus could be reached at the Cabinet level in this regard?

MR. SPEAKER: He has already said that nothing can be said with certainty about the time...

*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He says what were the points on which agreement was required.

[Translation]

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: The main reason of not reaching an

agreement on this issue is that there is a big difference between the figures of committed utilisation and non-committed utilisation. Unless we solve this issue through a consensus, no such agreement, as the hon. Member wants, is possible. For this we will take political initiative and solve it at the political level.

**SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUER:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, we want to know the time by which a consensus could be reached on it and the time by (*Interruptions*) which you will be able to finalise it.

**MR. SPEAKER:** He has already said that nothing can be said about time.

**SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Government has stalled the implementation of the all decisions regarding distribution of water of the Yamuna river under pressure from Bangladesh. I would like to know about the present position of the proposal of constructing Panchanad Dam that was submitted by the Uttar Pradesh Government to the Central Government. I want to know whether Government of India has approved this proposal or not? If not, what are the reasons therefor?

**SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member should take pride that the Central Government does not do anything under anybody's pressure. Reply in respect of the project, he has mentioned, has already been given. All these issues have been discussed but for want of a consensus no progress could yet be made in regard thereto.

[*English*]

**SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:** Sir, the hon. Minister has said in his reply that the report was

received three days ago. In the situation in Rajasthan existing now, we cannot afford it to be delayed in the manner that he has suggested. Why does he not lay the Report on the Table of the House so that we can all see it and why does he not make some kind of commitment on it? It cannot be delayed in this manner.

**SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA:** I agree with the hon. Member that we cannot delay it, but the delay is not being caused by our inaction. It is being caused by the various conflicting claims of the States and by absence of an agreement by them. We are trying our best to see that an agreement is reached, and as soon as we are able to get the agreement, we shall make progress in this matter.

(*Interruptions*)

**MR. SPEAKER:** Shri Ayub Khan.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI AYUB KHAN:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to tell the hon. Minister that as there is an acute water-crisis in Rajasthan today and the Rajasthan Government has sought approval from the Central Government regarding many water resources schemes such as the Yamuna-Ganga water scheme, the Thein Dam Scheme and Indira Gandhi Scheme, so, I want to know the time by which Central Government will give its clearance to the Rajasthan Government for these schemes? Will an immediate decision be taken in this regard? (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

**MR. SPEAKER:** Question Hour is over.

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

[English]

**Athreya Committee report on telecom Restructuring;**

\*85. **SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have examined the Athreya Committee Report on Telecom restructuring; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon, particularly on the winding up of the MTNL set-up?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT):**

(a) and (b) The Athreya Committee Report on organisational structure for management of telecom services is

(a)	(i)	128P C-DOT RAX	1500
	(ii)	512P C-DOT	34
(b)	(i)	128P C-DOT RAX	- 1913
	(ii)	512P C-DOT	4

(c) (i) There was no shortfall in case of 128 Port C-DOT RAX.

(ii) The shortfall in the case of 512 Port was due to the fact that finalisation of design and know-how transfer took more time than anticipated. Regular supplies will commence in 1991-92.

[English]

**Terrorists killed in Assam, J&K and Punjab**

\*87 **SHRI RAMESH CHENNI-THALA**

**SHRI BHAGEY GOBAR-DHAN:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the number of terrorists killed, detained and arrested in various encounters in Assam, Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab during the last six months

under examination of the Government for taking appropriate decision on the various recommendations.

[Translation]

**Setting up of C-DOT telephone exchanges**

\*86 **SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the target for the C-DOT Exchanges to be set up in the country during April, 1990 to March, 1991;

(b) the number of such exchanges which have started functioning; and

(c) whether there has been shortfall in the target and if so, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT):**

b) the quantity of arms and ammunition recovered from them; and

(c) the details of steps taken to arrest the deteriorating law and order situation in those States?

**THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN):**

(a) and (b) In Assam, 18 terrorists have been killed and 12 arrested in various encounters upto the 30th June in the current year. Besides, 4419 suspected terrorists were also taken into custody during the said period. 18 arms and 111 pieces of ammunition of various types were recovered from the terrorists killed/arrested.

During the period upto the 30th June in the current year, a total of 972 terrorists were killed and 1121 arrested in Punjab. 1863 arms and 39,044 rounds of ammunition were recovered from them during the said period.

In J&K, 296 terrorists were killed and 1667 were arrested upto the 30th June in the current year. 2207 arms have been recovered during the said period.

(c) The Chief Minister, Assam has called upon the ULFA to give up arms and come to the negotiating table and has given some concessions to the ULFA detenus. Steps taken in Kashmir include identification of vulnerable pockets, deployment of security forces in affected pockets, intensifying night patrolling, raids on hide-outs of terrorists, action against middlemen etc. In Punjab, steps to provide increased security to threatened persons, protection to railways, banks, buses, newspaper, offices and other vulnerable points have been taken. Special police pickets in sensitive villages have been established, strength of para-military forces placed at the disposal of the State have been increased.

#### **Sanctions against South Africa to end apartheid**

\*88. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to urge the international community not to relax sanctions to hasten the process of dismantling of apartheid by the South African Government;

(b) whether the Government propose to send any goodwill delegation to South Africa in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI):** (a) A Statement is given below.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **STATEMENT**

India is one of the members of the Commonwealth Committee of Foreign Ministers on Southern Africa (CCFMSA) which met in London on February 16, 1991. At this meeting, India took a leading role in urging against any relaxation of sanctions at this juncture. India is also the Chairman of the AFRICA Fund Committee. At the Eighth Senior Officials Meeting of the AFRICA Fund in Kuala Lumpur in May 1991, it was decided that international pressure must continue against the apartheid regime and that additional contributions should be mobilised for the AFRICA Fund.

India has also been in the forefront in other international fora in urging the international community to maintain pressure on the Pretoria Government by way of sanctions and other measures. These measures have yielded positive results as is evident from the reforms initiated by the South African Government since last year. Most recently, in June, this year, the South African Government repealed the Group Areas Act, the Land Acts and the Population Registration Act, thus bringing to an end all apartheid legislation on South African statute books.

#### **Centre-State relations**

\*89. SHRI LOKANATH CHAUDHURY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to restructure the Centre-State relations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be finalised?

**THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN):**

(a) to (c) The Centre-State relations are governed by the provisions of the Constitution. The (Sarkaria) Commission on Centre-State Relations which was set up by the Government in June 1983 to study the working of the existing arrangements between the Union and the States was of the view that the working of the Constitution since its inception, demonstrated that its fundamental scheme and provisions have withstood reasonably well the test of time. In the Commission's view "it is neither advisable nor necessary to make any drastic changes in the basic character of the Constitution". It is felt that the Centre-State relations are evolutionary in nature and provisions of the Constitution governing them have to be under constant review. The Constitution has been amended a number of times to adjust its working to the changing situations

**Over charging of Telephone Bills**

\*90 SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES. Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints from telephone subscribers including Members of Parliament regarding over charging of telephone bills including charges on telephones that have been completely out of use;

(b) if so, the reasons for such inflated bills, and

(c) the remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILLAI):**

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) It is found that genuine complaints are normally on account of:

(a) clerical errors in the recording and transcription of meter readings and in calculation and preparation of bills;

(b) technical faults in the registration of calls, especially in case of electro-mechanical exchanges and

(c) faulty circuit connections and cross connections.

(c) The remedial measures proposed and already under implementation are phasing out of old telephone exchanges, computerisation of telephone billing, continuous monitoring of exchange equipment and external plant and precautions against unauthorised use

**Cotton cultivation**

\*91 SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the area under cotton cultivation in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Union Government to bring more area under cotton cultivation?

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR):**

(a) The area under cotton in nine major producing states of the country during 1989-90 is given as below:—

(<sup>000</sup> hectares)

<i>State</i>	<i>Area</i>
Punjab	732.0
Haryana	468.0
Rajasthan	434.2
Gujarat	837.2
Maharashtra	2635.5
Madhya Pradesh	574.1
Andhra Pradesh	657.0
Tamilnadu	267.5
Karnataka	681.7
Others	43.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>7330.8</b>

(b) Apart from assuring remunerative prices for cotton, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme—Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) is under implementation in the nine major cotton growing States for increasing its area, production and productivity.

#### **Atrocities on women**

\*92. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of atrocities on women including bride-burning, rape and girl infanticide reported in the country during the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to curb such cases?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B CHAVAN):

(a) The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes including those against women are the responsibility of the State Governments. Available information showing the number of cases of atrocities on women including bride-burning etc. registered during the years 1988, 1989 and 1990 is given in the Statement below. Statistics on girls in-

fanticide are not separately collected and compiled by the Central agencies.

(b) Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 has been amended to make the provisions more stringent and effective. The Indian Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 have been amended by the Criminal Law (Second Amendment) Act, 1983 to deal effectively not only with dowry death cases but also with cases of cruelty to married women.

According to standing instructions investigation in a dowry death case is to be done by an officer not below the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police, the postmortem is to be done by a team of two doctors and disposal of the body is not to be allowed without post-mortem.

Instructions have been issued to State Governments from time to time to take effective action for prevention and detection of crimes against women.

The Department of Women & Child Development have also taken measures for removal of flaws in existing legislation pertaining to women, setting up of a National Commission on Women and assistance to organisations involved in the uplift of women.

#### **STATEMENT**

*Number of cases registered in the Country under Crimes against Women during the years 1988 to 1990*

S. No.	Crime Head	Cases Registered During		
		1988	1989	1990
1	2	3	4	5
1	Rape . . . . .	8706	9150	9517
2	Molestation . . . . .	17836	20497	20186
3	Kidnapping & Abduction of Women & Girls . . . . .	9633	11673	11689
4	Eye-Teasing . . . . .	10109	9934	8620



1	2	3	4	5
5 Dowry Suicide by Burning . . . .		518	477	633
6 Dowry Suicide by other means . . . .		777	787	846
7 Dowry murder by burning . . . .		418	418	398
8 Dowry murder by other means . . . .		496	621	480
9 Death U/s 304-B IPC by burning . . . .		NA	774	950
10 Death U/s 304-B IPC by other means . . . .		NA	1138	1528

NOTE: (1) "NA" stands for Not Available.

(2) Total of 1988 is not comparable with 1989 & 1990 since data on items 9 & 10 are not available for 1988.

(3) Figures are based on monthly crime statistics received from States & UTs and may be treated as provisional.

**Indian construction companies in Iraq**

\*93 DR. AMRIT LAL KALI  
DAS PATEL.

SHRI SHANKERJI  
VAGHELA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount due from the Government of Iraq to Indian construction companies for projects undertaken in Iraq or the amount held up in Iraq, as a result of the Gulf War.

(b) the amount due to public sector undertakings separately.

(c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with the Government of Iraq.

(d) if so, the reaction of Iraq thereto;

(e) whether some Indian companies are still engaged in projects in Iraq; and

(f) if so, their names and estimated value of the projects undertaken respectively?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) According to information available, as on December 31, 1990, the amount owed by Iraq

to Indian construction companies for their projects in Iraq was US\$ 577.02 million

(b) The amount due to public sector undertakings is US\$ 229.50 million including US\$ 32.50 million payable to public sector banks.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Iraq has offered to supply crude oil so that the proceeds can be adjusted towards payment due to Indian companies. Such exports would be subject to clearance by the Security Council Sanctions Committee and no clearance has been given so far.

(e) No, Sir

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Out of turn telephone connections**

94. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of telephone connections have been sanctioned during the last six months on the orders of Ministers/Higher Officers;

(b) the average number of telephone connections being sanctioned generally, on 'out of turn' basis in a year;

(c) the number of telephone connections sanctioned on 'out of turn' basis during the last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether any irregularities have been noticed in sanctioning such telephone connections; and

(e) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT):

(a) Yes, Sir, over 21,500 sanctions for

out of turn provision of telephones were issued at the discretion of the then Minister of State and Deputy Minister for Communications during the period December 1990 to May 1991.

(b) and (c) Out of turn telephone connections are sanctioned under discretionary powers of the Government. Figures in respect of last three years are given in the Statement below.

(d) and (e) Irregularities have been noticed by the field units in some of the sanction orders received by them. An inquiry by the Vigilance Branch has been ordered in the matter.

### STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of Telephone connections sanctioned during		
		July 1988 to June 1989	July 1989 to June 1990	July 1990 to June 1991
1	Assam . . . . .	191	85	96
2	Andhra Pradesh . . . . .	384	493	602
3	Bihar . . . . .	33	43	388
4	Gujarat . . . . .	60	71	374
5	Haryana . . . . .	289	289	1562
6	Himachal Pradesh . . . . .	42	24	41
7	Jammu & Kashmir . . . . .	96	68	112
8	Karnataka . . . . .	168	67	701
9	Kerala . . . . .	108	778	371
10	Madhya Pradesh . . . . .	208	196	614
11	Maharashtra . . . . .	857	745	787
12	N.E. Circle* . . . . .	70	62	69
13	Orissa . . . . .	445	405	99
14	Punjab . . . . .	449	448	648
15	Rajasthan . . . . .	567	313	1023
16	Tamil Nadu . . . . .	313	449	548
17	Uttar Pradesh . . . . .	3200	1042	4651
18	West Bengal . . . . .	208	213	331
19	M.T.N.L., Bombay . . . . .	788	342	1089
20	M.T.N.L., New Delhi . . . . .	6818	7628	13491
Total . . . . .		15126	13761	27597

\*N.E. Circle includes States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Tripura, Meghalaya and Nagaland.

[English]

**Indo-Pak Talks**

\*95. SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV:

SHRI PRAKASH BABU VASANTRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the recent Indo-Pak talks held on bilateral issues relating to peace, co-operation and friendship treaty, no-war pact and visa facilities to the citizens of both the countries;

(b) whether there is any proposal to have ministerial level talks in the near future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI). (a) While the question of a treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation or a no-war pact have not figured in recent bilateral talks between India and Pakistan, discussions on a full implementation of the bilateral visa agreement are continuing.

(b) No, Sir

(c) Does not arise

**Outcome of official level meet of SAARC at Maldives**

\*96. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the SAARC Standing Committee of Foreign Secretaries Meet at Maldives,

(b) whether any decision has been taken on the acceptance of foreign funds for regional development:

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the efforts made towards regional understanding through SAARC forum?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) An important outcome of the 14th Session of the SAARC Standing Committee at Male was the recommendation to set up a high-level Committee for Economic Cooperation. This should bring the core areas of trade, manufactures, finance and services within the scope of regional cooperation under SAARC for the first time. Another significant recommendation was the setting up of a Technical Committee for Tourism. Both recommendations were accepted by the 9th Session of the Council of Ministers who met immediately after the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee also performed its functions of monitoring and coordination of on-going programmes and budgetary matters.

(b) No, Sir

(c) Does not arise.

(d) SAARC has worked steadily towards increasing regional cooperation and thereby promoting understanding. Its activities have largely centered on technical cooperation through the Integrated Programme of Action, involving training, seminars and workshops and preparation of reports & directories. This has covered diverse areas such as agriculture, meteorology, postal services and tourism. At the Bangalore Summit in 1986, a new dimension involving people to people contact was introduced. The SAARC Audio Visual Exchange Programme was one of the products of this initiative. SAARC is now set to enter into the core areas of regional economic cooperation, involving trade, manufactures, finance and services.

**Krishi Vigyan Kendras**

\*97. SHRI SOBHANA DRESWARA RAO VADDE:

SHRI RUDRASEN CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras functioning in the country;

(b) the recommendations made by the National Commission on Agriculture with regard to establishment of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the country;

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to implement those recommendations; and

(d) the number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras proposed to be opened during the current year in each State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR).  
(a) Sir, 109 Krishi Vigyan Kendras are functioning in the country.

(b) The National Commission on Agriculture, in its report submitted in 1976, recommended that by 1985 each district should have atleast one KVK.

(c) Krishi Vigyan Kendras are being opened in various districts. At present, 107 districts have KVKs.

(d) A decision is yet to be taken in this regard.

[*Translation*]

**Political process in Punjab and J&K**

\*98. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to revive political process in Kashmir and Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any scheme has been drawn up for providing adequate security arrangements so as to enable elections being held in Punjab; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN):

(a) and (b) Government is committed to start the democratic process in Punjab at the earliest. In Kashmir also, taking into account encouraging signals received in the form of surrender of many militants, people's committees will be constituted at different levels to ensure their participation.

(c) and (d) While providing needed security to the candidates, the State Government will be helped to keep effective pressure on the militants and other disruptive forces out to obstruct the electoral process or misuse the law to suit their ends.

[*English*]

**Punpun-Mohrar-Durdha Irrigation Project of Bihar**

\*99. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punpun-Mohrar-Durdha Irrigation Project of Bihar has been pending with the Union Government for a long time.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to be cleared; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to include the project in the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) The project report was received in Central Water Commission in April, 1981. As the State Government could not finalise basic aspects of hydrology,

water management planning and project proposals in accordance with the observations of Central Water Commission, the report had to be returned in June, 1988. The State Government is required to submit a modified project report for fresh techno-economic appraisal.

(c) In the absence of Investment Clearance the project does not find place in the VIII Plan proposals of the State Government.

### Communal Riots

\*100. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of communal riots in various parts of the country during 1990-91 so far, State-wise and Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the specific reasons for occurrence of such riots and the remedial measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b) On the basis of available information, a statement is given below indicating the places where major incidents of communal riots occurred in 1990 and 1991 (upto June).

Public Order being a State subject, the State have to tackle the problems and take remedial measures. The Central Government assists the States in terms of additional force when requested to do so. We have also given some suggestions to the States to curb such developments which tend to vitiate the communal atmosphere in the country. The National Integration Council has been attempting to find ways and means for combatting the evils of communalism.

### STATEMENT

On the basis of available information, the number of incidents of communal riots in various parts of the country during 1990 and 1991 so far, State-wise and Union-Territory-wise; is as under: —

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the place</i>
1	2
<b>1990</b>	
<b>ANDHRA PRADESH :</b>	
1	Hyderabad city
2	Hyderabad city
3	Hyderabad
4	Rangareddy
<b>ASSAM :</b>	
5	Hailakandi
<b>BIHAR :</b>	
6	Barı Gulani (Distt. Nawada)
7	Jamshed pur
8	Patna
9	DELHI
<b>GUJARAT :</b>	
10	Patan (Distt. Mehsana)
11	Anand (Distt. Kheda)
12	Ahmedabad
13	Ahmedabad
14	Baroda
15	Baroda
<b>KARNATAKA :</b>	
16	Ramanagaram
17	Chennapatna (Bangalore rural)
18	Kolar
<b>RAJASTHAN :</b>	
19	Jaipur
20	Jodhpur
<b>MAHARASHTRA :</b>	
21	Bombay

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the place</i>
1	2
<b>TAMIL NADU :</b>	
22	Denkanikottai (Distt. Dharmapuri)
<b>UTTAR PRADESH :</b>	
23	Kanpur
24	Kanpur
25	Bijnore
26	Colonolganj (Distt. Gonda)
27	Etah
28	Aligarh
29	Meerut
30	Agra
31	Jahangirpur (Distt. Bulandshahar)
32	Khurja
<b>1991</b>	
<b>BIHAR :</b>	
1	Jamshedpur
<b>GUJARAT :</b>	
2	Surat
3	Baroda
4	Ankleshwar
<b>ORISSA :</b>	
5	Bhadrak (Balasore)
6	Soro town (Balasore)
<b>MADHYA PRADESH :</b>	
7	Khargone
<b>MAHARASHTRA .</b>	
8	Bombay
<b>UTTAR PRADESH :</b>	
9	Ghaziabad
10	Kanpur
11	Varanasi
12	Sikandrabad (Bulandshahar)
13	Saharanpu
14	Meerut
<b>WEST BENGAL :</b>	
15	Nadia
16	Asansol

[*Translation*]**Central State Farm, Bahraich**

303. SHRI RUDRASEN CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of Central State Farm, Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the total area under cultivation for seed production of various food-grains and the total yield therefrom during 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The total area with the Central State Farm, Bahraich is 3828 hac.

(b) The total area under cultivation for seed production was 1882 hac. during the year 1990-91. The estimated seed production from the Central State Farm, Bahraich, would be to the extent of 26,350 quintals during the year, 1990-91.

[*English*]**International Declaration on Minorities Rights**

304. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the proposed International Declaration on Minorities Rights under drafting by the UN Commission on Human Rights/Sub-Commission;

(b) whether Indian representatives are participating in the drafting exercise;

(c) if so, the names of participants and their period of participation; and

(d) the possible date of completion of the draft for presentation to the ECOSOC/UNGA?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI):** (a) Since 1978, a working group of the UN Commission on Human Rights has been preparing the text of a "Draft Declaration on the Rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities". The second reading of the draft text is presently underway.

(b) and (c) Members of the Indian delegation to the various sessions of the UN Commission on Human Rights during the past 14 years have participated in the drafting exercise.

(d) After the draft declaration is finalised by the working group, it will be submitted for approval to the Commission on Human Rights and thereafter presented to ECOSOC and the UNGA.

#### **Narmada Sagar Project**

305 **SHRI RAM NAIK.** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether attention of the Union Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Narmada Project gets WB credit" appearing in the Times of India dated June 29, 1991.

(b) whether the conditions set by the World Bank with regard to the Narmada Project have been complied with by the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the revised number of persons affected by the project, State-wise, and

(e) the number of such persons in Maharashtra to whom agricultural lands and home plots have been allotted?

**THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA):** (a) Yes, Sir. The news item appeared in Times of India dated 29-6-1991.

(b) and (c) The World Bank had laid down certain conditions regarding resettlement of project affected persons of Sardar Sarovar Project. World Bank Review Mission connected with rehabilitation & resettlement visited India in April-May, 1991 and reviewed the progress made in this connection. The review mission after extensive field tours and discussions with both States and Government of India officials were satisfied with the measures taken by the participating States. The credit has been extended till 1st July, 1992.

(d) The revised number of families affected by submergence of area caused by the Sardar Sarovar Project is at present 30464; of which 4500 are in Gujarat, 2464 in Maharashtra and 23,500 (Tentative) in Madhya Pradesh

(e) 327 families from Maharashtra have been allotted home plots and 325 families have been allotted agricultural land

#### **Opening of Post Offices in Ratnagiri District of Maharashtra**

306 **SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM.** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open more Post Offices in rural areas of Ratnagiri district in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so the number and the names of the places where these Post Offices are likely to be opened?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present three post offices are proposed to be opened at Barchari, Phadye and Gimhavane respectively.

[*Translation*]

**Activities of Infiltrators in J.K.**

307. DR. LAXMI NARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of infiltrators apprehended and killed in Jammu and Kashmir during the last six months;

(b) whether the number of incidents involving infiltrators has increased in Kashmir valley during the last six months;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to curb the activities of infiltrators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (d) A Statement is given below.

**STATEMENT**

The Government of J&K have advised that during the period from 1st January '91 to 30th June '91, 200 infiltrators/exfiltrators were apprehended and 133 were killed on border/LOC.

2. Despite intensified vigil on the borders, it has not been possible to completely stop the infiltration/ex-

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| (a) Uttar Pradesh :    | 12 human lives lost and 2 persons injured during January, 1991.  |
| (b) Himachal Pradesh : | 34 human lives lost, 2085 cattle lost and 4132 houses damaged during January, 1991.  |
| (c) Jammu & Kashmir :  | 23 human lives lost, 5 persons injured, 15,733 houses, 106 house boats and 536 shops damaged during the winter of 1990-91. |

(c) Under the present policy for financing the relief expenditure, a Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) has been constituted for each State with an allocated amount. 75% is contri-

filtration due to difficult mountainous terrain and long border.

3. Besides, stepping up vigil on the border, dusk to dawn curfew has been clamped in the 5 km. belt along the border and line of control, Intelligence set up has been beefed up. Disturbed Areas Act and Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act have been enforced in the border districts and there is better co-ordination between the Army, Para military Forces and the State Police.

**Loss Due to Heavy Snowfall**

308 PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made as to the loss of life and property due to snowfall in Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir during the month of January, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the Central assistance provided to these States so far to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The details of damage reported by the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir due to snowfall are as follows:—

buted by the Central Government as a non-plan grant and balance 25% by the State Government from its own resources. This fund is utilised for financing the relief operations in the



wake of all natural calamities including snowfall. The State Level Committee is empowered to decide on all matters relating to financing of relief expenditure including norms of assistance. The States of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh have an allocation of Rs. 18.00, 12.00 and Rs. 90.00 crores respectively under CRF. The Central Government had released its entire share of CRF for 1990-91 by end of March, 1991. For 1991-92 also Central Government by now has released first two quarterly instalments.

#### Article 370 of the Constitution

309. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to repeal Article 370 of the Constitution; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

310. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) India's stand on Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty;

(b) whether the Government of any other country have approached the Government of India to sign this Treaty; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) India has not signed the Non-proliferation Treaty because that Treaty does not provide for a balance of obligations and responsibilities between the nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear weapon States. Whereas the Treaty has no provisions for imposing non-proliferation obligations on the nuclear-weapon States, it places full scope safeguards and controls on the nuclear programmes of the non-nuclear weapon States. Thus, the Treaty is discriminatory and legitimises the possession of nuclear weapons by nuclear-weapon States.

(b) and (c) Some States have, from time to time, tried to persuade or pressurise us to change our position on the Non-proliferation Treaty; but India's stand on the NPT remains unchanged.

[Translation]

#### Issuance of Arm Licence

311. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any directions have been issued to the State Governments regarding issuance of arms licences;

(b) the norms recommended by the Union Government to the Government of Uttar Pradesh regarding issuance of arms licences;

(c) whether arms licences are being issued to the general public for their security; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (d) Under the provisions of Arms Act, 1959 and the

Arms Rules, 1962, the District Magistrates are competent to issue arms licences for non-prohibited bore weapons for the District or State concerned and the State Governments are competent to issue such licences valid throughout the country. These licences are issued for various purposes including personal security. No instructions in this regard, on the norms to be followed, were issued to the State Governments by the Central Government.

[*English*]

#### **Income-Tax Assessment Order**

312. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the income-tax assessment order is a valid and sufficient document to give bail of persons involved in the violation of sections 107/151 of the Delhi Police Act;

(b) if so, the number of cases in which this document was not honoured during the last one year along with the reasons therefor;

(c) Other papers/documents which are valid for giving bails.

(d) whether there is any proposal to investigate the cases in which the income-tax assessment order was not honoured during the last one year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) It is a valid document for giving bail in preventive proceedings under section 107 and 151 of the Cr P.C.

(b) The Delhi Police have reported that no such document was dishonoured during the last year in the matter of grant of bail in the proceedings under section 107/151 Cr. P.C.

(c) Other documents valid for giving bail include documents relating to deposit receipts, licence of factory/shop, Identity card in case of Government employees, etc.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Flood Assistance to Kerala**

313 SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala Government has sought Central assistance to cope with the damage suffered by the State due to heavy rains leading to floods and sea erosion; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

#### **Indians Evacuated from Gulf Countries**

314 SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Indians evacuated from Kuwait, Iraq and Saudi Arabia separately during the Gulf crisis;

(b) the number of Indian nurses who have since returned to their respective Gulf country after the end of the Gulf crisis;

(c) whether the Government have proposed any assistance for the rehabilitation and the return of these Indians to the Gulf;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government of Kerala have submitted any proposal in this regard;

(f) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(g) whether the Union Government have demanded any compensation for the property and assets left behind by these Indians in Kuwait and other Gulf Countries?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI).** (a) 1,47,839 Indians are estimated to have returned from the Gulf with the assistance of Govt. of India.

(b) Kuwait: Approx. 150

Iraq: None

Saudi Arabia: Not available

(c) and (d) The Government of India have not so far embarked upon any scheme to rehabilitate the repatriated Indians from Gulf Countries. As regards the return of our nationals Government of India has taken up the matter with Government of Kuwait and our people have started going back. In addition, Govt. have also liberalised emigration procedures.

(e) and (f) The Government have received a memorandum from Chief Minister of Kerala referring to, inter alia, the measures for early rehabilitation of the returnees and setting up of a committee and fund for this purpose. These recommendations are under consideration.

(g) According to the relevant UN resolutions, Iraq is liable to pay compensation. The information on claims for compensation from Indian nationals is presently being collected and such information in consolidated manner will be submitted to the UN Compensation Commission. As regards recoverable assets our nationals will be given all possible assistance.

**Shortage of High and Medium Grade Manganese**

315. **SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL:** Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state.

(a) whether some of the Manganese Alloy producers have been forced either to cut down production or shut down furnaces due to shortage of high and medium grade manganese;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for the shortage?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV):** (a) to (c) There was no shortage of manganese alloys required for steel production in the country during 1990-91. Some units of manganese alloy producers, on some occasions, may have faced shortage of manganese ore which could also be as a result of absence of planning, inadequate stocks to take care of fluctuation in ore supplies, etc.

**Telephone Connections in Chandigarh, Manimajra and Panchkula**

316. **SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL.** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of telephone connections provided to Chandigarh, Manimajra and Panchkula;

(b) the number of new lines provided in those places during the last three years; and

(c) the total number of personnel working in the Department at Chandigarh before and after the increase in the number of lines?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) :

(a) Chandigarh	22519
Manimajra	252
Panchkula	2300
(b) Chandigarh	5583
Manimajra	15
Panchkula	1633

(c) Total number of personnel working at Chandigarh before and after the increase in lines is 1104.

[*Translation*]

#### Steel Stockyard at Jodhpur

317. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state.

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government to set up a Steel stockyard at Jodhpur; and

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

[*English*]

#### Rapid Action Force to Quell Communal Riots

318. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have under consideration any proposal to set up a composite rapid action force to quell communal riots; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It will not be in the public interest to disclose its details at this stage.

[*Translation*]

#### Opening of Post Offices in All Gram Panchayats of Saharsa District

319. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to open Post Offices in all the Gram Panchayats of Saharsa district in Bihar;

(b) if so, the number of villages where Post Offices are proposed to be set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) No, Sir. The Government does not contemplate to open post offices in all Gram Panchayats of Saharsa district

(b) It is proposed to open six post offices in villages of Saharsa District during 1991-92.

(c) It is not possible to provide post offices in all the Gram Panchayats as they do not fulfil the norms for opening of Post offices.

[*English*]

#### Talks with Planning Minister of Pakistan

320 DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he met the Planning Minister of Pakistan recently;

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed during the meeting.

(c) whether the issue of abetment of terrorism by Pakistan in Punjab and Kashmir also figured in the talks.

(d) if so, the details thereof and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI)** (a) Yes, Sir

(b) to (e) The meeting was essentially in the nature of a courtesy call and substantive bilateral issues were not discussed

**Expansion of Telephone Exchanges in Maharashtra**

321 **SHRI PRAKASH BAPU VASANTRAO PATIL** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the number of existing telephone exchanges expanded during 1989-90 and 1990-91 in Maharashtra, and

(b) the number of telephone exchanges which are likely to be expanded during 1991-92?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU)** (a) In Maharashtra 210 Telephone Exchanges (61055 Lines) were expanded during 1989-90 and 189 telephone exchanges (43030 Lines) were expanded in 1990-91

(b) 79 Telephone Exchanges (81050 Lines) are proposed to be expanded during 1991-92

**Telephone Exchanges in Maharashtra**

322 **SHRI PRAKASH BAPU VASANTRAO PATIL** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the number of telephone exchanges opened during 1989-90 and 1990-91 in Maharashtra, and

(b) the number of exchanges which are proposed to be opened during 1991-92 there?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU)** (a) The number of new telephone exchanges opened in Maharashtra during 1989-90 and 1990-91 are 94 and 146, respectively

(b) 163 new exchanges are proposed to be opened during 1991-92

**Jute cultivation**

323 **SHRI SYED SHAHABUD DIN** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) the area under jute cultivation during the last three jute years State-wise and year-wise,

(b) the quantity of jute produced during this period State-wise and year wise and

(c) the average market price of standard jute, year wise and the corresponding support price fixed by the Union Government?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)** (a) and (b) Statement giving estimates of area and production of jute during 1988-89 to 1990-91—State wise is given below

(c) The average market prices of jute ID 5 variety at Calcutta (main marketing centre) alongwith Minimum Support Prices during 1988-89 to 1990-91 are given below -

Year	(Rs. per qtl)	
	Minimum Support Prices	Annual Average Market Prices (Calcutta)
1988-89	290 00	462 92
1989-90	325 50	644 58
1990-91	347 50	645 00

## STATEMENT

State	Area (Thousand Hectares)			Production (Thousand Bales of 180 Kgs. each)		
	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91
Assam . . . . .	95.8	94.8	95.5	673.3	794.4	865.9
Bihar . . . . .	137.1	118.0	137.4	1124.0	912.7	1012.4
Meghalaya . . . . .	5.0	4.8	5.0	37.3	34.7	50.5
Nagaland . . . . .	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.7	0.7	0.8
Orissa . . . . .	31.9	29.7	35.8	291.7	295.4	333.9
Tripura . . . . .	2.8	2.1	2.7	22.7	16.8	23.6
Uttar Pradesh . . . . .	2.8	1.3	1.1	30.0	13.8	9.8
West Bengal . . . . .	415.3	426.5	500.2	4530.7	5003.3	5496.3
ALL INDIA . . . . .	690.9	677.4	777.9	6710.4	7071.8	7793.2

**Mahananda Basin Flood Control Plan**

324. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Mahananda Basin Flood Control Plan and the estimated cost thereof;

(b) the names of the schemes presently under execution on the Mahananda Basin;

(c) the estimated cost of these schemes and the expenditure incurred thereon so far, scheme-wise; and

(d) the amount allocated by the Union Government for the plan as a whole and the amount released to the State Government during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) The estimated cost of the works in Mahananda Basin Plan for flood control, updated in 1987, is Rs. 255 Crores.

(b) and (c) The expenditure on Mahananda Flood Control Scheme, costing Rs. 20.83 crores, is Rs. 17.73 crores. In addition, a number of

anti-erosion and town protection schemes are also under execution.

(d) Flood control works are implemented from State Plan Funds without any allocation from the Centre.

**Pak Telecast of Controversial Film on J&K**

325. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Pak telecasts controversial film on J&K" appearing in the "Telegraph" dated April 23, 1991; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The telecast of the film is part of the strident anti-India propaganda campaign launched by Pakistan, on the Kashmir issue in which developments in Jammu and Kashmir are

misrepresented and distorted. Government have pointed out that such false propaganda violates the Simla Agreement and impedes efforts to build confidence and mutual trust between the two countries

Government have taken and will continue to take measures to counter such propaganda and project the correct picture to all concerned.

#### **Installation of Car Phones**

326. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rs. 260 crore proposal to instal the Digital Cellular Radio Mobile systems, known as Car Phones is awaiting Government's clearance;

(b) whether any survey about the public potential of this proposal in the four metropolitan towns to be begun has been carried out;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) whether the Car Phone system presently existing in the Capital has become obsolete;

(e) if so, the total expenditure involved therein; and

(f) whether the Government are considering to defer this ambitious proposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No. Sir. The Department of Telecommunications is considering a proposal in consultation with Ministry of Finance to provide this facility.

(b) A preliminary market survey was carried out in Bombay.

(c) The survey indicated that there is sufficient potential for such a system in Bombay.

(d) No, Sir. The Car Phone system in the Capital is in operation.

(e) Initially when the project was implemented in the capital in 1985 the cost of the project was Rs. 2.18 crores to provide for 200 connections. Due to the present demand for more connections, the system has been recently expanded from 200 connections to 400 connections at a cost of Rs. 2.41 crores.

(f) The proposal is at a preliminary stage of technoeconomic examination.

#### **Modernisation of IISCO Plant at Burnpur**

327 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India (SAIL) has shelved two proposals of the national consortium and the public sector consortium for modernisation of the IISCO plant at Burnpur;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the impact of this delay on cost overruns; and

(d) the decision taken so far by the Union Government on IISCO's modernisation scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) The final decision on the approach to the IISCO modernisation project will be taken by the Government shortly, after a full appraisal of all the suggested options. The impact in terms of cost escalations can only be known after the investment decision is taken

#### **Chakma Refugees in India**

328. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Chakma refugees staying in various refugee camps in India at present;

(b) whether uncertainty still prevails regarding repatriation of Chakmas despite new dispensation in Bangladesh;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to ensure their safe and honourable repatriation; and

(d) the estimated expenditure incurred on their maintenance until 31 March, 1991?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M M JACOB)** (a) The total number of tribal refugees from Bangladesh including Chakmas, staying in refugee camps in Tripura is 53,344

(b) Despite the new dispensation in Bangladesh the refugees have not started returning to Bangladesh

(c) It has been impressed upon the Government of Bangladesh on a number of occasions at various levels to do everything possible to persuade the refugees to return to Bangladesh. At our level also similar efforts are being made

(d) An amount of Rs 2776.267 lakhs was incurred on the maintenance of tribal refugees from Bangladesh until 31 March, 1991

[*Translation*]

**President's Assent to State Bills**

329 SHRI RAJVEER SINGH Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the bills passed by State Legislatures which are pending with the Union Government for the President's assent at present and since when these are pending; and

(b) the steps taken to expedite clearance of those bills?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M M JACOB)**, (a) The requisite information is contained in the enclosed Statement

(b) The concerned State Governments and the Central Ministries/Departments are reminded constantly to expedite their views in the matter. Discussions are also held, where necessary to expedite the clearance of the Bills

**STATEMENT**

*Particulars of Bills passed by State Legislatures pending for President's Assent as on 12-7-1991*

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Date of Receipt</i>	<i>Name of the Bill</i>
1	2	3

**ANDHRA PRADESH (8)**

1	24-2-1987	The Andhra Pradesh Exhibition of Films on Television Screen Through Video Cassette Recorders (Regulation) Bill, 1987
2	1-11-1989	The Motor Vehicles (Andhra Pradesh Amendment) Bill 1989
3	15-11-1989	The Andhra Pradesh Cooperative Societies (Third Amendment) Bill, 1989.



1	2	3
4	20-11-1989	The Andhra Pradesh Highways Bill 1989
5	20-11-1989	The Andhra Pradesh Mandal Praja Nyaya parishad Bill 1989
6	27-11-1989	The Andhra Pradesh Monitoring of Industries Bill 1989
7	27-11-1989	The Azamabad Industrial Area (Termination and Regulation of Leases) Bill 1989
8	28-11-1989	The Andhra Pradesh Industrial Workers (Representation participation in Management and Relief) Bill 1989
<b>ASSAM (5)</b>		
1	9-6 1987	The Assam Fixation of Ceiling on Land Holdings (Amendment) Bill 1986
2	16-11-1987	The Assam Prohibition of Transfer of Agricultural Land to Non Agriculturists Bill 1987
3	20-3-1989	The Assam Industrial Establishment (Conferment of Permanent Status to Workers) Bill 1985
4	9-8-1989	The Assam Highways Bill 1989
5	20-6-1990	The Assam Land Grabbing (Prohibition) Bill 1990
<b>BIHAR (2)</b>		
1	6-1-1987	The Bihar Debt Relief (Amendment) Bill 1987
2	17-2-1988	The Motor Vehicles (Bihar Amendment) Bill 1988
<b>GUJARAT (1)</b>		
1	18-3-1991	The Gujarat Advocate Welfare Fund Bill, 1991
<b>GOA (3)</b>		
1	1-7-1988	The Goa Industrial Development (Amendment) Bill 1988
2	9-5-1989	The Goa Public Men's Corruption (Investigation and Inquiries) Bill 1988.
3	27-5-1991	The Goa Prevention of Malpractices at University Board and Other Specified Examinations Bill, 1991
<b>HARYANA (9)</b>		
1	22-4-1987	The Indian Electricity (Haryana Amendment) Bill 1987
2	9-5-1988	The Mahatma Jyoti Bapu University (Amendment) Bill 1988
3	9-5-1988	The Kurukshetra University (Amendment) Bill 1988
4	17-4-1989	The Indian Electricity (Haryana Amendment) Bill, 1989

1	2	3
5	3-5-1989	The Haryana Urban Development Authority (Amendment) Bill, 1989.
6	18-4-1991	The Haryana Public Wakfs (Extension of Limitation) Bill, 1991.
7	7-5-1991	The Punjab Village Common Lands (Regulation) Haryana Amendment Bill, 1991
8	7-5-1991	The Haryana and Punjab Agricultural Universities (Haryana Amendment) Bill, 1991
9	29-5-1991	The Haryana Shri Mata Mansa Devi Shrine Bill, 1991
<b>HIMACHAL PRADESH (1)</b>		
1	11-2-1987	The Essential Commodities (Himachal Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 1986.
<b>KERALA (1)</b>		
1	20-4-1991	The Kerala Women's Commission Bill, 1991
<b>KARNATAKA (6)</b>		
1	16-7-1984	The Karnataka Education Bill, 1983
2	30-6-1987	The Karnataka Tax on Entry of Goods into Local Areas for Consumption, Use of Sale Therein (Second Amendment) Bill 1987.
3	2-6-1988	The Karnataka Resettlement of Project Displaced Persons Bill 1987
4	5-4-1989	The Land Acquisition (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 1988
5	10-4-1991	The Karnataka Contract Carriages (Acquisition) Amendment Bill, 1990
6	2-7-1991	The Karnataka Land (Restriction on Transfer) Bill, 1991
<b>MADHYA PRADESH (1)</b>		
1	16-7-1990	The Madhya Pradesh Rajya Suraksha Tatha Lok Vyavasthan (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1990.
<b>MANIPUR (6)</b>		
1	6-12-1988	The Manipur Public Libraries Bill, 1988
2	6-12-1988	The Manipur Lotteries Control Bill, 1988.
3	16-5-1989	The Manipur Fisheries Bill, 1989.
4	11-9-1989	The Manipur Home Guards Bill, 1989.
5	19-1-1990	The Manipur Police (Fire Service) Bill, 1989
6	21-5-1990	The Manipur Exhibition of Video Films (Regulation) Bill, 1989.

1	2	3
<b>MEGHALAYA (3)</b>		
1	23-2-1988	The Meghalaya Medical Council Bill, 1987
2	14-2-1991	The Meghalaya Protection of Catchment Areas Bill 1990
3	3-5 1991	The Indian Partnership (Meghalaya Amendment) Bill, 1991
<b>ORISSA (5)</b>		
1	20-12-1988	The Orissa Essential Services (Maintenance) Bill, 1988
2	19-11-1990	The Orissa Special Courts Bill 1990
3	6-6 1991	The Orissa Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill 1991
4	6-6-1991	The Registration (Orissa Amendment) Bill 1991
5	6-6-1991	The Code of Civil procedure (Orissa Amendment) Bill 1991
<b>RAJASTHAN (5)</b>		
1	23-5-1984	The Jodhpur University (Change of Name and Amendment) Bill 1984
2	15-3-1990	The Rajasthan Non-Government Educational Institution Bill, 1989
3	22-8-1990	The Rajasthan Tax on Luxuries (In Hotels and Lodging Houses) Bill, 1990
4	22-8-1990	The Rajasthan Urban Improvement (Amendment and Validation) Bill 1990
5	22-8-1990	The Jaipur Development Authority (Amendment and Validation) Bill 1990
<b>SIKKIM (2)</b>		
1	1-11-1989	The Sikkim Alienation of Land (Regulation) Bill 1989
2	1-11-1989	The Sikkim Transfer and Land (Regulation) Bill 1989
<b>TAMIL NADU (5)</b>		
1	17-5-1983	The Tamil Nadu Tax on Entry of Goods into Local Areas for Consumption Use or Sale Therein Bill, 1983
2	2-8-1985	The Tamil Nadu Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) (Amendment) Bill 1985
3	29-5-1986	The Madras Race Club (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertaking) Bill, 1986
4	4-6-1990	The Tamil Nadu Stage Carriages and Contract Carriages (Acquisition) Amendment Bill 1990
5	11-6-1990	The Tamil Nadu Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling on Land) Amendment Bill 1990

1	2	3
<b>TRIPURA (4)</b>		
1	25-11-1988	The Tripura Inland Fisheries Bill, 1988
2	2-8-1989	The Tripura Agricultural Produce Marketing (Second Amendment) Bill, 1989
3	8-7-1991	The Tripura Forest (Prevention of Specific Corrupt Practices) Bill, 1991.
4	8-7-1991	The Tripura Forest (Regulation as to Removal of Timber) Bill, 1991
<b>UTTAR PRADESH (2)</b>		
1	15-5-1988	The Uttar Pradesh Regulation of Buildings and Use of Land (Nuclear Installations Area) Bill, 1988
2	26-10-1989	The Uttar Pradesh Laws (Extension to Territories Transferred from Haryana) Bill, 1989
<b>WEST BENGAL (7)</b>		
1	22-11-1983	The Trade Union (West Bengal Amendment) Bill, 1983
2	22-5-1984	The Calcutta University (Amendment) Bill, 1984
3	5-6-1989	The Rabindia Cultural Institute (Taking over of Management) (Amendment) Bill, 1989
4	23-10-1990	The Howrah Municipal Corporation (Second Amendment) Bill 1990
5	10-12-1990	The City Civil Courts (Amendment) Bill 1990
6	31-1-1991	The Asansol Municipal Corporation Bill, 1990
7	7-5-1991	The West Bengal Additional Tax and One-Time Tax on Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 1991

#### **Freedom Fighters from U.P. Getting Pension**

330 SHRI RAJIVR SINGH  
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the number of freedom fighters from Uttar Pradesh getting pension at present.

(b) the number of applications for grant of freedom fighter pension still pending from U.P.; and

(c) the number of dependents of freedom fighters availing themselves of the above facility in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M M JACOB) (a) Till 30-6-1991, pension has been sanctioned to 17,754 freedom fighters (including their dependents) from Uttar Pradesh

(b) No application received within the prescribed last date i.e. 31-3-1982 is pending. No separate record of applications received thereafter is maintained. Such applications are treated as delayed and if sufficient grounds for condonation of delay exist they are finalised on merits.

(c) No separate record of transfer of pension to dependents on the death of the freedom fighter is maintained.

[English]

### **Deployment of Army to check Infiltration on Indo-Pak Border**

331. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether army have been deployed in certain sensitive districts on the Indo-Pak border to prevent infiltrations of terrorist elements; and

(b) if so, the results achieved so far in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) and (b) Army Units are carrying out their usual training exercise in areas close to the international border with Pakistan, in certain sectors. While discouraging infiltration/exfiltration, the presence of the Army has helped to instill confidence among the local population.

### **Demand for Jharkhand State**

332. SHRI PRAKASH BAPU VASANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a growing demand for the Jharkhand State;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to establish autonomous council for the Jharkhand region; and

(c) if so, by when the said proposal is likely to take effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c) Some organisations have been articulating the demand for Jharkhand State. After the submission or report by the Committee on Jharkhand Matters, interaction has taken place with a number of political parties of Bihar and Government of Bihar with a view to find ways and means for a viable solution to the Jharkhand issue.

### **Applications for Freedom Fighters' Pension from Kerala**

333. SHRI RAMESH CHENNI-THALA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for freedom fighters' pension received from Kerala upto 1990 and during 1991 to date;

(b) the total number of applications disposed of and how many of them are still pending; and

(c) the measures taken for their expeditious disposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Upto 31-3-1982 which was the last date prescribed for receipt of applications, 30089 applications were received from the State of Kerala. This figure does not include the applications in which the applicants have claimed participation in I.N.A. and Arya Samaj Movement. State-wise and year-wise information in respect of applications received after 31-3-1982 is not being maintained.

(b) and (c) All the applications received upto 31-3-1982 have been disposed off. No separate record of receipt and disposal of applications received after 31-3-1982 is being maintained. In respect of delayed applications (i.e. received after 31-3-82) if sufficient grounds for condonation of delay exist they are disposed off on merits in consultation with the State Government.

**Adulteration in Fertilizers**

334. SHRI V. SOBHANA DRESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that large scale adulteration is going on in fertilizers; and

(b) if so, the action taken to stop the adulteration and ensure its proper quality to protect the interests of the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Government is not aware of any large scale adulteration of fertilizers.

(b) State Governments have been given adequate powers to ensure quality of fertilisers under the Provisions of Fertiliser Control Order. They are reminded periodically for effective enforcement. The State Governments have notified fertiliser inspectors for effective enforcement of the Provisions of the Fertiliser Control Order. They have also set up quality control laboratories to test the quality of fertilizers. Fertiliser Control Order has recently been amended to provide for compulsory printing of batch numbers on bags of SSP and fertiliser mixtures as also for ensuring minimum laboratory facilities for all manufacturing units for the required quality control of their products. The Central Fertiliser Quality Control and Training Institute provides regular training to State Enforcement Officers and Fertiliser Analysts.

**Terrorist Activities in J & K & Punjab**

335. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

**SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether kidnapping, violence and engaging security forces in gun battles continue unabated in the States of Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to curb these activities;

(c) whether the Government propose to create a 'security belt' all along the Pakistan border;

(d) if so, the action-plan and the time-schedule drawn up for the same;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether efforts were made by the Government to have a dialogue with militants to arrive at a solution of the problem; and

(g) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (g) A Statement is given below:

**STATEMENT**

In Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab, besides stepping up vigil on the border, vulnerable pockets have been identified for gearing up anti-terrorists operations, Naka ambushes and effective deployment of para-military forces in the affected/sensitive pockets have accordingly been organised. Day and night patrolling in vulnerable areas, raid on hideouts of terrorists and extortionists have been intensified. Intelligence has also been strengthened. In addition to continuing the stringent measures against the terrorists, efforts are being made to mobilize public cooperation in anti-terrorist operations.

2. There is no proposal under consideration of the Government for creation of a security belt along Indo-Pak border.

3. The Government has expressed its willingness to talk to anyone to find a solution to the Kashmir problem but the dialogue will have to be within the frame work of the Constitution of India

**Kidnappings by Militants**

336 SHRI M V CHANDRA-SHEKARA MURTHY

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH

SHRI V SREENIVASA PRASAD

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Kashmir militants in Srinagar and ULFA militants in Assam have recently kidnapped several officers of IOC and ONGC.

(b) if so, the details of the officers kidnapped and how many of them have been released.

(c) whether the militants in Kashmir and Assam are urging release of hard core militants in custody in exchange of the kidnapped officers and

(d) if so, the steps taken to get the kidnapped officers released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The names of the officers kidnapped are as follows:

*In Kashmir Valley*

(i) Shri K. Doraiswamy, Executive Director, IOC.

*In Assam*

(i) Shri B. N. Jaiswal, Chief Geophysicist

(ii) Shri C. K. Mohanty, Dy. Superintending-Den Engineer

(iii) Shri S. S. Gupta, Dy. Director

(iv) Shri B. S. Raju, Asst. Ex-Engineer

(v) Shri P. P. Srivastav, Superintending-Engineer

(vi) Shri Kishan Lal, Chemist

(vii) Shri Narendra Sharma, Dy. Director All of O.N.G.C.

Out of the above abducted officials, S/Sh Narendra Sharma and B. N. Jaiswal have since been released

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) Efforts to persuade the terrorists to release the hostages are continuing

**Bomb Blast in Delhi**

337 SHRI M. V CHANDRA-SHEKARA MURTHY:

SHRI V SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bomb blasts that took place in Delhi during this year and how does this number compare with similar figures for the preceding three years.

(b) the number of persons killed/injured and the estimated value of properties damaged, with details:

(c) the details of compensation paid to the next of kin of those killed and injured:

(d) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard and if so, the outcome thereof: and

(e) the steps taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) The number of bomb blasts that took place during this year and the preceding three years are as under:—

1988 1989 1990 1991 (till 30.6.1991)

3 4 10 12

(b) and (c) A statement is given below.

(d) Criminal cases have been registered in respect of each incident. Twenty-One persons have been arrested so far in these cases.

(e) The major steps taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents include formation of Anti-Terrorist Cells in each police district; deployment of armed pickets at vulnerable/strategic points; intensification of patrolling; stationing of about 300 Police Control Room vehicles at strategic points; deployment of spotters/observers at vulnerable points; close watch on hide-outs/sympathisers of terrorists; display of photos of known terrorists at public places, etc.

#### STATEMENT

From January 1991 to June, 1991, 12 incidents of bomb blasts occurred in Delhi. In these incidents, 23 persons lost their lives and 190 were injured. Ex-gratia relief of Rs. 11,54,000/- has so far been disbursed to the next of kin of the deceased and the injured. The details of the cases are as follows:—

- (i) On 17-1-1991 a bomb exploded at 78, Janpath at 1st Floor, Nijhavan Travel Service (American Air Lines). Nobody was injured in the explosion. Property worth about 8 lakhs was damaged.
- (ii) On 22-1-1991 a bomb exploded near Tis Hazari District Court. 1 person was killed and 53 injured. Three two-wheelers were damaged.
- (iii) On 22-1-1991 a bomb exploded behind the main building of Delhi Police Headquarters. Five persons were injured. Nine scooters were damaged.
- (iv) On 25-1-1991 a bomb blast took place at MCD parking, JPN Hospital under the car No. DDO-920. One person was injured.
- (v) On 27-1-1991 a bomb blast took place in the toilet of Jubilee Cinema. One person was killed, six persons injured. Damage to the property was to the extent of Rs. 40,000/-
- (vi) On 18-3-1991 a powerful bomb explosion took place in the toilet room of Nirula restaurant (Connaught Place) at 1st floor at 4.30 p.m. Due to this explosion one person died and three others were injured.
- (vii) On 22-3-1991 a powerful bomb explosion took place in the toilet of Mohan Singh Place, Connaught Place, New Delhi. In this case four persons were injured.
- (viii) On 23-3-1991 at about 7.45 p.m. two powerful explosions one after the other took place in 'Shani Bazar' near Bus Stop of J. J. Colony, Khyala Delhi. In this incident 15 persons died and 58 others were injured. Property worth about Rs. 15,000/- was damaged.
- (ix) On 26-4-1991 at about 18.50 hrs. a bomb blast took place in the toilet of Palika Parking near shop No. K-6, Connaught Place, New Delhi resulting in the death of 3 persons on the spot and injuries to 9 others.
- (x) On the intervening night of 24-25/6/1991 at about 0040 hrs., an explosion took place outside the Terminal building near the Air-India enquiry and booking counter on the departure level. In this incidents 13 persons were injured.



(xi) On 17-5-1991 Shri Jagdish Tytler was addressing an election meeting in Tagore Market, Kirti Nagar, New Delhi at about 11 20 p.m. While he was addressing the meeting unknown assailants using atleast one automatic rifle fired upon the crowd from the road side. Immediately after the firing a stick grenade was thrown on the crowd. Two persons were killed and 35 injured.

(xii) On 6-6-1991 a bomb had exploded at 28/29 Block, Trilok Puri Delhi and three persons were injured.

#### **Fencing of Indo-Pak Border**

338 SHRI M V CHANDRA-SHEKARA MURTHY  
SHRI V SRFFNIVASA PRASAD

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the fencing of Punjab and Rajasthan borders has since been completed to curb infiltration of militants and arms from Pakistan

(b) if so the area fenced so far

(c) if not the time by which fencing of Indo Pak border would be completed and

(d) the details of other steps proposed to be taken to curb infiltration of militants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M M JACOB) (a) and (b) Fencing in 3562 kms and 588 kms respectively in Punjab and Rajasthan has since been completed

(c) Further fencing in 144 kms in Rajasthan has been approved and work is likely to be taken up shortly.

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(d) Besides fencing, the Border Security Force have taken the following steps to curb infiltration of terrorists/militants from across the border

(i) The gaps between the BOPs have been reduced by deployment of additional BSF Bns

(ii) The number of patrols/nakas has been increased

(iii) OP towers have been erected all along the International border for better observation

(iv) Troops deployed on the border have been issued Night Vision Devices, Binoculars, Hand Held Search lights etc for better observation and keeping strict vigil on the border

(v) Mobile patrolling has been introduced by having special border patrols on jeeps/Motorcycles for quick reaction and effective surveillance

(vi) Border Security Fence and Flood Lighting have been erected along sensitive stretches of the International Border

(vii) The intelligence set up of the BSF has been peied up and further strengthened for keeping close surveillance on the border

(viii) Wire obstacles have been erected to impede the entry of terrorists/extremists

#### **Law and Order in the Country**

339 SHRI M V CHANDRA-SHEKARA MURTHY Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the general law and order situation in the country has deteriorated during the past few months

(b) if so whether the Government are considering an action-plan to improve the law and order situation and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M M JACOB)** (a) The general law and order situation in the country remained under strain during the past few months

(b) and (c) Under the VIIth Schedule to the Constitution, 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects. The primary responsibility for maintenance of law and order thus directly devolves on the State Governments. Nevertheless, the Central Government remains in touch with the State Governments and constantly monitors and reviews the situation. As and when necessary, suitable assistance is also provided to the State Governments.

[*Translation*]

**Terrorist Activities in Punjab, Assam and Jammu & Kashmir**

340 SHRI KASHIRAM RANA  
SHRI SRIBALLAV PANI  
GRAHI  
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH  
SHRI RAM VIJAY  
PASWAN

**DR LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the number of persons killed or abducted, in Punjab, Assam and Jammu & Kashmir during 1991 till date.

(b) the number of civilians, militants, Government officials and paramilitary forces out of them.

(c) whether it is a fact that the number of killings has been increasing

(d) if so the reasons therefor

(e) the details of the compensation paid to the next of kin of those killed and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to check these activities?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M M JACOB)** (a) and (b) The information in respect of Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir is given below

	<i>Number of persons killed</i>			<i>Number of persons abducted</i>
	<i>Civilians</i>	<i>Security Personnel</i>	<i>Terrorists</i>	
<b>PUNJAB</b>	1149	234	972	42
<b>JAMMU &amp; KASHMIR</b>	162	76	254	125
<b>ASSAM</b>	Information is awaited from the State Government			

(c) and (d) The increase in crime levels is attributable to an increase in terrorists' strength and arsenal, guidance from their mentors across the border and political uncertainty following the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.

(e) Information in this regard is awaited from the State Governments concerned

(f) The security agencies are vigilant and take appropriate action to deal with the situation

[English]

**Promotion of Coconut cultivation in Kerala**

341. SHRI RAMESH CHENNI-THALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal for the promotion and development of coconut cultivation in Kerala during 1991, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN). (a) Yes Sir.

(b) During 1991-92 the Government of India has sanctioned Rs 140 lakhs for implementation of Coconut Schemes in Kerala. The Coconut Development Board will be implementing the Schemes with the objective of production of quality planting material, expansion of area, improving productivity of coconut and establishment of a Coconut Development Centre for developing technology connected with processing/marketing of coconut. The following are the details of the schemes to be implemented during 1991-92: -

1. Production and distribution of 1,50,000 nos. of T X D hybrid seedlings;
2. Expansion of area under coconut in 1000 ha.
3. Integrated farming in coconut small holdings in Kerala for productivity improvement in an operation area of 10,000 ha;
4. Providing assistance for irrigation facilities to coconut growers;
5. Establishment of a demonstration-cum-seed production farm in an area of 50 acres:

6. Establishment of a Coconut Technology Development Centre for improving the post-harvest processing and marketing of coconut.

**Commissioning of Transmitter by Voice of America in Sri Lanka**

342. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the voice of America is commissioning a high power transmitter in Sri Lanka very close to India;

(b) if so, whether the Government have lodged any protest with either the US or Sri Lanka;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Government have taken up the matter with the Government of Sri Lanka in order to ensure that such facilities are used for public broadcast only.

**Proposal for a Steel Plant in Orissa**

343. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUHDURY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has submitted any proposal for a second steel plant to be set up in the state with private collaboration; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) M/s. Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa Ltd., a State Government undertaking of the Government of Orissa, has submitted an application for a Letter of Intent for setting up of a 3 million tonnes per annum steel plant at Sukinda Tehsil, Distt. Cuttack, Orissa in the Joint Sector. The proposal is under examination.

#### **Construction of Fishing Harbours in Orissa**

344. **SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa have submitted a number of proposals for the construction of fishing harbours along the Orissa Coast;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of proposals cleared so far?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN):** (a) The State Government of Orissa submitted project proposals for fishery harbours at Nuagarh and Gopalpur.

(b) The estimated cost of Nuagarh and Gopalpur fishery harbours is Rs. 313.22 lakh and Rs. 672.40 lakh respectively. Designed capacity of these harbours is 140 and 120 mechanised fishing vessels respectively.

(c) Both the projects have been cleared.

#### **Reduction in Prices of Postal Charges**

345. **SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal under consideration to

reduce the prices of post cards, inland letters and postal envelopes to the level which existed in July, 1990;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU):** (a) to (c) Tariff revision of various postal services is generally a part of the overall budgetary exercise of the Government. As such it is not possible to give any indications in this regard at this stage.

#### *[Translation]*

#### **Future Set-up of Delhi**

346. **SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sarkaria Commission was constituted by the Union Government in December, 1987;

(b) when the report of the Sarkaria Commission was received by the Union Government;

(c) whether the issue of the future set-up of Delhi is being considered on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission; and

(d) if so, the details of the likely future set-up of Delhi and the time by which this new set-up is likely to be adopted?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB):** (a) and (b) A Committee on Reorganisation of administrative set-up in the Union territory of Delhi was appointed on 24-12-1987 under the chairmanship of Justice R. S. Sarkaria. The Committee submitted its report on 14-12-1989.

(c) and (d) After considering the recommendations of the Committee, the Constitution (Seventy-Second Amendment) Bill, 1990 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 31-5-1990 and moved for consideration on 6-9-1990.

However, with the dissolution of the House, the Constitution (Seventy-Second Amendment) Bill, 1990, lapsed in terms of provisions of clause (5) of article 107 of the Constitution.

#### **Elections to the Metropolitan Council and M.C.D.**

347. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to hold elections to the Metropolitan Council of Delhi and Municipal Corporation of Delhi; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOBI): (a) and (b) On the basis of the report from the Administrator, Delhi, the President suspended, for a period of 4 months from 13-1-1990, the operation of certain provisions of the Delhi Administration Act resulting in the dissolution of the Metropolitan Council. The suspension of these provisions was extended from time to time. The present extended period expires on 12-9-1991.

On 6-1-1990, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi was superseded for a period of 4 months by the Central Government on the ground that the Municipal Corporation of Delhi had persistently made defaults in the performance of its duties. The period of supersession was extended from time to time. The extended period of supersession expires on 5-9-1991.

No decision has been taken to hold elections to these two bodies.

[English]

#### **Details of STD calls in telephone bills**

348. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether details of S.T.D. calls made from the Government telephones both from offices and residences of officers are to be given in the telephone bills;

(b) if so, whether these details are not being given in the telephone bills of Chanakyapuri, Sena Bhawan and Shastri Bhawan telephone exchanges thereby making the Government to pay for the private STD calls overseas as well as within the country by the beneficiaries of the STD in the Government offices;

(c) the steps taken to give the details of STD calls in the telephone bills from all the exchanges in the country to detect misuse of Government telephones; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) With effect from 1-12-89, details of STD calls are given in respect of all telephones served from E-10 B or electronic exchanges.

(b) The statement is given below.

(c) and (d) There are plans to provide Automatic Message Accounting Equipment for this purpose progressively during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

#### **STATEMENT**

##### **CHANAKYAPURI**

Three Exchanges are working in Chanakyapuri Exchange area viz. '60', '67' and '687' Exchanges. The details of the STD calls made are being given from '687' Exchange as this

is an E-10 B exchange. These details are not possible from '60' and '67' Exchanges.

### SENA BHAWAN

Two Exchanges are working in Sena Bhawan Exchange area viz. '301' Fetex and '379' E-10 B Exchange. The details of the STD calls made from '379' Exchange are being given whereas it is not possible in respect of '301' Exchange.

### SHASTRI BHAWAN

There are 2 exchanges working in Shastri Bhawan area viz. '38' Strowger and '378' E-10 B. It is not possible to give the details for '38' Exchange whereas details are being given for '378' E-10 B exchange.

### Fixation of Prices of Agricultural produce

349 SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether there is a wide gap between the procurement price and the cost of production of foodgrains.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether agriculturists are involved in the process of fixing the prices of foodgrains, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor'

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) (a) and (b) The procurement/minimum support prices for agricultural commodities are recommended by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) after considering various factors including cost of production. However, the prices recommended by and large provide for a reasonable margin of profit over cost of production to encourage investment and increase production and productivity of crops.

(c) and (d) The CACP has developed a practice of consultation with various interests including farmers and keeps in view the suggestions made by the farmers' representatives while formulating the price policy recommendations.

### Formation of Anti-Riot Force

350. SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to form an anti-riot force at an all India level in co-operation with State Governments to control the growing menace of communalism;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether some State Governments had proposed formation of such a force, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M M JACOB): (a) to (d) The Government are considering a proposal to create a Rapid Action Force. It will not be in the public interest to disclose its details at this stage

### Bagmati River Project

351 SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has requested the Union Government to include the Bagmati River Project in the Eighth Five Year Plan,

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

(c) whether India and Nepal have taken some joint initiatives to tap water resources of the Himalayan rivers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA):** (a) and (b) Bagmati River Project, an ongoing scheme, is included in 8th Plan proposals of Bihar.

(c) and (d) Talks with Nepal were last held in Second meeting of Sub-Commission on Water Resources in April, 1991. It was decided to complete the studies on Pancheshwar and Karnali Projects.

**Ram Temple at Ayodhya**

352 **SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:**

**SHRI CHITTA BASU·**

**SHRI K P UNNIKRI-SHNAN:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state·

(a) whether the Government have initiated any fresh move to bring about a negotiated settlement of the Ram Janam Bhumi-Babri Masjid dispute, and

(b) if so, the details of the move and the outcome thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB)** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Telugu-Ganga Project**

353. **SHRI SOBHANA DRESWARA RAO VADDE:** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telugu-Ganga Project is still awaiting clearance of the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the project is likely to be cleared?

**THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA):** (a) and (b) Telugu Ganga Project, though techno-economically appraised by the Central Water Commission, its consideration was deferred by the Advisory Committee in April, 1988 as the project had not been cleared from inter-State angle. In order to resolve the inter-State issues the meeting of the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra, convened by the then Minister (Water Resources) on 5-4-1990 could not materialise as the Chief Minister of Karnataka informed that the Chief Ministers would themselves resolve the issues relating to sharing of Krishna waters. The three Chief Ministers met twice in 1990. They are to meet again for consideration of the four tentative alternative proposals that emerged during their second meeting.

**Pulichintala Balancing Reservoir Project of Andhra Pradesh**

354 **SHRI SOBHAN DRESWARA RAO VADDE:** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted the Pulichintala Balancing Reservoir Project to the Union Government for clearance; and

(b) if so, the steps taken up accord clearance to the said project so far?

**THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA):** (a) and (b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh had forwarded Pulichintala Project's proposal estimated to cost Rs. 138.57 crores to the Centre in October, 1985. It was observed that the project was not based on detailed surveys and investigations and the justification for project was also not clearly brought out. The project was, therefore, returned to the State Government in October, 1986 for preparing a revised Project Report. The State Government have informed that they have constituted in May

1991 an Expert Committee to go into the details of all aspects of the Pullichintala Project and prepare a project report in a manner acceptable to the Central Water Commission.

accordingly pursuing the matter with the State Governments. The Project can be considered for acceptance only after the satisfactory resolution of the associated issues including environmental and forest clearances.

### **Vamsadhara Project Stage II**

355. SHRI SOBHANA DRESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vamsadhara Project Stage II is pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the steps taken to accord clearance to the project; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Advisory Committee for the clearance of the projects had deferred the consideration of the project for want of resolution of inter-State issues concerning submergence of land in Orissa. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh is also required to obtain clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests and Ministry of Welfare from environmental angle and for rehabilitation and resettlement issues respectively.

(b) and (c) In a meeting of the officials of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa convened in the Ministry in March, 1991 for resolution of inter-State issues, it was decided that the officials of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Central Water Commission should inspect the site jointly for examining the necessity of the hydraulic model studies. The Central Water Commission is

[*Translation*]

### **Development of Agriculture in Backward Areas**

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

(a) whether agricultural productivity has declined due to continuous rise in the prices of agricultural inputs;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any schemes to control the prices of agricultural inputs;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government have formulated any schemes for the benefit of farmers living in the backward, hilly and plateau regions of the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MILLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN). (a) No, Sir. The agricultural productivity has shown a sustained growth rate of 2.47% per annum during the period 1967-68 to 1989-90.

(b) and (c) In order to keep the cost of production within the limits the Government have been providing major agriculture inputs viz., fertilisers, power, irrigation, pesticides etc., at reasonable and subsidised prices. In fact, prices of fertilisers, which is a major purchased input have not been raised since 1986.



(d) and (e) Preference is being given to the farmers of backward areas, hilly areas and plateau regions while implementing the production oriented schemes with a view to benefit the farmers of these areas of the country. Agricultural extension services are being re-organised to transfer farm technology to the farmers of all categories including hilly and backward areas.

(f) Question does not arise.

[*English*]

**Bhimkund Dam Project of Orissa**

357. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has submitted the Bhimkund Irrigation Project proposal to the Union Government for clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) The Orissa Government proposes to take up Bhimkund Multi-purpose project in two stages. Stage-I of the Project envisages construction of a dam on river Baitarani near Neopara and two Power Houses with total installed capacities of  $3 \times 16$  MW and  $3 \times 115$  MW respectively. It also envisages flood control benefits to an area of 1400 sq. km. in Baitarani Delta. Stage-II of the Project envisages irrigation benefits to a new area of about 40500

hectares in addition to stabilisation of irrigation under Akhuapada Delta from the regulated releases from the Bhimkund reservoir. The project proposal for Stage-I of the project estimated to cost Rs. 328.15 crores was received from the State Government in June, 1980 and observations of Central Water Commission were communicated to the State Government. As the State Government did not comply with the observations for more than one year, the Project was deleted from the list of pending projects in October, 1983. The detailed project report for Stage-II has not been received at the Centre.

(c) The State Government has yet to submit a modified report for Stage-I and Stage-II of the Project.

**Increase in Royalty of Raw Materials**

358. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether various State Governments have demanded increase in royalty of raw materials such as iron ores, manganese ores, chrome ores etc. in view of the increase in prices of such materials in the International Market; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BAI RAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) In response to the questionnaire circulated by the Study Group constituted by Department of Mines to make recommendations for revision of Royalty Rates, various suggestions were received from State Governments. Increase in the rates of Royalty on iron ore, manganese ore and chrome

ore has been suggested by the State Governments of Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Orissa. Details of increases sought are given in the statement below

Some of the State Governments have justified seeking higher rates on account of increased prices for such minerals in domestic as well as international markets

## STATEMENT

<i>Sl No.</i>	<i>Name of Mineral</i>	<i>Existing Rate of royalty per tonne</i>	<i>Rates per tonne proposed by State Governments</i>
1	2	3	4
1.	Iron Ore (Various grades)	Rs. 0.50 to Rs. 6 00	Rs. 0 50 to Rs. 14 00
2.	Manganese Ore (Various grades)	Rs 2.00 to Rs 45 00	Rs. 4.00 to Rs 92 00
3.	Chrome Ore (Various grades)	Rs. 5 00 to Rs 60 00	Rs. 6 00 to Rs. 78 00

**Opening of Post Offices in Orissa**

359. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SE-  
THI: Will the Minister of COM-  
MUNICATIONS be pleased to state  
the total number of Post Offices, both  
Branch Post Offices and Sub-Post Of-  
fices opened during 1990-91 and pro-  
posed to be opened in 1991-92 in  
Orissa?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN  
THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNI-  
CATIONS (SHRI P V. RANGAY-  
YA NAIDU): During 1990-91, 88  
Branch Post Offices and 7 Depart-  
mental Sub Post Offices were opened  
in Orissa

During 1991-92, 100 Branch Post  
Offices and 10 Departmental Sub Post  
Offices are proposed to be opened in  
Orissa

**Opening of Rural Telephone Changes  
in Orissa**

360. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SE-  
THI: Will the Minister of COM-  
MUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Rural Tele-  
phone Exchanges opened during 1990-

91 and proposed to be opened in  
1991-92 in Orissa;

(b) whether most of such Telephone  
Exchanges opened during 1990-91, are  
yet to be commissioned; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN  
THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNI-  
CATIONS (SHRI P.V RANGAY-  
YA NAIDU) (a) 42 Nos. opened dur-  
ing 1990-91 and 30 Nos. are propos-  
ed to be opened during 1991-92.

(b) All the 42 Rural Telephone Ex-  
changes were commissioned

(c) Does not arise

[Translation]

**Arrests in Connection with the Assas-  
sination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi**

361. SHRI RAM VILAS PAS-  
WAN. Will the Minister of HOME  
AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons arrested  
so far in connection with the assas-  
sination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi; and

(b) whether the motive behind the assassination has been established and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) and (b) The case is still under investigation and it will not be in the public interest to disclose any details at this stage.

[English]

**Road-Side Police Check Posts in Delhi**

362. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASIRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the road-side police check posts in Delhi are stopping the cars, scooters, etc. to get their numbers etched on the vehicles;

(b) the organisation/agency which has made this arrangement;

(c) the tasks assigned to the police check posts;

(d) whether any complaint regarding overstepping of jurisdiction by these posts has been received by the Union Government; and

(e) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) and (b) The Delhi Police have reported that a number of petrol pumps in Delhi have provided etching facility for cars, scooters, etc. The police pickets posted near these petrol pumps apprise the owners of cars/scooters about availability of etching facility and impress upon them the desirability of having their cars etched for prevention and detection of theft. No vehicle owner is forced to get the vehicle etched.

(c) The main tasks of the police staff posted at checkposts are to remain on the look-out for stolen vehicles for vehicles involved in criminal/terrorist activities; for persons involved in criminal activities, etc.; and to provide general security and to maintain law & order.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

**Fire in Jhuggis**

363 SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASIRI:

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRA-SAD:

SHRI RAM SAGAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a devastating fire broke out in Jhuggis near old Yamuna bridge recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the loss of life and property therein and the cause of fire;

(c) the number of incidents of fire reported in Delhi during the last two years;

(d) the loss of life and property involved in those incidents; and

(e) the details of the compensation given to such fire victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) On 17-4-1991, a serious fire broke out in Jhuggis near Old Yamuna Bridge, Delhi.

(b) Four lives were lost and about 1890 jhuggis burnt. The probable cause of fire was electric short-circuit. Loss of property is estimated to be Rs 19.65 lakhs approximately.

(c) to (e) During the period from 1-4-1989 to 31-3-1991, 71 incidents of fire took place. 43 persons lost their lives. A sum of Rs. 63,40,686/- was disbursed amongst the fire victims as per the details given below:

Year	Amount
1989—90	35,19,136/-
1990—91	28,21,550/-

#### Benefits to Coconut Growers

364. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vegetable seeds declared as oilseeds,

(b) the benefits given to farmers growing oilseeds;

(c) whether coconut growers are getting all the benefits that are given to farmers growing oilseeds;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the benefits are passed on to coconut growers also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Nine

(b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme being operated in 18 States covering 319 districts specific financial assistance is made available to State Governments/ I.C.A.R. for giving benefit to farmers

on basic key inputs like seed, plant protection measures, State demonstration/frontline demonstration by ICAR, improved farming implements, minikits containing seeds and seed treating chemicals, etc. 100% grant-in-aid is given to ICAR for breeder seed production frontline demonstration and production of foundation seeds to States. In the other components the pattern of financial assistance is on a 75:25 basis between the Government of India and the States.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Coconut Development Board is already implementing certain schemes for the benefit of Coconut growers. Government are now taking steps to confer benefits to Coconut growers under the Technology Mission on Oilseeds.

#### Construction of Fishing Harbours in Kerala

365. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the Fishing Harbour projects in Kerala cleared so far under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme;

(b) the progress made so far in the construction of these projects; and

(c) the total Central Assistance provided to those projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) A Statement is given below

#### STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Fishery Harbour	(Rs in lakhs)	
		Progress	Central assistance released
1	Neendakara	100%	292.50
2	Vizhinjam	75%	529.43
3	Puthiappa	85%	120.00
4	Thangassery	5%	90.00
5	Munambam	10%	22.5

**Opening of Telephone Exchanges in Marathwada**

366. SHRI ASHOK ANAND-RAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for setting up of telephone exchanges in Marathwada particularly in Parbhani, Manmad, Aurangabad and Nanded Districts during 1990 and 1991;

(b) whether the target has been fully achieved and if not, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the target fixed for setting up of telephone exchange during 1991-92?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) Of the 14 exchanges proposed for replacement/expansion in Parbhani, Manmad, Aurangabad and Nanded during 1990-91, four exchanges could not be commissioned due to non-availability of equipments. These were ILT 512 exchanges at Jintur and Paithan in Parbhani & Aurangabad districts respectively & 128 port C-DOT exchanges at Tamsa & Kalamnuri in Nanded and Parbhani Districts respectively. The achievements during 1990-91 were as under:--

Sl. No.	Name of district	No. of Exchanges replaced/expanded
1.	Parbhani . . . .	4
2.	Manmad . . . .	Nil
3.	Aurangabad . . . .	4
4.	Nanded . . . .	2

(c) The target for replacement/expansion of exchanges during 1991-92 are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of district	No. of exchanges to be replaced/expanded	Net addition of switching capacity
1.	Parbhani . . . .	12	1190
2.	Manmad . . . .	Nil	Nil
3.	Aurangabad . . . .	14	3189
4.	Nanded . . . .	12	608

**Dowry Deaths in Delhi**

367. SHRI ASHOK ANAND-RAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in connection with the dowry and dowry deaths registered in Delhi during the last six months; and

(b) how many cases have been withdrawn by the parties and in how many cases culprits were punished?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) 301 cases relating to dowry and dowry deaths were registered during the period under reference.

(b) No conviction has been made nor any case withdrawn.

**Indo-Bangladesh Talks on River Waters**

368. SHRI ASHOK ANAND-RAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether bilateral talks between India and Bangladesh on sharing of river waters were held in April 1991; and

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA):** (a) Secretary level talks on river water sharing were held in April, 1991.

(b) It was agreed to attach priority for sharing of the flows of the Ganga and Tista. It was further agreed that a Joint Technical Team would visit the areas in India and Bangladesh dependent on the Ganga flows to be shared for assessing the relevant ground situation and for sharing of Tista waters. Bangladesh side would formulate a draft operation plan for further discussions.

#### **Indians Killed in Recent Civil War in Ethiopia**

369. **SHRI V. S VIJAYARAGHAVAN:** Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of people of Indian origin were either killed or maimed during the recent civil war in Ethiopia;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a number of people of Indian origin were evacuated from that country during the crisis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Security Arrangements for Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi**

370. **SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:** Will the Minister of **HOME AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the security arrangements made for the former Prime Minister late Shri Rajiv Gandhi at Sriperumbudur;

(b) when was the SPG withdrawn from the security of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi; and

(c) the details of threat perception to his life at time of the withdrawal of SPG?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB):** (a) The arrangements for the security of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the public meeting at Sriperumbudur were made by the Tamil Nadu Govt./Police. The nature of the security arrangements are the subject matter of a Judicial Enquiry.

(b) SPG was withdrawn from the security of Shri Rajiv Gandhi from 10-2-1990.

(c) According to the information, the threat to the security of Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the time of withdrawal of SPG was very high.

#### **Action Against Militants in Jammu & Kashmir**

371. **SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:** Will the Minister of **HOME AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of militants killed and captured, separately, during 1990-91 in Jammu & Kashmir;

(b) the number of militants in detention as on 1 April, 1990 and 1 April, 1991;

(c) the number of persons arrested or detained or taken into custody during 1990-91 for interrogation and the number of persons, out of them, released after interrogation;

(d) the number of security personnel killed and injured during anti-insurgency operation in Jammu & Kashmir during 1990-91; force-wise; and

(e) whether the next-of-kin of such security personnel have received any

ex-gratia payment or have been compensated in any other manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M JACOB): (a) to (c) A statement is given below.

**STATEMENT**

The Govt. of J&K have advised that the following terrorists were killed/apprehended/released after interrogation and were under detention during the year 1990 and upto 30th June, 1991 as also the number of security force personnel killed and injured during the same period.

	1990	1991
		(Upto 30th June)
<b>(I) Terrorists</b>		
Killed . . . . .	550	296
Apprehended . . . . .	4593	2653
Released after preliminary investigation	1409	986
Under detention		
as on 1-4-90 . . . . .	23	
1-4-91 . . . . .	1198	
<b>(II) Security Force Personnel</b>		
<b>(A) Killed</b>		
JKAF . . . . .	27	22
CRPF . . . . .	38	27
BSF . . . . .	42	26
Army . . . . .	4	19
IAF . . . . .	6	
MFS . . . . .	1	
Others . . . . .	17	
<b>(B) Injured</b>		

About 550 security force personnel were injured in 1990 and 250 in 1991.

*Financial Assistance Rendered to the next of Kin/Dependents of Victims of Terrorist violence in J & K*

**Police Personnel**

- |   |                |
|---|----------------|
| (i) For death . . . . .                 | Rs. 1.25 lakhs |
| (ii) For permanent disability . . . . . | Rs. 0.25 lakhs |
| (iii) For partial disability . . . . .  | Rs. 0.10 lakhs |

Apart from this, the families of Central/State Govt. employees including State Police/Security personnel who die in harness, are eligible for sanction of family pension, group insurance settlements and other benefits under their respective service rules.

[English]

**Improvement in Telecommunication Services in Mayurbhanj District of Orissa**

373. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations for improvement of telecommunication services in Mayurbhanj district of Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken to improve the telephone exchanges at Rairangpur, Karanjia and Udala.

(c) whether provision is being made for providing STD facilities there; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Steps taken to improve the exchanges at Rairangpur, Karanjia and Udala is as follows:

(1) Installation of Electronic Exchanges at Rairangpur and Karanjia is in progress which will replace the existing manual exchanges. The work is expected to be completed by March 92.

(2) Electronic Exchange of C-DOT type is already working at Udala.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) STD service trials are in progress at Udala since 5-7-91.

Plan exists to provide STD at Karanjia and Rairangpur during 92-93.

[Translation]

**Issue of Commemorative Postal Stamp on Late Shri Yashpal**

372. PROF. PREM DHUMAL Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received requests to issue a commemorative postal stamp on famous revolutionary literature late Shri Yashpal;

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this regard and the time by which the Government propose to issue this commemorative postal stamp; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Philatelic Advisory Committee functions in the Department to advise the Government regarding issue of commemorative/special postage stamps and other related matters. This proposal was placed before the Committee for consideration at its meeting held on 20-1-1988 but was not recommended. However, a fresh proposal received since is now being processed and necessary information is being collected from the sponsor.



**Production of Steel by Bhilai Steel Plant**

374 SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state

(a) the designed production capacity of Bhilai Steel Plant each in respect of hot metal ingot steel and saleable steel,

(b) the month wise percentage of the capacity utilised in each of the aforesaid item during March 1990 to June 1991

(c) whether there has been shortfall in the capacity utilisation in the above plant during the above period

(d) if so the reasons therefor and

(e) the monetary value of shortfall in terms of saleable steel during March 1990 to June 1991?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) Designed capacity for production of Bhilai Steel Plant for Hot Metal Ingot Steel and Saleable Steel is as under

*Unit: Million Tonnes*

Hot Metal	4.08
Ingot Steel	4.00
Saleable Steel	3.15

(b) Month wise percentage utilisation of capacity for Hot-Metal, Ingot Steel and Saleable Steel during the period March 1990 to June 1991 is as under

<i>Month</i>	<i>Hot Metal</i>	<i>Ingot Steel</i>	<i>Saleable Steel</i>
March 1990	97	99	104
April 1990	89	90	83
May 1990	77	75	67
June 1990	90	86	75
July 1990	88	87	82
August, 1990	68	67	83
September, 1990	84	87	87
October 1990	86	90	93
November 1990	86	90	90
December, 1990	88	90	93
January 1991	98	102	101
February 1991	94	94	101
March 1991	95	97	109
April 1991	82	83	91
May, 1991	74	76	82
June, 1991	84	83	79

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir Main reasons for shortfall in the capacity utilisation are as under:

- (i) Low and erratic receipts of indigenous coking coal leading to frequent blend changes affecting Hot Metal production
- (ii) Wide fluctuations in the ash content of indigenous coking coal. During 1990-91, the average ash % was 20% against the commitment of 18.42%.
- (iii) Lower availability of Blast Furnace No. 7 then envisaged.

(e) The monetary value of the shortfall in terms of saleable steel during March, 1990 to June, 1991 is approximately Rs. 331 crores.

#### **Requirement of Coking Coal by SAIL Steel Plants**

375 SHRI BHAGY GOBARDHAN Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state

(a) the individual requirement of coking coal per day by SAIL steel plants,

(b) the critical level of stock of coking coal each SAIL steel plant is required to maintain at any point of time

(c) the daily average receipt of coking coal individually at SAIL steel plants from domestic and imported sources during each month from March, 1990 to June 1991, and

(d) the steps undertaken for improvement of stock of coking coal during March, 1990 to June, 1991?

#### **THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV):**

(a) The current year's average daily requirement of coking coal in individual SAIL steel plants is given below.

	<i>Average require- ment (tonnes per day)</i>
Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP)	12 255
Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP)	4 849
Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP)	5 236
Bokaro Steel Plant (BSI)	11,197
Burnpur Steel Works (IISCO)	5 359
SAIL Total	38 896

(b) The critical coking coal stock level required to be maintained by the plants is one lakh tonnes in Bhilai Steel Plant and 50,000 tonnes in each of the other four plants.

(c) The desired information is given in the statement below.

(d) The steps undertaken to improve upon the stock levels include

- (i) constant monitoring of receipts of coal at various levels within SAIL as well as in the Government
- (ii) Regular inter-face with indigenous coal companies, the Indian Railways, and the ports authorities to step up coal despatch rates by debottlenecking operational constraints; and
- (iii) improved management of imported coal to bridge the gap in requirement and indigenous availability as also its productive usage.

## STATEMENT

Month-wise average daily receipt of Cotton Seed at SAIL Plants

	CMT Tonnes Day																	
	Mar 90	3	4	5	6	7	Aug 90	Sept 90	Oct 90	Nov 90	Dec 90	Jan 91	Feb 91	Mar 91	Apr 91	May 91	Jun 91	
BSP																		
INDG	8861	8427	7113	8253	6323	6448	6647	5345	6533	7497	8387	9457	8468	7827	6616	6757		
IMP	5697	4297	4290	5403	4636	473	5670	5510	6123	6026	4574	4364	4210	4157	4245	3547		
TOTAL	14558	12723	11403	13657	10948	11181	12267	10855	12657	13523	12961	13821	12677	11983	10861	10303		
DSP																		
INDG	3181	2880	2452	2827	1639	2652	2567	2961	3257	3348	3697	3579	3471	4213	2852	2513		
IMP	1226	1143	842	973	1384	1016	763	981	1080	1294	1184	811	768	1137	842	820		
TOTAL	4406	4023	3294	3800	3023	3668	3330	3942	4337	4642	4881	4389	4239	5350	3694	3333		
RSP																		
INDG	4039	3753	3006	2617	2374	2065	3375	2935	3800	3339	3755	3761	3784	3003	2845	3507		
IMP	1442	1417	1016	1597	1294	1174	1348	1365	1423	1579	1735	1064	1455	1440	1255	1480		
TOTAL	5481	5170	4023	4210	3668	4155	4860	4400	5223	5117	5490	4825	5239	4443	4100	4987		
BSL																		
INDG	6500	5717	5735	6443	5923	5945	6560	6497	6813	5542	6268	6439	5603	5613	7184	5893		
IMP	3671	4067	2916	2217	2819	3532	3763	3771	4603	4590	4513	4250	3852	4147	3119	4040		
TOTAL	10171	9783	8652	8660	8742	9481	10623	10265	11417	10132	10781	10689	9455	9760	10303	9933		

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<b>IISC.</b>																	
<b>INDG.</b>						1855	2677	2950	2913	3363	3094	3368	4046	3790	3837	2868	3280
<b>IMP.</b>					303	365	213	70	387	287	429	287	243	329	453	349	647
<b>TOTAL</b>					2737	2219	2890	3020	3300	3650	3523	3655	4289	4119	4290	3261	3927
<b>SAIL</b>																	
<b>INDG.</b>						18113	20706	22393	20652	23797	22819	25474	27282	25116	24493	22365	21950
<b>IMP.</b>						10487	10668	11703	12113	13517	14177	12294	10732	10613	11333	9855	10533
<b>TOTAL</b>						28600	31374	34097	32765	37313	36997	37768	38014	35729	35827	32219	32483

**Radio Telephone Service in Ratnagiri District of Maharashtra**

377 SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to install radio telephone services in the hilly areas of Maharashtra and particularly in Ratnagiri district,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The details of Public Radio Telephones to be installed during 91-92 are as under

<i>Ratnagiri Distt.</i>	<i>Hilly areas of Maharashtra</i>	<i>Total</i>
69	469	

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above

**Electronic Telephone Exchanges in Ratnagiri District of Maharashtra**

378 SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the names of the cities in Maharashtra having electronic telephone exchanges at present.

(b) the names of the cities in Maharashtra where electronic telephone exchanges are proposed to be provided during this year, and

(c) whether the present telephone exchange in Ratnagiri district is also likely to be converted into electronic telephone exchange?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) 40 Nos of electronic exchanges are working in the cities/towns of Maharashtra at present (as on 31-3-91) The names are given in Statement I below

(b) 118 Nos of electronic exchanges are planned to be provided in the cities/towns of Maharashtra this year (1991-92) The names are given in Statement II below

(c) Yes, Sir

**STATEMENT I**

*List of Cities/Towns in Maharashtra where Electronic Exchanges are working at present (as on 31-3-91)*

*Sl No* *Name of the City/Town*

- 1 Balap 1
- 2 Patur
- 3 Ch andur Ky
- 4 Khultabid
- 5 Warthi
- 6 Gondia MIDC
- 7 Mohadi
- 8 Kium
- 9 Kumsar
- 10 Sanetampur
- 11 Bhojardan
- 12 Panhala
- 13 Ausa
- 14 Nagpur
- 15 Biloh
- 16 Mudkhed
- 17 Manmad
- 18 Trimbak
- 19 Bhooni
- 20 Muru
- 21 Paranda
- 22 Naldurg
- 23 Sonpath
- 24 Pathari
- 25 Pune
- 26 Jejuri
- 27 Alibagh
- 28 Kajjat
- 29 Matheran

*Sl. Name of the City/Town  
No.*

- 
- 30 Bombay  
31 Nahad  
32 Roha  
33 Dabhol  
34 Dudhani  
35 Kuruduwadi  
36 Jawahar  
37 Waa  
38 Deoli  
39 Sirdi  
40 Lohara MIDC
- 

### STATEMENT II

*List of Cities/Towns in Maharashtra  
where Electronic Exchanges are pro-  
posed to be provided during this year  
(1991-1992)*

*Sl. Name of the City/Town  
No.*

- 
- 1 Karanja  
2 Mangrulpir  
3 Tolhara  
4 Murtizapur  
5 Dhamangaon Riv  
6 Chandni Bazar  
7 Daryapur  
8 Anjangaon  
9 Warud  
10 Morshi  
11 Chikhaldara  
12 Vanjapur  
13 Kannad  
14 Gangapur  
15 Ambejogar  
16 Ashti  
17 Gevrai  
18 Majalegaon  
19 Tirora
- 

*Sl. Name of the City/Town  
No.*

- 
- 20 Malkapur  
21 Deulgaon Raja  
22 Shegaon  
23 Jalgaon  
24 Nandura  
25 Chikhali  
26 Mchekar  
27 Rajura (M)  
28 Warora  
29 Chandrapur  
30 Dondaicha  
31 Shihdi  
32 Talodi  
33 Nivarpur  
34 Deasgaon  
35 Savdi Iuzpur  
36 Dharnagan  
37 Fandol  
38 Patoda  
39 Vitangaon  
40 Ravai  
41 Patpur  
42 Ambad  
43 Bhokardan  
44 Gadhinglaj  
45 Kurundwad  
46 Murgud  
47 Kagal  
48 Vadyon  
49 Ahmadpur  
50 Nilanga  
51 Latur  
52 Katol  
53 Narkhed  
54 Umred  
55 Ramtek  
56 Saoner  
57 Nagpur more lines will be added  
58 Hadgaon  
59 Mukhed
-

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>Name of the City/Town</i>	<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>Name of the City/Town</i>
60.	Dvijloor	100.	Karmela
61.	Dharambad	101.	Mangalvedha
62.	Kandhar	102.	Sangola
63.	Kinwat	103.	Nalasopara
64.	Umarı	104.	Shahapur
65.	Kundalwadi	105.	Wada
66.	Igatpurı	106.	Ulhansnagar
67.	Ozar	107.	Dahanu
68.	Lasalgaon	108.	Bassein
69.	Chandwad	109.	Arvi
70.	Nandgaon	110.	Hinganghat
71.	Kalam	111.	Pulgaon
72.	Tuljapurı	112.	Ghatanjı
73.	Omareu	113.	Uherkhed
74.	Sailu	114.	Digras
75.	Hingoli	115.	Datwha
76.	Manwat	116.	Pandharkawada
77.	Kalamnuri	117.	Bombay more lines will be added
78.	Basmatnagar	118.	Pune more lines will be added
79.	Jintur		
80.	Gangukhed		
81.	Bhor		
82.	Neral		
83.	Goregaon		
84.	Mahad		
85.	Roha		
86.	Karjat		
87.	Revdanda		
88.	Dapoli		
89.	Khed		
90.	Rajapurı		
91.	Alore		
92.	Ashta		
93.	Kirloskarwadi		
94.	Tasgaon		
95.	Karad		
96.	Sawantwadi		
97.	Malvan		
98.	Vengurla		
99.	Kankavali		

**S.T.D. Facility in Maharashtra**

379. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Maharashtra where STD facility is proposed to be provided this year, district-wise;

(b) whether Chiplun in Ratnagiri district is one of them, and

(c) if so, the time by which the facility is likely to be provided there?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Stations as per the information given in the statement below.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Department has planned to provide the facility by March, 1992.

**STATEMENT**

The following is the district-wise list of places in Maharashtra to be provided with STD facility during 1991-92

<i>Name of the District</i>	<i>Places to be provided with STD facility</i>
Nagar	Kopergaon Shirdi
Aurangabad	Paithan
Akola	Murtizapur
Beed	Purivajinath
Buldhana	Buldana
Jalgaon	Chalisgaon Savda
Kolhapur	Gokulshirgaon
Latur	Chakur
Nagpur	United Katol
Nanded	Kinwat
Pune	Bhor
Parbhani	Hingoli
Raigad	Nagothine Karjat
Ratnagiri	Chiplun
Satara	Bhumj
Sangli	Vita Kirloskarwad
Solapur	Panoharpur
Thane	Dahanu Palghar Murbad
Wardha	Hinganghar

**Opening of Telephone Exchanges in Ratnagiri District of Maharashtra**

380 SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for opening a new telephone exchange in rural area

(b) the number of telephone exchanges functioning in rural and urban areas of the Ratnagiri district in Maharashtra at present.

(c) whether there is any proposal to open more rural and urban telephone exchanges there; and

(d) if so, the number and the names of the places where the telephone exchanges are likely to be opened?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) Minimum registered demand for ten paid connections

(b) 54 exchanges in rural area and 8 exchanges in urban area of Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra are working

(c) Yes, Sir.



(d) 7 Nos. of telephone exchanges are proposed to be opened during 1991-92 at Someshwar, Ansure, Khavati, Sakhaloli, Thakurwadi, Kelshi, Panbalje and all the seven are in rural areas.

#### Pay Phones in Chandigarh

381. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pay phones sanctioned in Chandigarh since December 1989 till date; and

(b) the number of applications pending at present for such phones?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) 235. Pay phones have been sanctioned in Chandigarh since December 1989. Out of these, 42 are yet to be installed pending completion of formalities.

(b) 500 applications are pending at present

#### Infiltration of Pak Trained Militants

382. SHRI V. SHREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pakistan trained militants are crossing over to India from Sriganganagar border in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the stringent steps proposed to be taken to prevent entry of such militants in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) Some attempts of illegal infiltration through Sriganganagar area in Rajasthan have been noticed.

(b) The gaps between the border outposts have been reduced. The number of patrols and nakas has been increased. Observation-post Towers have been erected. BSF personnel deployed on the border have been issued night-vision devices, Binoculars, Hand-held search lights for better observation and keeping strict vigil on the border. Mobile patrolling has been increased. Border security fence and flood lighting have been erected along sensitive stretches. Wire obstacles have been erected to impede the entry of infiltrators. The intelligence set up of BSF has been geared up and further strengthened for keeping close surveillance on the border.

#### Production of Steel by SAIL

383 SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state

(a) whether SAIL's production of hot metal, ingot steel and saleable steel during 1990-91 was less than their respective targets; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the corrective steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The major reasons were the deficiencies in coal and power supplies, both qualitative and quantitative; besides, industrial relations problems, poor health of equipment and managerial deficiencies also played a part. Among the corrective steps taken in this connection are the constant interaction with suppliers of indigenous coal and power, better management of imports of good coking coal, increased captive power generation, modernisation and better maintenance of plant and equipment and inculcation of better work discipline.

**Modernisation of Durgapur and IISCO Steel Plants**

384. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any final decision regarding the modernisation of Durgapur and IISCO Steel Plants; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) While Government have already sanctioned the modernisation of Durgapur Steel Plant, execution of which is underway, the investment decision for modernisation of Burnpur Works of the Indian Iron and Steel Co. Ltd. (IISCO), is likely to be taken soon after various options for the project are considered and final view taken.

*[Translation]*

**Linking of Veerpur with Supol in Bihar through STD**

385. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to link Veerpur with Supol in District Saharsa of Bihar through STD;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this facility is likely to be provided in these areas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGI-AYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Both Veerpur and Supol are proposed to be provided with STD facility by connecting them to Patna.

(c) It is planned to provide this facility during 1992-93.

*[English]*

**International Military Education and Training Programme**

386. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the US House of Representatives has recently passed an amendment as part of the foreign aid authorisation bill for the financial year 1992-93 which refers to the International Military Education Training Programme for India; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAV-SINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have issued the following statement:

"There is no question of the Government of India accepting any conditionalities for such exchanges. In any case, these programmes are intended for mutual benefit and India is not the sole beneficiary.

"The Amendment by implication casts an unwarranted slur on our Armed Forces who, in the face of sustained and widespread terrorist violence and extreme provocations, have been acting bravely and with utmost restraint. They are operating against terrorists who are being infiltrated from across the border after being trained and heavily armed and who seek shelter behind innocent civilians.

"Our Armed Forces are renowned as a thoroughly trained and highly disciplined force. They need no lesson from others in compassion, morality or application of human rights and humanitarian standards".

**Naxalite Activities**

387. **SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the growing Naxalite activities in the country.

(b) if so, the details of the areas affected by Naxalite problem and the causes thereof;

(c) whether any, State Government(s) have sought the assistance of the Union Government to curb the Naxalism; and

(d) if so, the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Andhra Pradesh and Bihar are the worst affected states by naxalite activities. The left wing extremists have pockets of influence in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa West Bengal, Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Although it may not be possible to pin-point the exact causes for the growth of naxalism in the country, the economic backwardness, unemployment and the resultant dissatisfaction among a section of the youth could be an influencing factor. A request was recently received from the State Government of Orissa for financial assistance for the socio-economic development of the left wing extremist affected areas in the State. This was examined in consultation with the Planning Commission and the State Government was subsequently advised to meet the cost of implementing the plan from their normal plan outlay as approved and finalised by the Planning Commission. Similarly, requests were received from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for additional para-military

forces and weapons. A few companies of Central para-military forces and weapons have been provided to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh. The policy of the Government is to deal firmly with the extremist elements in the country and simultaneously step up socio-economic development in the affected areas to redress the genuine grievances of the local people. The Central government is rendering all possible assistance to the affected States.

**Delay in Ratifying U.N. Convention**

388. **SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE.** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the delay in ratifying the U.N. convention on the rights of the child;

(b) the steps taken to expedite ratification; and

(c) the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAV-SINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) The ratification process involves extensive consultations with different Ministries of the Government. These are expected to be completed shortly.

12.02 hrs.

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER. Please take your seats.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You don't want to keep quiet. Please take your seats. Mr. Basu Deb Acharia, please take your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. SPEAKER:** Now, nobody will speak. If you want that you should be heard, you should have to do it one by one. If all of you stand up and want to speak, nothing can be heard. May I request you to do it one by one?

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. SPEAKER:** When I am standing, please sit down. Now, I am requesting you to make your point one by one so that what you say is heard. If you do not want to be heard, all of you can stand and speak. That does not help us. So, please do it one by one. Now, Mr Saifuddin Choudhury

*(Interruptions)*

12.03 hrs.

#### RE. MORTGAGE OF GOLD

[*English*]

**SHRI SAI-UDDIN CHOUDHURY** (Katwa): Sir, I have given notice of an adjournment motion on the clandestine transfer of gold in contravention of the commitment given by the Finance Minister that after the second lot being sent out, there won't be any more such clandestine operation. The total gold transferred out comes up to 57 tonnes. This is to meet the foreign exchange crisis.

Now, Sir, if we are to mortgage gold, send our gold out to take foreign money, then what was the need to go to the IMF? And before getting the IMF loan you have accepted the conditionalities on our economy which is very harmful. It is reprehensible to act in this way to meet the crisis. Why did not they come to the House? Why did they not talk to the Opposition parties that 'we are not getting IMF money, so we are to sell our gold, mortgage our gold'? We should come to a consensus. What is this clandestine operation, I want to know, Sir. I demand that the Finance Minister or the Prime Minister should come to the House and make a statement. Let there be a discussion

on this. It is a very serious matter. What is your direction on this issue?

**MR. SPEAKER:** I cannot give a direction.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. SPEAKER:** Mr. Saifuddin Choudhury, it is not like this; please take your seats. I know that many people want to express their views on this point. I have allowed you and there are other senior Members also. Let us hear what they have to say.

*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPA-YEE** (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am a newcomer to this House and I do not know the procedure of the House. If I get an opportunity to raise this matter during the Zero Hour, I shall avail of that opportunity. But I met you in your chamber ..(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

**MR. SPEAKER:** I did not know that he was going to raise this issue.

**SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY:** Sir, I have given notice for Adjournment Motion.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Yes, you have given notice for Adjournment Motion, but I did not know that you were going to raise the issue in the House.

*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPA-YEE:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is but natural that the hon. Members are agitated over this issue. It would have been better, had the hon. Minister of Finance been present in the House. The Parliament is in session and an assurance was given that no more gold would be sold in future. But in spite of that, we read from

newspapers that about the selling of gold. We are really shocked. Can't this House be taken into confidence? Can't the Government take the entire nation into confidence and say as to what are their liabilities and for that how much gold is required to be sold or mortgaged? The Finance Minister had himself said that when gold goes out of the country, it hurts the sentiments of the people, especially the women. Whatever Sardar Manmohan Singh has to do, he must do at one stroke and not on piece meal basis. This is the third instalment of gold that is going out. Won't more gold be sold hereafter? What were the compulsions under which this gold was sold? How much are our liabilities? If the country is facing economic crisis, the situation could be met by taking the House into confidence. It become a question of propriety also when Parliament is in session and decisions are being taken on piece meal basis. I would request you to direct the Government to place all facts before the nation even if these facts are awesome and beyond our imagination. Let the clear picture come before the people. To overcome the crisis by selling gold in instalments is not a welcome method.

**SHRI RABI RAY** (Kendrapada)  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, today morning when I read about it in the newspaper, I wrote to you at once. I agree with Shri Atalji that you are the custodian of our rights. The Lok Sabha is in session but the news to the effect that gold is being transported to Sahar Airport in Bombay comes to us through a news report of the Indian express. This is really distressing. The photographer of the said newspaper is reported to have given a chase to the vehicles carrying gold to the airport following which he was given a warning by the security staff accompanying the vehicles. The question is what is this all about? It is just possible that the Finance Minister not being a politician or a statesman might not be aware that no policy decision could be taken without taking the Parliament into confidence

when it is in session. The news that gold is being sent out of the country comes to us through the newspapers despite the assurance by the Government that no gold would henceforth be sold. The question that arises is whether it is within the powers of the Government. If that is so, let the Finance Minister or the Prime Minister come before the House before it adjourns for the day to clarify why it is being done in a hush hush manner. They should also give a categorical assurance that such a thing would never be done in future. You have also to give your ruling after a careful consideration. The statement from the Prime Minister or Shri Manmohan Singh should come before 5.00 or 6.00 p.m.

[English]

**SHRI CHITTA BASU** (Barasat):  
I take strong exceptions to this action. It tantamounts to contempt of the House. I clearly remember the hon. Minister while replying to the question in this House on the very same subject raised by Mr. Unmkrishnan, made a specific commitment on behalf of the Government that there would be no further shipment of gold. In the background of having that kind of firm commitment from the Government side on the floor of the House, how is it that the Government allowed the shipment of gold in a clandestine manner?

All policy matters should be brought before the House and though it is a very important policy matter, the Government did not consider it advisable to inform the House about the Government decision far further shipment of gold. Therefore, it constitutes according to me, contempt of the House.

On an earlier occasion, it was said that the gold was sold on a buy back basis. Now I also want to know whether it has been finally sold or it would be bought back. If so, whether the Government has got the

[Sh. Chitta Basu]

financial capacity of buying back the gold. But it appears to me that the Government has gone completely bankrupt.

Therefore, the Government owes an explanation to the House. You may direct the Government to make a statement during this day itself.

**SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN** (Badagara): When I raised this question last week, in this House, I had an opportunity to observe that it was not mortgaged as the Government spokesman would like us to believe, but it was nothing short of sale with a re-purchase option within 90 days or 180 days on payment of interest differentials. And then, the hon. Finance Minister tried to wriggle out by saying that the sale for which I have given notice referred to the sale from the Government stocks, from the confiscated gold. He was not prepared to say anything about the sale by the RBI. He went on as a matter of righteous indignation to say that RBI was a great institution—please do not cast aspersion. We were not casting aspersion. We were alarmed, we were concerned about what was going on because it is again this very RBI that backs currency reserve. It is not done by anybody else. It is not done by the Ministry directly. Therefore, when that issue was raised, we have drawn your attention through several notices, to the need to raise the issue and we demanded a White Paper on this. Nothing has been done so far. On the contrary, we find this sale, which I allege, is a continuous process as a result of conscious policy of the Government. That is the most important thing. The policy is to sell gold. First it was 25 tonnes, then it was 21 tonnes; now it is 9 to 12 tonnes. We do not know. The House is sitting but kept in the dark. Therefore, I would demand:

(1) It calls for immediate statement from the Finance Minister. You please be kind enough in your wisdom to ask the Finance Minister that before the House adjourns today that he should make a statement.

(2) A White Paper be brought out next week on all aspects of these gold transactions.

**MR SPEAKER:** Shri Chandrajeet Yadav. You have to be very brief please.

**SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV** (Azangarh): I am on another point.

**SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE** (Dum Dum): Sir, the point I want to make is, it may be necessary, I am prepared to concede that gold needs to be sold in order to overcome our foreign exchange crisis. I am prepared to concede that gold needs to be sold in order to achieve our targets in time. The point that is relevant is we are not yet told what is the depth and extent of the crisis.

The second point is, they are keeping the measures they are adopting close to their heart and they are not telling them to anybody.

**MR SPEAKER:** Let this not become a debate on economic condition. We are going to do that in this particular Session.

**SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:** We may be told tomorrow that the most valuable of movables is being secretly sent outside the country. The time may come to sell out immovable property also. I will not be surprised, if I am told tomorrow, that the city of Calcutta has been sold out to some other party! If the Government which is in the minority will behave in this manner, what is the future of the country? I request you to accede to the request of the former Speaker Mr Rabi Ray and ask the Finance Minister himself to come and answer this question today itself.

**SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA** (Andaman-Nicobar): The apprehensions of the Members on the other side is understandable. But the point is that Government should come with a White Paper on what is the state of economy that is left by the earlier

Government in this country and the remedial measures to be taken by the present Government. Whatever newspaper reports are published, the accuracy of those reports is also not known. It is absolutely necessary that Government should come out with a White Paper on what is the state of the economy. The statement regarding the gold sales policy should be made today itself and the earlier statement made by the Finance Minister should be in conformity with the present action taken. *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolgpur):** They are taking the House very casually.

**SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY:** We want the Prime Minister to come.

**SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura):** You ask the Finance Minister to tell this House why gold is sent in a clandestine manner. He must tell this House. He has come

**SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK (Buldana):** What is this? We are not aware of any decision taken. We are not aware of the actual position. What is the decision that is going to be taken? I request through you that the hon. Finance Minister should make a statement today and now itself whether the reports which have appeared in the Indian Express are true or false.

Secondly, if this type of things are going to take place repeatedly and frequently, I request the hon. Finance Minister to come out with a specific gold sale or gold mortgage policy. *(Interruptions)*

**MR. SPEAKER:** Mr. Basu Deb Acharia, please take your seat. Now the Finance Minister is here I would like to know whether he is interested in responding.

**AN HON. MEMBER.** It is better to mortgage Andaman & Nicobar Islands also!

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH):** I would be happy to make a statement to the House this very day. I have nothing to hide and I want to come clean before this House and the country. *(Interruptions)*

**MR. SPEAKER:** Please don't do like this.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. SPEAKER:** Mr. Finance Minister, would you like to make a statement today?

**SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH:** Yes, Sir

**MR. SPEAKER:** O.K. Since you have demanded a statement today, the Finance Minister is ready to make a statement today. I will give him time.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE** When?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Before the House rises.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** No further clandestine operations should be done *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

**SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given notice of an adjournment motion and I wanted that the Question Hour should be suspended and the matter be taken up straightaway. This is a very serious matter. Yesterday, we raised the issue of Mandal Commission Report and said that the Government was not sincere in its implementation. Shri Arjun Singhji, you are the leader of the House and I do not want that we should give a notice on this issue. But yesterday, he said that he would clarify the details in respect of the implementation only in the Supreme Court. The result is that the Judge of the

Supreme Court said yesterday that he would not deal with this case and that he was quitting. He said this thing because the Government was not making its position clear in regard to the Mandal Commission Report despite the fact that the Supreme Court repeatedly asked the Government to do so. The result is that the Supreme Court has deferred the hearing of the case to August 6. The Government want to add the economic criteria in the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission. If it is done, it will be out of the jurisdiction of the Commission. It clearly shows that the intention of the Government is not clear and it does not want to implement the report at all. Therefore, we want the Government to say in categorical terms as to what is their stand on the Mandal Commission Report and how it propose to go about it. Your dual policy would not work. You are depriving the children of North India of the benefits of the report whereas you are supporting it in the South. Since the matter is in the court, the Government will have to make its stand clear about Mandal Commission Report. Is the Government in favour of the report or not? If yes, why is it not making its stand clear before the court? *(Interruptions)*.

**SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES** (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to a very serious matter. During the last few days, incidents of encounter between the terrorists—especially from Punjab—and the police have been reported quite frequently resulting in death of terrorists. Five or six days back, i.e. on 13th July, newspapers reported the death of 10 Sikh terrorists in Uttar Pradesh.

As per today's information no encounter had taken place with police. Sikh pilgrims who included youths, women and men, were going from Pilibhit to Nanded and from there they had to return to their homes via Patna. They had hired a bus for

Rs. 20-30 thousand. There is a company from which they had hired the bus and there is also the bus number. Suddenly a situation developed that Pilibhit police stopped the vehicle enroute and dragged ten boys out of the vehicle and forcibly conducted them to police vehicle. They were arrested in Badaun. There it was decided to take them back to Pilibhit. They were taken to the Police Station during the night of 12th. Early in the morning between 4 a.m and 5 a.m. on 13th these boys were taken to three different places and gunned down. This was done at the instance of an S.P. and U.P. Government was also happy that they had achieved a great success in Pilibhit in a drive to wipe off terrorists.

*(Interruptions)*. . . An S.P. had personally supervised the killing of ten innocent children. It is a very serious matter. The Home Minister is not present here. It would have been better if he would have been here at the moment. Regarding Kashmir, Assam and Punjab you say again and again. *(Interruptions)*.

**MR. SPFAKER**: The matter is being raised in the Zero Hour.

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES**: Mr Speaker, Sir, our boys are being killed in two ways. On the one hand they are being killed by the Police as terrorists and on the other hand police itself is killing innocent people. Under such circumstances, I would request you to call for the information from Uttar Pradesh Government in this regard and inform the House about this incident so that such incidents are not repeated in future. Orders should also be issued for immediate suspension of all the Police Officers involved in this case. Uttar Pradesh Government should take this step immediately... *(Interruptions)*.



[English]

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** This is a very serious matter, the killing of so many persons. What has happened.. (Interruptions) Police is trying to say that they were the militants. But the report says that there is something different. (Interruptions) What is being said that the police version is totally different from what has really happened. (Interruptions)

**MR. SPEAKER.** I will allow you later on.

(Interruptions)

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** It is a very serious matter. It cannot be ignored like that. Therefore, in the name of so-called militants, these fake encounters took place against young men who had gone on pilgrimage. They cannot be treated like that. What enquiry is this Government going to do? What have they done since 13th of July. we would like to know? Who will respond on behalf of Government so far as these serious charges are concerned? We want the Government to immediately respond and come out with a statement (Interruptions)

**MR. SPEAKER:** I have called Shri Bhakta. You take your seat. You can speak after Shri Bhakta completes his speech.

(Interruptions)

**MR. SPEAKER:** I have called Shri Bhakta. I do not appreciate this. You shall have to stop it. You cannot do like this. I am just calling one after the other. It is not a person sitting here. It is the Chair. You don't have to do that. I do not appreciate it.

(Interruptions)

**SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, Andaman 11--11 LSS/ND/91.

and Nicobar Island is a Union Territory and the Central Government is particularly responsible for the better administration of the Andaman-Nicobar Island and also its development. At present, there are a large number of educated unemployed youth who are getting frustrated day by day as the small Island territory does not have any potentialities for generation of employment. Even the services of about one hundred Lower Division Clerks were terminated by the Andaman-Nicobar administration. Then those clerks went to the Central Administrative Tribunal at Calcutta. The Tribunal has ordered that they should be re-instated immediately. But the administration preferred to go on appeal to the Supreme Court. I would like to request the hon. Home Minister that since it is the policy of the Government that when the Tribunal is giving its verdict in favour of the complainant, in such cases the administration should not unnecessarily go for the appeal.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE** They always do that.

**SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:** And all the time, number of litigants are increasing. As such, I request the Hon. Home Minister particularly to issue necessary direction in this regard and to fill up the vacant posts which are running in thousands in the Island immediately.

[Translation]

**SHRI KASHIRAM RANA** (Surat): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the recommendations of Kelkar Committee regarding the price of natural gas. Chandrashekhar Government accepted the recommendations without caring for the reactions of the states. These recommendations will cause great injustice to Gujarat and on the request of Gujarat Government the implementation of this report has been withheld upto 1st August as industries of Gujarat will be affected adversely by the implementation of these

recommendations. The cost of generation of electricity will go up considerably. According to the recommendations of Kelkar Committee the rate of one thousand cubic metre gas has been fixed at Rs. 2,300

[English]

MR SPEAKER I am allowing one from this side and one from that side.

[Translation]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA Gujarat is generating electricity with the coal from Bihar which is very costly. (Interruptions) It results in a heavy burden on the industry and the people of Gujarat. So we want that this recommendation be rejected and considered again. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. This a matter which you are raising without giving a notice. You have to be very brief. (Interruptions)

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore): Sir, the Government of Orissa has lost the confidence of the people. They have failed to fulfil the commitments they have made during the time of the Assembly elections. They have committed to the people of Orissa that they will provide rice to the poor consumers at Rs 2/- a KG. Secondly, they have committed to the people that they will waive the agricultural loan to the tune of Rs. 10,000. Thirdly, they have committed to the people during the time of Assembly elections that they will establish a second steel plant in Orissa. Further they have committed to the unemployed youths that they will provide employment facilities. Similarly, they have assured that they will maintain law and order. The Government has failed on all these commitments. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER. Mr Rao, please take your seats. You should appreciate that this is a matter which is coming before this House without any procedure being followed. This is a sort of indulgence shown by the House to the Members and not by the Chair. While you are making speeches, you are taking the time of other Members also. So, you have to be very careful. You will not continue with that. Now, I am calling upon Mr. Surya Narayan Yadav

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR SPEAKER First of all, you all please take your seats

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER It is of no use to create pandemonium. People of neither side are audible. Be seated Surya Narayan Yadav.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra). Mr. Speaker, Sir, Kosi dam constructed by Government of India in Bihar along the Nepal Border, has developed a breach near Hanuman Nagar and Lakhs of people are trapped in the area. Mr Speaker, Sir, this dam developed a breach yesterday in the evening but the Government has done nothing so far in this regard. Mr Speaker, Sir, lakhs of people are trapped in Saharasa, Madhubani, Samastipur, Darbhanga and Nepal. Since it is a dam of the Government of India, I request the Government to take security measures as early as possible. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Sir, I am on a point of procedure. You have asked us to give formal notices for Zero Hour. (Interruptions)

**MR. SPEAKER:** No, I did not ask. If you are going with that impression, please remove it

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:** Now, formal notices have been given. Since the Zero Hour has now unofficially started, I demand that those who have given notices be called first. I think, this is the way to conduct the House *(Interruptions)*

**MR. SPEAKER:** Madam, you have raised a point and I am with you. I must explain, please take your seats

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. SPEAKER:** I will explain that so that you will not go with a wrong impression. Please hear me a little patiently and attentively. I have received a number of notices. If I take up all the notices, I am sure and you will also feel that the entire time of the House will be consumed. So, I have to pick and choose. I have to ballot it or I have to pick and choose

Now, this is not the time when we make long speeches. This is some kind of indulgence which is shown to the Members by the House. When one Member is speaking, other Members are remaining patient and they are hearing him. That is why we shall have to respect that patience and we shall have to be very brief. But unfortunately because matters are very important and Members want to ventilate their views, now there is going on a competition between the Members. Well, we shall have to regulate it and that is why this is done.

Madam, I have not asked for the notices or anything. You can briefly state what you have to say.

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI LOKANATH CHAUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur):** Sir, the matter must have been submitted to you. My question is that one who gives the notice must state what matter he is going to raise. *(Interruptions)*

**MR. SPEAKER:** I will discuss this matter with you in my Chamber.

**SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:** Sir, according to a news published in today's *Statesman*, the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal a Rome-based forum of public opinion has held the multi-national corporations and Government agencies guilty of abusing human rights of industrial disaster victims

What is most important for our country is calling the Bhopal gas tragedy as 'the worst industrial disaster', it has ascribed it to 'unsafe design, hazardous operation and gross negligence in the running of the factory'

**MR. SPEAKER:** You have to be very brief, Madam.

**SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:** I am trying to be as brief as possible. You have allowed everybody. I am trying to be brief. *(Interruptions)* I am normally very brief.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Not today, it seems!

**SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:** You can check up the records. I am normally brief. *(Interruptions)* Now, it has also pointed out that what happens as a consequence, highlights the failure of the legal systems both in US and India to provide any semblance of justice to gas victims.

I would like to know from our Government how the stricture comes that our Government was not strong

enough to move the court to give proper justice to the victims of the Bhopal gas tragedy and many more tragedies that might happen in the future when the multi-nationals are here.

I would like to know that through you from the Government.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI VISHWESHWAR BHAGAT** (Balaghat): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a serious incident took place in village Sitapur, Tehsil Lanji of Balaghat district on 16-7-91 at 11-00 Naxalites blew up a Police van by laying a mine in which nine policemen were killed and 11 people were injured and some policemen are missing. There is a feeling of fear and terror among the people in the entire area of Balaghat district. Rajnani village and the border area along Bhandara district of Maharashtra because of the activities of Naxalites Police force is demoralised and it needs to be equipped properly. In order to boost the morale of police the public support is a must. We won't be able to get the support of the people unless we solve their problems. The B.J.P. Government has utterly failed to control deteriorating situation. My submission is that the B.J.P. Government should be dismissed (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

**SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR** (Mangalore): Mr. Speaker Sir, the farmers, the agricultural labourers and also the artisans of the State of Karnataka have resorted to State-wide agitation since 15th July, 1991. This agitation is against the forcible recovery of the loans by the Government agencies. Now, we are happy that the Government of India has agreed to extend the benefit of loan waiver. But in Karnataka, the Government has resorted to forcible recovery of loans. And only 10 per cent of the agriculturists

and agricultural labourers are benefited in Karnataka by whatever scheme is implemented by that Government. May I request the Government to intervene immediately and direct the Karnataka Government to stop further recovery of loans by forcible and coercive methods? (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

**SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI** (Robertsganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the selling of three factories Dala, Churak and Chunar of Uttar Pradesh Cement Corporation in Mirzapur and Sonbhadra districts to Sanjay Dalmia Group and to Dala firing incident on 2nd June, 1991. The cost of these factories is Rupees 400 crores, 250 crores and 150 crores respectively. The former Chief Minister, Shri Mulayam Singh Ji sold all the three factories at throw away prices of Rupees 26 crores (*Interruptions*)

**MR. SPEAKER** Be seated please.

(*Interruptions*)

**SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI**. The Cement factories are lying closed since 2nd June because of the firing incident. The fire was opened at labourers in which 15-16 labourers lost their lives. A judicial enquiry into the incident should be instituted and the bereaved families should be given appropriate compensation (*Interruptions*)

**MR. SPEAKER** Be seated please. Whatever you are saying is not going on record.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

**SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK** (Phulbani): Mr. Speaker Sir, since the last one month, wagon loads of medicines for the babies as well as food for those who are affected due

to Gulf war have been stranded in the New Delhi Railway Station. But it is a matter of fact that in spite of repeated writing to the department concerned, no action has been taken regarding the delivery of those commodities. So, I request that the concerned department should take immediate action to make delivery of those items. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI BRISHIN PATEL** (Siran) Mr. Speaker, Sir, the previous Government had made an announcement in the House that every Member could recommend 15 telephone connections. During the elections the Election Commission had banned implementation on this direction. But after the elections the ban was lifted. Now once again the present Minister-in-charge has imposed a ban on it. I would request you that the Members should not be deprived of such small rights. I would like the hon. Minister of State of the Ministry of Communications to clarify the position as it concerns the rights of the Members.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT)** There is no such ban. There had been some irregularities during the tenure of my predecessor Shri Sanjay Singh who was the then Minister of Communications. The vigilance report is still wanted. I have already said that the practice would continue and there is no ban on it.

**SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA** (South Delhi) What type of irregularities were there?

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT** You know better than me.

**SHRI RAM PRAKASH CHAUDHARY** (Ambala) I would like to submit Sir that I had raised this matter earlier also when you were in the Chair and I am raising it again. Everybody knows that the murders in Punjab are not committed by the

terrorists but by the police. If the police is sent to Bihar or Orissa, crime and murders would come to an end in Punjab. If this cannot be done Punjab Police should be divided in four zones.

[*English*]

They think they are the Kings of Punjab and Haryana and they are responsible for these killings and murders.

[*Translation*]

If this is not done, killings and terrorism will continue because the police will continue to help the terrorists. If this is done, terrorism will be wiped out from the State.

**SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV** (Azamgarh) Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter to which I want to draw the attention of the House, is of a very serious nature. The Mandal Commission case is in the Supreme Court.

**MR. SPEAKER** That has already been taken up.

**SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV** It is a serious matter. Not every thing has been taken up in this regard. If you can give opportunity to six Members to speak about gold transactions we should also be given an opportunity. I am saying this because this issue concerns the destiny of 52 per cent of the people in the country.

**MR. SPEAKER** Would you like to raise an important matter during zero hour?

**SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV** It is a very important issue today. The way the case is being dealt in Supreme Court, it seems that the Government wants to plead the case half heartedly. The Government is opposed to the backward classes and now it is evident from this case. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court along with five other Judges said that

the Government did not have a clear cut policy in this regard. The ruling party had proclaimed that they wanted to implement its manifesto *in toto*. On page 32 of the manifesto it has been categorically stated that they would make provision for reservation for those who are socially and educationally backward and work for their upliftment. While taking the credit of providing reservation to the backwards during the last 40 years they have said that they would implement it at the Centre also. I would request the ruling party to go through page 32 of its manifesto. On page 9 of the President's Address also...

**MR. SPEAKER:** If you do like that...

**SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV:** Sir, this is a very serious matter. (*Interruptions*)... Sir, you will have to listen to it. Please listen to me. The Government Counsel said in the Supreme Court that the views of the Government had been expressed in the President's Address. There is no mention of Mandal Commission in the President's Address. (*Interruptions*)

**SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS:** It has not been mentioned. It has not been mentioned.

**SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV:** Now as they are insisting on it, I would like to read out what is there on page 10 in the President's Address.

[*English*]

"Government is committed to special measures in favour of socially and educationally backward classes. In implementing these, preference will be given to the poorer sections among them."

[*Translation*]  
and what they have mentioned in their manifesto. Please listen to this also.

[*English*]

"Congress Party is committed to undertaking special measures in favour of the socially and educationally backward classes, including reservations in jobs."

[*Translation*]

This has been completely left out in the President's Address and no mention has been made about reservation of jobs. Now they are saying that our stand on Mandal Commission is the same as has been expressed in the President's Address. But the Supreme Court has not accepted it and instead directed the Government that it should specifically mention the criterion for socially and educationally backward classes and whether it wants to include the economic criterion as well.

Sir, my charge is that this Government is anti backward class and it wants to change the entire reservation policy. Not only this, it wants to dilute the recommendations of Mandal Commission but dilute the reservation policy for SC and ST also and does not want to take a favourable stand on such a serious issue. It is trying to back out from the commitment made to the people.

**MR. SPEAKER** Now conclude...

**SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV:** I want to submit that by not pleading the case in a proper way they want that the Supreme Court should pass a verdict against the Mandal Commission so that they could get an excuse for not implementing it. That is why I was saying that it is a deliberate attempt because they do not want to implement it. We doubt their intentions.

**THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to express my distress on this matter. Objecting to what a senior Member like Shri Yadav said, would not be appropriate. I just

want to express my feelings that the charges levelled against the Government in the surge of emotions is totally wrong. To say that we do not at all want to protect the interests and rights of the backward classes is not true. *(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to submit that if they can speak, they should be prepared to listen also.

**SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:** Your intentions are bad. They are not well intended.

**SHRI ARJUN SINGH:** If you speak, you must be prepared to listen also. You cannot just go on speaking. I too have a right to speak. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is totally wrong to say that the Government wants to overlook and neglect the interests of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and the backward classes including the policy of reservation of jobs for them. So far as Mandal Commission is concerned, I think the name figured just in the context. Is it necessary that when we speak of Reservation the name of Commission should be mentioned? *(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Members of the House whether Reservation cannot be done without the Mandal background. *(Interruptions)* We are in favour of Reservation. But we will do it in our own way. *(Interruptions)*.

**SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:** There is a case in Supreme Court about the implementation of Mandal Commission. You should clarify your stand in the House. *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI CHANDRA JET YADAV:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter is related to Mandal Commission. *(Interruptions)* The case is before Supreme Court also. The Government does not want to clarify its stand. It is a matter of distress for us because the Government does not want to say anything on Mandal Commission. *(Interruptions)*.

[English]

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** This is a basic issue. The Supreme Court of India is the highest judicial authority in this country. It has been so long hearing the constitutionality of the recommendations of the Mandal Commission which have been adopted by the V. P. Singh's Government to the extent of providing reservation for 27 per cent

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT:** It has not been properly adopted.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** After the new Government came, more than three weeks have elapsed. The Supreme Court wanted to know what was the present Government's attitude to that 27 per cent reservation. They said, we would like to know, if you are changing the policy, if you do not stick to that Notification, then there is no point in hearing the matter because the question of the validity of that Notification of the V. P. Singh's Government was in question. Now, the Supreme Court wanted to know, they said, we would like to know what is the Government's policy?

Yesterday, this matter was raised. The hon. Leader of the House said, yes, we need not say here what is to be done; what has to be said before the Supreme Court, we shall say. Now, what was said before the Supreme Court. This is what the Judges said.

"They expressed displeasure at counsel making them to read the President's Address to Parliamentarians which does not indicate whether the government proposed to support or oppose the reservation policy introduced by the Janata Dal government."

Now, the Supreme Court said that. Therefore, still they are in the dark about the present Government's policy, which prompted the highest court

of the land to say, when you can frame your economic policies in three days, why can you not frame your reservation policy?

**MR SPEAKER** You are reading the extract of the judgment of the Supreme Court as given in the newspaper. It is not correct.

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE** What I am trying to point out is what was stated before the Supreme Court on behalf of the Government. The Government should say whether this is correct or not.

Mr Ahmad said as follows:

'It was not an easy job to frame the policy on reservation as the government would have to consider the constitutional provisions while amending the memorandum for reservation.'

Therefore the Government wants to amend the memorandum. We would like to know how long the Government would take to decide. Mr Arjun Singh said, there is no special fancy in the word 'Mandal'. But the basic principle of the reservation as was notified by the previous Government are you accepting that or not? Why can you not say yes or no? This is the point.

13.00 hrs.

The Government must make a categorical statement. That is what we want. *(Interruptions)*

**MR. SPEAKER** Let the members know that they cannot raise points of order at this point of time because whatever we are doing now is not provided in the rules and so you cannot raise a point of order when you are discussing like this. That is one point.

The second point is, you have your own views. You have expressed your views. But, on the other hand,

the other members also may have their views. They may not have the opportunity to express their views and that is why one-sided picture is presented. Now if you want to have any discussion on this point there are occasions on which you can do it. Thus both the sides can express their views.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE** This is a question of what transpired before the Supreme Court. *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

**MR SPEAKER** Mr Sonkar Shastri please take your seat.

**SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI** (Saidpur) Sir, many times I have been prevented from raising the issue.

**MR SPEAKER** No, please take your seat. You are not allowed because I am on my feet.

**SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI** Sir, if you so desire we are prepared to go out of the House.

**MR SPEAKER** No, you will have to sit down.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR SPEAKER** Please listen. I am trying only to protect you and to find time for you.

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI** You have disallowed me time and again. Please protect me.

**MR SPEAKER** I am trying my best. Please be seated. From this side Mr Sonkar wants to speak, but he can speak only if other Members allow him to speak and finish their speech. I am trying for the same.



[English]

You have to sit down, please. When I am talking you cannot stand up

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: I have been disallowed fifty times

MR SPEAKER Only when the other Members wind up their speeches, you can go on stream I am trying for the same

[English]

You can understand that one hour we have taken What I am trying to see is that all members get equal time Now, if you do not allow other members to speak, I do not have any instrument with me by which I can stop any member speaking from there So, please listen and cooperate with me It is in your interest I am not speaking from the benches over there Please, Sonkarji. I am trying to do exactly the same I am trying to find time for you You will have to cooperate and other members also have to cooperate Now, one hour we have taken for the matter which is not on the Agenda and the matter which is on the Agenda is side-tracked Now, it is in your own interest. I can understand your feelings I am not saying that you are wrong in expressing your views. But there are other members also That is why, allow me to help you to speak. Please allow the other members. The members who have expressed their views may not get up and allow the other members to speak They too have their point of view Shri Sonkar

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Mr. Sonkar. I will call you afterwards, Mr. Anthony.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Though my notice was on some

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other issue, but the hon Minister has raised a more serious issue in the House During the last 10 years about 200 hours as I understand had been devoted to discussion on the Mandal Commission report. Sometimes the discussions on this issue had taken place upto 1 O' clock in the night Since the days of late Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the country had been longing for the implementation of Mandal Commission's recommendations Both the ruling party and the opposition parties in the House were in agreement that the report of the Mandal Commission should be implemented but owing to the certain changing circumstances the issue remained pending

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: The former Government implemented the Mandal Commission report, but today the hon Minister of Human Resource Development has categorically refused to (Interruptions) I am surprised to hear it

MR SPEAKER. You are giving a full speech.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI The hon. Minister of Human Resource Development categorically stated in the House that the Mandal Commission's report in nothing and we will be implementing it in our own way. (Interruptions) Sir, the issue is very important for the crores of people of the country and in protest against the statement of the hon Minister we stage a walk out (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: We are walking out as a protest

*At this stage, Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav and some other honourable Members left the House.*

13.05 hrs.

[Translation]

**PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT** (Ajmer): Sir, I would like to submit before the House that a leading industrialist of Mohan Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, on his birthday invited the Air Force and Army Personnel to a Blood Donation Camp and made them donate blood. Forcible donation of blood from the soldiers is objectionable. I would like to urge upon the Government that whosoever he may be, he should not be allowed to act like this. The said industrialist is known to be liquor baron. Inviting the Air Force Personnel of Hindu Airport and the Army personnel by such a person on the occasion of his birthday tantamounts to misuse of his influence and fiddling with the lives of the defence personnel. My submission to the Government is to exercise effective control over such functions. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

**MR. SPEAKER:** Now let us take up the next item. Papers to be laid on the Table.

13.06 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

**Review on the Working and Annual Report of Rehabilitation Plantations Ltd., Punalur and Repatriates Co-operative Finance and Development Bank Limited, Madras for 1989-90**

[English]

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB):** On behalf of Shri S.B. Chavan, 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 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Rehabilitation Plantations Limited, Punalur, for the year 1989-90.

(ii) Annual Report of the Rehabilitation Plantations Limited, Punalur, for the year 1989-90 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-63/91]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Repatriates Co-operative Finance and Development Bank Limited, Madras, for the year 1989-90 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Repatriates Co-operative Finance and Development Bank Limited, Madras, for the year 1989-90.

(4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-64/91]

**Explanatory statement giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND**

COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAN-GARAJAN KUMARAMANGA-LAM): On behalf of Shri K. Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy, I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991.

*[Placed in Library. See No. LT-65/91]*

**Review on the Working and Annual Report of National Projects Construction Corporation Limited for 1989-90, etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): On behalf of Shri V. C. Shukla, 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 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the National Projects Construction Corporation Limited for the year 1989-90.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Projects Construction Corporation Limited for the year 1989-90 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

*[Placed in Library. See No. LT-66/91]*

**Notifications under Indian Post Office Act, 1898 and Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNI-

CATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Indian Post Office (First Amendment) Rules, 1991 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 3(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st January, 1991 issued under section 74 of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898.

*[Placed in Library. See No. LT-67/91]*

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (5) of section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885:—

(i) The Indian Telegraph (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1990 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 985(E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th December, 1990 together with corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 237(E) dated the 25th April, 1991.

(ii) The Indian Telegraph (First Amendment) Rules, 1991 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 74 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd February, 1991.

(iii) GSR 251(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd May, 1991 containing corrigendum to the Notification No. G.S.R. 933(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd December, 1990.

(3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) of (2) above.

*[Placed in Library. See No. LT-68/91]*

**Notification under Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOBB): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. U.14011/160/89-Delhi (Hindi and English versions) published in Delhi Gazette dated the 3rd May, 1991 making certain amendments to Notification No. U. 14011/160/89-Delhi dated the 6th January, 1990 issued under section 490 of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-69/91]

**Notification under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and Review on the Working and Annual Report of Tamil Nadu Agro-Industries Corporation Ltd., Madras and Punjab Agro-Industries Corporation Ltd., Chandigarh for 1989-90 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 397 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th June, 1981 containing Order indicating the Supplies of fertilisers to be made by domestic manufacturers of fertiliser to various States/Union Territories/Commodity Board during the period from the 1st April, 1991 to the 31st September, 1991 (Kharif, 91 Session) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-70/91]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English ver-

sions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Tamil Nadu Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Madras, for the year 1988-89.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Tamil Nadu Agro Industries Corporation 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-71/91]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 1989-90.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 1989-90 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (3) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-72/91]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Cooperative Training, New Delhi, for the year 1989-90.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Cooperative Training, New Delhi, for

the year 1989-90 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Council for Co-operative Training, New Delhi, for the year 1989-90.

- (5) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-73/91]

**Review on the Working and Annual Report of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd., New Delhi and Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd., Bombay for 1989-90 etc.**

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU):** 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 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
- (a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1989-90.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1989-90 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-74/91]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited, Bombay, for the year 1989-90.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Government on the working of the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited, Bombay, for the year 1989-90 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-75/91]

13.07 hrs.

#### MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

**SECRETARY-GENERAL:** Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 1991, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 16th July, 1991."

#### The Representation of The People (Amendment) Bill, 1991

*As passed by Rajya Sabha.*

[English]

**SECRETARY-GENERAL:** Sir, I lay on the Table the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 1991, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

13.07½ hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

Official Language Committee

[Translation]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM LAL RAHI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of Shri S. B. Chavan, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (2) of Section 4 of the Official Languages Act, 1963, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, twenty members from among themselves to be members of the Committee to review the progress made in the use of Hindi for the official purpose of the Union and submit a report to the President making recommendations thereon in accordance with sub-section (3) of Section 4 of the said Act."

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The question is.

"That in pursuance of sub-section (2) of Section 4 of the Official Languages Act, 1963, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, twenty members from among themselves to be members of the Committee to review the progress made in the use of Hindi for the official purpose of the Union and submit a report to the President making recommendations thereon in accordance with sub-section (3) of Section 4 of the said Act."

*The motion was adopted.*

13.08 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

First Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the First Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 17th July, 1991."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the First Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 17th July, 1991."

*The motion was adopted.*

13.09 hrs.

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that under Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure, I have nominated Shri P. M. Sayeed as member of the Panel of Chairmen.

[English]

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY (Nominated Anglo-Indian): I was listening to the medley of topics. But one thing was very clear to my mind and that was the point which was raised by my friend, Shri Unnikrishnan. I thought that was the major point. It was fortified by my old friend, Shri Vajpayee, that this transfer of gold must be explained. The Minister came here.....

MR. SPEAKER: He is going to make a statement at 4 o'clock.

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY: So far as the Mandal Commission is concerned, I only wanted to say.....

MR. SPEAKER: That is over. We have gone to the other item.

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY: I had opposed it and Indira Gandhi had congratulated me for refusing to allow .....(Interruptions) She said that left to herself she would like the backwards to be taken out of the social vocabulary.....

MR. SPEAKER: We have gone to the other item.

13.11 hrs.

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) **Need to keep in abeyance the implementation of interim-order of Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal**

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI (Ballary): The Cauvery Waters Dispute Tribunal has passed an interim order to let out 205 TMC ft. of Cauvery water every year to Tamilnadu. The area under irrigation in Karnataka itself is very less compared to Tamilnadu and Andhra Pradesh. If the above interim order is implemented, it would lessen the existing area under irrigation and the entire progress of Karnataka will be stopped. The ryots of Karnataka will be completely ruined. This order is unscientific and unreasonable. Already there is widespread discontent and protest against the interim order of the above Tribunal. I, therefore, urge upon the Government not to implement the above interim order and keep the interim order in abeyance and allow for bilateral settlement of the dispute.

[Translation]

- (ii) **Need to increase the amount of compensation payable to farmers of Barsingshar, Rajasthan, whose lands were acquired for lignite based thermal plant**

SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH (Bikaner): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government had sanctioned the proposal to set up a lignite based thermal plant in Basi Barsingshar and the former Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi was scheduled to lay the foundation stone of the project in October 1989, but somehow it did not take place at that time.

The issue of payment of compensation to the farmers of Basi Barsingshar, for the land acquired from them has also become a burning problem, because the farmers are being paid a very meagre compensatory amount of Rs. 2500/- including interest for every bigha of land.

Basi Barsingshar village is located very close to Bikaner city and the lands of this village touch the outskirts of the city of Bikaner. Therefore, the market rate for this prime land is Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 15,000 per bigha. Secondly, the farmers of this village do not possess more than 10-15 bighas of land. Therefore, the compensation amount of Rs. 2500/- per bigha is too less, because the farmers who leave the village and purchase land in other areas would be left without any means of livelihood.

Therefore, the Government of India should review its decision on the amount of compensation.

- (iii) **Need to give clearance for setting up gas based power plants in Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI SARTAJ SINGH (Hoshangabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that a partisan approach is being adopted

[Sh. Sartaj Singh]

so far as setting up of Gas-based power plants on the H.B.J pipeline route in Madhya Pradesh is concerned. The H.B.J Gas pipeline passes through approximately 550 kilometres in Madhya Pradesh. The Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board had forwarded proposals to the Union Government for setting up gas-based power plants, but the Union Government did not give its approval to even a single proposal, although it has sanctioned the setting up of 8 power plants in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Gujarat and Rajasthan. It is obvious from this that Madhya Pradesh is being discriminated against.

The proposals include the setting up of Power Plants with a capacity of 550 Megawatt each in Jhabua, Rajgarh, Guna and Gwalior districts. The HBJ pipeline passes through all these four districts. The setting up of these power plants would not only accelerate the development process in Madhya Pradesh, but also considerably reduce the power shortage faced by the country. At present, Madhya Pradesh is facing a power shortage of twenty percent which is expected to rise upto thirty-five percent in the next eight years. Therefore, it is very much important that the Union Government give its approval to the proposals for setting up these gas based power plants. Although the gas pipe line passes through 550 kilometres of Madhya Pradesh, it has been allowed to utilise only ten percent of the gas, while Uttar Pradesh has been given a lion's share of sixty-six percent. It is requested that this anomaly be rectified, as early as possible.

- (iv) **Need to set up industries in Dhanduka, Viramgam, Chholera of Ahmedabad district, Gujarat**

**SHRI RATILAL VARMA** (Dhanduka): Mr. Speaker, Sir, drought is a regular feature in Dhanduka, Viramgam and Chholera areas of Ahmedabad district and also in Gadhada district. As a result of this, the rural folk are forced to migrate to the cities. Therefore, I request the hon.

Industry Minister to see to it that some or the other industry is set up in these districts with the assistance of the Union Government to provide means of livelihood to poverty stricken villagers of that area. Our Government is committed to the upliftment of the poorer sections of the society. I hope that the necessary provision would be made in the Budget for the current year.

[English]

- (v) **Need for early repairing of Jokodia dam or river Brahmani**

**SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS** (Jajpur). Sir, Jokodia Dam was constructed during the British period on the river Brahmani. As a result it was helping not only in transportation from Chandabali to Cuttack on boat but also vast areas of Cuttack and Balasore districts were getting irrigation.

Subsequently this dam has become non-functional. At present the water of Rengali dam passes through the Brahmani into the sea. By repairing Jakodia dam the surplus water of the river can be utilised for irrigating lakhs and lakhs acres of land of Rasalpur, Bari and Jajpur Blocks of Jajpur Sub-division.

Apart from this the surplus water may also pass through the river Baitarani. As a result the irrigated areas of Jajpur sub-division can yield double-crops by getting enough water from the dam at Rudhia on the river Baitarani.

I urge upon the Central Government to help and take quick steps for implementing this project.

- (vi) **Need to ameliorate the lot of workers of Coal mining industry**

**SHRI HARADHAN ROY** (Asansol): Sir, the coal mining industry which supplies major part of energy does not show adequate growth despite large dose of mechanisation in



the recent past. Much of the machinery imported at heavy cost proved to be unsuitable to Indian geo-mining conditions. It is adding to the cost of coal produced in our country. The Committee appointed to go into this question has submitted a report but it largely remained unimplemented.

Lakhs of persons were displaced due to taking over of their land for mining operations who have not been given promised jobs and their rehabilitation not attended to.

The subsidence of mining land fire and gas have created several social problems in the coal mining belt and people are living in unhealthy and dangerous environment. The situation is very precarious in Raniganj and Dhanbad Jharia Coal belts.

The commitments given to the workers in Joint Bipartite Committee in coal industry are not implemented by the management. There is acute resentment among the coal miners for non implementation of the pension scheme worked out jointly.

I urge the Government to act expeditiously to set the matters right.

**(vii) Need to expedite the setting up of high power relay station at Anoopgarh, Rajasthan**

**SHRIMATI VASINDHARA RAJE** (Jhalawar) Sir I would like to bring to the notice of this House and in particular to the notice of the Information and Broadcasting Minister a most serious matter concerning the people of Rajasthan.

The local residents of the border towns of Rajasthan who share a long border with Pakistan are making an all-out effort to stop the cultural invasion of Pakistan TV and Radio. In the absence of Low Power Transmitters, these people are compelled to watch Pakistan TV/Radio which telecasts/broadcasts biased news items concerning Jammu and Kashmir and has a decidedly communal overtone. It describes terrorists as Muzahids and brands Indian officers killed by

them as Hindu officers and projects an overall damaging picture of India.

A 10 KV relay station at Anoopgarh had been sanctioned some time ago but, unfortunately delay in installation has forced the people to start collecting funds and requesting grants from local bodies in order that disc antennas may be purchased to provide free connections for Cable TV so that they are saved from this Pakistani cultural onslaught and also so that the minds of the younger generation that are compelled to catch all this are not poisoned.

In view of this I request the Government to urgently set up the Anoopgarh relay station and take the necessary/vital steps to stop this cultural invasion by Pakistan.

**(viii) Need to re-open Punalur Paper Mill in Kerala**

**SHRI KODIKKUNNI SURESH** (Adoor) Sir Punalur Paper Mill is the only industry in Adoor constituency of Kerala. It has been closed due to the appointment of Receiver by Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Limited. Five thousand workers of the mill one thousand employees working in the mill and four thousands in force are straining Punalur town's economy has been adversely affected. If the mill is reopened it will contribute Rs five crores sale tax to the State Government and Rs ten crores excise duty to the Union Government.

The Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Limited have initiated proceedings for selling machines of the mill. Advertisement to that effect has appeared in news papers. I request the Union Government to intervene in the matter and reopen the Punalur Paper Mill.

I also request the Government to immediately give due notice to the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India to withdraw the Receiver and reopen the mill.

13.23½ hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—*Contd.*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now we take up the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address and before we do that, I would like to bring to the notice of the Members that the time allotted for this discussion was nine hours. The Congress (I) was allotted three hours and twenty-nine minutes; they have taken three hours six minutes; BJP was allotted one hour fifty-four minutes, they have taken one hour ten minutes; Janata Dal was allotted fifty-four minutes, it has taken one hour twenty-seven minutes; and CPI was allotted thirty-four minutes, it has taken fifty-six minutes. I am not giving the time allotted to other small parties. Now, because of the time constraint, I have to request the hon. Members to be very brief and just to speak on those points which have not been already made, so that other Members also can get the opportunity to speak. I will call on the Members one after the other and I hope that they will cooperate in this matter. Mr. Chacko.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chacko.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur): Sir, I belong to Manipur People's Party.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want to speak?

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: Yes. My Party has not been given time.

MR. SPEAKER: I gave details of the time which has been consumed by others, just to keep you informed that there is a time constraint and we shall have to adjust the time.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: Thank you Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. P. C. Chacko.

SHRI P. C. CHACKO (Trichur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was referring to a point before the House adjourned yesterday. I may be permitted to conclude my speech. I only request my friends in the Opposition to come closer to share the responsibilities which the country is facing today. And those who are sitting closer in the House may come still closer and that is my request.

Coming to the point, on page 5, para 18 in the President's Address, there is a mention about the industrial growth. A lot of anxiety has been expressed on that point in this House. I wholeheartedly welcome the target fixed for the industrial growth which is 8.5%. This is what we have to achieve. I was listening to Smt. Susheela Gopalan explaining about this yesterday. She was explaining that the biggest problem is unemployment.

The Left Front Government of Kerala was offering ten lakh employment per year. After four years of administering the State, they quit without solving the unemployment problem even by an inch. Any promises, if they are not implemented, will take away the basic trust of the younger generation in the system. So, I hope that a large investment will be made in the industrial sector. A lot of anxiety has been expressed by the Opposition side. Anybody who understands economics will agree that the rate of growth can only be proportionate to the rate of investment. A large and substantial investment is to be made during a particular period of time so that anybody, either Non-resident Indians or others may be permitted to come and invest. All the anxieties are out of place. This Government may not have the adequate majority. But it has got a will to rule the country. So, any restriction can be imposed as and when it is required. In the industrial sector also, regional imbalance should be avoided.

Sir, I am coming from the State of Kerala. The Central sector investment is comparatively low in Kerala.

It is even lower than the national average. Out of Rs. 1,13,000 crores of Central sector investment in the whole country, the Kerala State's share is only less than 1.5%. This is quite inadequate, I request that the Government may please consider increasing this when they consider Central sector investment further.

**13.29 hrs.** [SHRI SHARAD DIGHE  
*in the Chair*]

In this context I just mention one very relevant point. In the industrial development the banks have also to play a crucial role. The scheduled and nationalised banks in the State are keeping an unfavourable CD Ratio. They have collected Rs. 7,858 crores from the State as deposits against which they have advanced only Rs. 4,638 crores which is just 59 per cent of the total deposits. Hence the credit deposit ratio should be increased. If 5 per cent is increased, Rs. 400 crores for industrial development will be available.

There is some reference in the present President's Address regarding the strengthening of the Railways. Well, we have been very hopeful and we were all listening with great enthusiasm what was mentioned in the President's Address. But when the Railway Budget came, we were all disappointed. Sir, Kerala is a State where there is no substantial expansion in respect of railway lines for the last 25 years except the small line from Trichur to Guruvayoor, which is under consideration and which is starving for want of funds. The density of traffic in our railway lines are also very high. The Trivandrum-Trichur sector is utilised 125 per cent. Nothing about electrification of Kerala railway lines was mentioned in the Railway Budget, and I hope the Minister will rectify this while accepting the proposals from this House during the debate. The segment of Trivandrum-Trichur is the most dense area, and I request the Government that electrification may kindly be considered for

the railways in Kerala. The Kerala Government offered the entire electricity requirement for electrification of the railway lines in Kerala and that offer has been pending for the last 15 years. The electrification of Jolarpet-Erode sector is being completed. Electrification of Erode-Trivandrum section may also be considered on a top priority basis.

The requirement of the State in the sector also is not being properly attended to. In the Presidential Address it is mentioned that the power sector will be strengthened. The Super Thermal Power Station at Kayamkulam which was sanctioned is still waiting for the final clearance of the Cabinet. Only the preliminary work is being undertaken on it and I request that final sanction may be accorded.

In the transport sector also, a lot of things are to be done. But for want of time I am not able to elaborate on this. My esteemed colleague, Mr. K. P. Unnikrishnan, was in charge of this Department. He tried his best, but his 'best' is not enough. The funds allotted to this sector are not sufficient to undertake the developmental work there. Kerala is an 'extended city' and the National Highway looks like a 'village road' and it is the only place where the 4-line National Highway is not implemented.

Sir, Survey on Guruvayoor-Kuttiyaram line has not yet been taken up and it should be completed soon. While implementing the points mentioned in the President's Address, Kerala's pending demands may also be considered.

I would like to make one more point and conclude. About the natural calamities, when any State or area of the country is hit by natural calamities, no proper help is coming. On the 1st of June this year, the South-West monsoon started in Kerala with high velocity winds and sea erosion and land-slides. In the last few weeks 104 persons died in Kerala due

[Sh. P. C. Chacko]

to this calamity and thousands of families were uprooted and even now relief camps are operating there. The damage is estimated to the tune of Rs. 75 to Rs. 100 crores and no funds are coming to Kerala. When natural calamities are hitting various parts of the country, it is the duty of the Central Government to come to the rescue of the State Governments. All these things are being mentioned in the President's Address.

In conclusion, I welcome the points mentioned in the President's Address. The Government may kindly consider sympathetically the backwardness of the States like Kerala. I wholeheartedly support the Motion of Thanks moved by Shri Buta Singh. And I also welcome the Prime Minister's statement that this Government will work with consensus and the attitude of the Congress Government should be understood in the proper spirit. We are facing a situation where we should all rise to the occasion and face the challenges that are before the country and in this hour of crisis it is the duty of all parties to come together and cooperate.

With these words, I once again support the Motion of Thanks moved by Shri Buta Singh and thank the hon. Speaker for the opportunity given to me.

**SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat):** Mr Chairman, Sir, I rise most reluctantly to oppose the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address. I rise to oppose because this Address of the President is nothing but a bald statement, full of high sounding postulates and platitudes without giving a proper direction to the policies which the Government should pursue in the matter of the solution of the most pressing problems of the country. It does not correctly amplify the most burning problems that we face today. It does not spell out appropriate solutions to those problems. It also does not correctly measure the depth, magnitude and also the intensity of the

crises that are facing the country today.

Sir, within this brief period of time at my disposal I would only like to draw the attention of the Government to certain basic problems of the country. The first problem which I want to draw the attention of the Government is the price rise in the country. The Congress (I) made an electoral promise. It is quite well known to everybody in the country, the Ministers and the Members of this House to what was the promise made by the Congress (I). I quite appreciate the position taken by the hon. Finance Minister. He was very blunt and correctly said that it was not possible for the Government to bring down the prices of essential commodities and other items within 100 days, as promised by the Congress (I) Party during the election campaign. He is blunt because he is not a politician. He knows his subject better than anybody else. I am also in agreement with him that under the present socio-political and economic policies that this Government is following, it is not possible to bring down the price level, not to speak of rolling back to July, 1990 level. If you go through the price situation in our country for the last three decades, you will find that never had been the occasion where any Government, of whatever complexion might have been, had been able to bring down the prices of the commodities mainly because of the fact that the Government could not take a bold stand to bring about a radical change in fiscal and economic policies. If you have to bring down the prices, then you have to radically change the fiscal economic policies.

Sir, I have got some figures with me. The Consumer Price Index based in 1960 as 100, rose annually by about six per cent during 1960s, by 8.5 per cent during 1970s, by 9.8 per cent during 1980s and during 1990-91, it increased by 11.6 per cent. It is bound to go up because the Government is following a fiscal policy which creates inflation and which has got some

cascading effect. If you have to really bring down the price level, you have to take a new policy. Naturally during the Budget debate, we shall be able to criticise or even support if it is possible the new economic and fiscal policies that the Government proposes to make.

Sir, the Prime Minister was very kind enough to say that the Government proposes to strengthen and expand the Public Distribution System. It is not only the question of expanding the Public Distribution System, but it is also the question of diversifying the items to be supplied through the Public Distribution System.

Sir, we have been demanding for a long time that the Government, if it is at all interested in bringing down the price level, should evolve a programme or take up a programme for supply of essential items of daily necessities through the public distribution system channel, at subsidised rates. Here the question of subsidy comes in. Unless you provide subsidy, it will not be possible to bring down the price level particularly of essential commodities. In view of the economic policy which the Government proposes to pursue it wants to drastically cut the subsidy. But I know the economic crisis which the country faces. I implore upon the Government that the subsidies which are meant for the welfare of the people, which are meant for the common men should not be cut. As a matter of fact, in order to meet the crisis, in certain cases, the subsidies are to be further expanded in order to remove the grievance of the people.

Another very important problem which has missed the attention of the President is the growing regional disparity. Growing regional disparity is not merely an economic phenomenon in our country but it is more than that. This growing regional disparity has given rise to serious political problem. The political problem, I mean, is the movement for

secession and terrorism. One of the very alarming phenomena is terrorism which pronounces the objective of secession which we find in ULFA in Assam. This we find in Punjab. We find intensified, prolonged terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir. I am constrained to mention these voices of secession are also audible today in other parts of the country and I may mention Tamil Nadu and Darjeeling also in West Bengal and Southern parts of Bihar. My objective is not to draw the attention of secessionist and terrorists activities in this part of the country, but my objective is to draw the attention of the House to the basic reason for growing terrorism and growing sense of isolationism, growing sense of divisionism and separatism. This is all borne out of the growing regional disparities.

Unless the Government adopts a new economic policy to remove or rather minimise economic regional disparities, the unity and integrity of the country will be in jeopardy. Therefore, it is not only from the point of view of economic interest but also from the point of view of larger political interest, namely unity and integrity of the country, the regional disparities should be removed.

In this matter, I also draw the attention of the Government to a longstanding demand of the people of West Bengal and other States of Eastern sector of the country and Northeastern sector of the country. In this connection, I may mention the continuance of freight equalisation scheme in respect of iron and steel and telescopic freight of the Railways. By these two schemes, the States in the Eastern sector, namely, Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa and other States in the Northeastern region are deprived of the locational advantage. It is because they are the steel producing States, coal producing States and they are being denied of these advantages which arise out of the location. The Government earlier had a committee

[Sh. Chitta Basu]

called. National Transport Policy Committee, popularly known as Pandey Committee. Pandey Committee already made a recommendation for the phased abolition of this scheme. This has not been implemented yet. The demand is either you abolish it in a phased manner or introduce this system, expand this system, extend this system, with special freight for other industrial goods. For example, there are many industrial goods which other States also require for their manufacturing activities, for example, cotton. The States in the Eastern part of the country are to take cotton from the Western part of the country. But freight equalisation facility is not extended to them in the case of cotton. But the facilities are extended to the Eastern and Southern States and other Northern States in case of steel, iron and coal. I have no grudge against other States as they are in the process of industrialisation. I want that every State should have good scope for speedy industrialisation and for economic development. But there should be a sense of equity. Other States which have got the locational advantage of certain industrial raw materials, should also be given the chance or opportunity to expedite their process of industrialisation.

Therefore, I want that the Government should also take note of it.

The Prime Minister has made an appeal saying that our country is passing through a grave crisis and that people should make sacrifices. Yes. We are conscious of the crisis. But which section of the people are required to make sacrifices? Would you kindly give a careful thought to that? Is it the poorest of the poor or the richer section of the people? I will give you the figures.

In 1981, the top big business had assets of only Rs. 6,541 crores.

In 1988, their assets rose to Rs. 18,06,317 crores.

Who has to make sacrifice? I think the President should have pointed out that to enable the country to meet this grave crisis, the richer section, the industrial houses, the big houses, the monopolists should also have to bear the burden and not the general people 40 per cent of whom are still beyond the poverty level.

I hope the Government would change its economic policies taking into account the basic realities in our society.

MAHARANI BIBHU KUMARI DEVI (Tripura-East): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to participate in this debate on the Motion of Thanks on the Address that the President had been pleased to deliver to the two Houses of Parliament on July 11, 1991. I wholeheartedly support the Motion, as it has particularly given the backward and the rural poor and the women, due importance. The Government policy with regard to the women and children is praiseworthy.

I would like to confine my observations particularly to the backward tribal area of the border State of Tripura and the North-East, in general.

As a representative of the tribals, the problems faced by them, pose the question that these people who have received great love, patronage and recognition of the leaders of the nation and our party, why is it that in spite of the best efforts, good wishes and sincerity on the part of the leaders, we, the tribals, feel unfortunately that nothing of much significance has been done for the economic upliftment of these innocent children of nature. In the tribals pockets of almost all States, there is extreme economic hardship and the people are on the verge of starvation. This has given rise to revolt amongst the youth. The question is: Where has all the assistance and planned

development expenditure for the tribals gone? It should raise some fundamental questions in the minds of the Members of this House with regard to the form, content and future viability of tribals and rural development programmes.

Some of the important issues are common to all the tribals of this country. Take, for example, the infiltration of non-tribals into the tribal belts. In Tripura, as also in the North-Eastern States, we can say that we are continuously facing the problem of influx of refugees from Bangladesh. Now, it has created a lot of hardship and economic exploitation. It is found that the Mahajans and the money-lenders have become the greatest beneficiaries. We also find that the benefits of all the Land Acts, all the Land Revenue & Land Reforms Acts don't reach the tribals. The tribals do not get the benefit of those Acts. Therefore, Sir, I would again bring this to the notice of the House that all laws relating to reforms with regard to the tribals should be put into the Ninth Schedule. There should be a Central Act with regard to Revenue & Land Reforms Act which cover the loopholes and weaknesses of Revenue Laws. In fact, these Acts should be put in the Ninth Schedule, as I said earlier. There should be a Central Act which should cater to the need for codification of tribal Customary Law and Land Usage Pattern. I don't think we have any pattern of this sort in this country. In the North-East, we have tried this in some States. In fact in my own State I initiated this Tribal Customary Law and Land Usage Pattern. We are in the process of it. Again, we require Central Assistance.

In Tripura, in 1979, we received over 20 lakhs of refugees. They have all settled in the State. As a result of this, there has been a population upsurge. This is the reason why most of the North-Eastern States do not want to have refugees in their

States. They find that the population imbalances create a lot of social problems for the people.

We have got the Chittagong tribals who have been staying in Tripura for the last 12 years. Till today, we have not been able to send them back. Neither, are we giving them enough help. I think that on humanitarian grounds we should give these people help. They have been persecuted and they have faced religious persecution. They are also facing ethnic persecution. Since they have been there for 12 years, I would request this House to take up the matter of the refugees who are staying in Tripura with Bangladesh Government to ensure that they be allowed to return safely to their country. Meanwhile, they should be given some additional educational, health and ration facilities which are very meagre now. We are giving them some very meagre facilities.

Sir, we in Tripura are also facing acute food shortage due to incessant rains, hurricanes which continuously damage our crops. The villagers and the hill area people are pressing for an immediate supply of rice and foodgrain stocks.

Adequate arrangement is yet to be made to provide drinking water facilities for the tribal and the rural areas. Steps should be taken to augment them.

Public Distribution System there is extremely poor. As you know, ours is a land-locked State. We are surrounded on three sides by Bangladesh and we have to depend on the mainland for all our supplies. Therefore, for our Public Distribution System should be augmented to help the women, the poor women in the villages and the tribal women living in the remote areas, we should put up fair price shops so that we could at least guarantee, during lean periods, supply of goods at fair price shops.

[Maharani Bibhu Kumari Devi]

Next, the Agartala Airport is another important matter. I think it should be modernised in the interest of this State because as I have just mentioned, we are a land-locked State. Communication system is poor. We would like to have facilities for night landing and the facilities for landing bigger aircrafts like the Airbus. We do have three or four services but they are not quite sufficient. We have not been receiving our planes in time due to many reasons like the climatic factor etc. As I have mentioned just now, we have no night landing facilities.

On the educational front, I would request that we should be given some educational facilities in the tribal and rural areas. We would like to have free education up to a graduation level for those students who are very poor. We do have a Tripura University. But we would also demand that the University of Tripura be converted into a Central University. Education should be made compulsory for all children upto the age of 15.

Besides this, a medical college with research facilities in the State would be most welcome. Due consideration for setting up of this college may be given.

Our former Prime Minister late Shri Rajiv Gandhi had announced special integrated programme for the development of women and children. This would definitely help us all in the border States of North-East. We have got women from border areas, from rural and tribal areas who should get administrative support which is so important for an integrated development of the country. The National Committee for Women's Rights is a step in the right direction. We welcome this Government's programme for the deprived class of people, namely, the women.

With these words, I support the Motion and thank the Chair for allowing me the opportunity.

**SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BAN-**  
**SAL (Chandigarh)** Mr Chairman Sir, we are today passing through a critical juncture of our history. I say so despite the fact that an hon. Member from the other side termed such description as 'liche'. When the Congress(I) assumed the responsibility of running the Government last month, we knew that this responsibility was to retrieve the country out of the morass into which it was pushed during the preceding one and half years. During this period, instability lacerated our system, sheer incompetence and indiscipline eroded the authority of the Government as did the scramble for fulfilment of cutely personal ambitions. Violence stalked the land of Buddha and Mahatma Gandhi. Lack of a long term perspective crushed the economy, inflation squeezed the marrow out of the bones of the poor, the prestige of the country in the international arena dipped to embarrassing levels and an all pervading uncertainty stared mockingly at us.

It is in this grim situation that faced the Congress accepted the challenge and the duty to run the Government. We face two handicaps in doing so. The dastardly assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi deprived us of the protective hand of the Nehru Gandhi family whose role in the task of nation building has been unparalleled and whose place in Indian democracy has had an element of mysticism. This handicap becomes more pronounced and telling in an ambience where the governmental responsibilities have to be discharged without enjoying an absolute majority in the Lok Sabha. Clearly, the task is uphill and challenging but the Government and the party under the stewardship of Shri Narasimha-rao are undaunted. We derive our strength from the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi and are determined to carry forward that legacy with continued vigour and dedication.



The President's Address presents the Government's agenda of action in the coming days. Combating the evil of communalism, violence and terrorism have been accorded due priority as these have inflicted a devastating blow on our polity. The economy has nose-dived. It has to be resurrected and put back on rails.

Sir difficult situations call for hard corrective measures.

14 00 hrs. [RAO RAM SINGH  
in the Chair]

Any action in this regard will be welcome but special care has to be taken to ensure that the poor and weaker sections of the society do not feel the pinch.

The Government's resolve to streamline and strengthen the Public Distribution System to ensure that the weakest of the weak have access to the essential commodities at affordable prices deserves due acknowledgment. Shri Rajiv Gandhi considered it as a major social obligation. The Prime Minister has kept the charge of this important subject with him. I am confident that this will convey the necessary message to the bureaucracy. I am confident again that the lack of resources would be no excuse for not strengthening the Public Distribution System which has to be overhauled and people with missionary zeal drafted to man it.

The Congress is committed to strive for creating conditions where every citizen leads his life with dignity and honour. In the past, well thought of plans were put to work but two interregnums of non-Congress rule in 1977-80 and 1989-91 put the clock back because those at the helm of affairs had their idiosyncratic notions of governance which made development a casualty. I was amused to hear some hon. Members from the other side speaking on this motion as also on the

Confidence Motion. They were either Members of a government that lasted for 11 months or were its supporters. That Government presided over the collapse of our democratic institutions, the retardation of developmental process and the lowering of our prestige. Today they want the new Government to remedy the ills overnight. They know that their parties were rejected by the discerning people. The verdict against the Janata Dal was for their utter failure to size up to the responsibilities that the Government of India has to shoulder. The BJP made an all out frantic bid for power but their brazenly communal harangues did not move the predominantly secular people of the country.

The Congress may not have obtained absolute majority but the mandate of the people about the role assigned to different parties is unambiguously clear.

SHRI SAIYAGOPAL MISRA (Lamluk) You got only 36 per cent of votes.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BAN-SAL Please listen to what I am saying. Having taken up the reins of Government the Congress will not dither in performing its duties. The primary concern is the well-being of the people and it is satisfying to discern from the President's Address that the Government will not be bogged down by any rigidity of thought or action in its approach to various issues that face us today.

Shri Rajiv Gandhi lent a forceful thrust to the advancement of science and technology. Its benefits reaching out to the people strike anyone visiting the country after a gap of five years. As a true inheritor of Shri Rajiv Gandhi's ideals, the new Government is committed to bring science and technology to the centre stage in economic planning.

[Sh. Pawan Kumar Bansal]

Today an interlude of uncertainty and despondency has come to an end. The return of Congress signifies that the world outside will once again look at us with an eye of understanding and respect. Our credibility has been restored. An aura of hope and optimism pervades the nation's life. This is the result of Shri Rajiv Gandhi's untiring efforts. He lived and died for India's unity and integrity; for India's progress and prosperity. An unrelenting desire to take India to the 21st century was a passion for him. It was his literature, his poetry, his philosophy. It was this passion which made him going, it was this passion which made him aspire and it was this passion which was his anthem to life. He instilled a sense of confidence and self-respect in the minds of his countrymen and after their frustration, their nightmare of 12 months, when he was poised to take over as the Prime Minister of the country, forces enemical to the country assassinated him. The captain who was celebrated and sung the world over was snatched from us. How apt Walt Whitman sounds!

Sir, I quote:

"Oh! Captain! my Captain! Our fearful trip is done,

The Ship has weather'd every rack,  
the prize we sought is won...

The Ship is anchor'd safe and sound....

But I with mournful tread

Walk the deck my Captain lies,

Fallen cold and dead."

Sir, the Congress Government headed by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao is committed to carry forward the ideals that the Congress under the inspiring leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi stood and fought for. He wanted the youth to play a dominant role in nation building. The Constitution was amended to reduce the voting age to 18 years. A comprehensive New Education Policy was

formulated and schemes were initiated to generate employment. We are now assured that greater emphasis would be laid thereon. What is imperative today is not the creation of unproductive jobs, but creation of sources of income for the people and this can best be done by providing for new avenues of self-employment so that production increases and avoidable unproductive expenditure is reduced for attaining the desired goals.

Sir, I do agree that India's greatest source is its people but it is time that we sit up and think about the imperatives to control population. A national consensus is required to do so and devise a package of incentives and disincentives for the purpose. A political will is required to be shown by all the parties.

Sir, to conclude, I want to refer to the urgent need to work on electoral and judicial reforms. Some definite measures were taken by the Congress earlier to cleanse public life by enacting the anti-defection law and to check rigging, booth capturing and other mal-practices during elections. This, however, is a continuing process. We have to now see how the evil influence of money on the electoral process can be curtailed.

The judicial process touches the lives of almost every citizen of the country. However, the experience is often frustrating. Shri Rajiv Gandhi referred to the need to introduce judicial reforms in his last address to the nation from the ramparts of the Red Fort on the 15th August 1989. I am confident that the new Government will act on it.

With these words, I deem it my privilege to associate myself with the motion moved by Shri Buta Singh to thank the President for his Address to both the Houses of Parliament.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI SURAJ MANDAL (Godda):** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Motion of Thanks on President's Address moved by Shri Buta Singh. I had also given some amendments to the Motion of Thanks. When Shri Buta Singh was the country's Home Minister, the then Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi had taken upon himself the task of solving two major problems. One was the long-pending demand for the creation of a separate state in the Jharkhand area, under Article 244 of the Constitution of India and the second one was the Babari Masjid issue. While on the one hand, he permitted the 'Shilanyas' ceremony to enable the construction of the Ram Janambhoomi temple at the site, where the Babari Masjid stands and on the other hand, the Government of India constituted a committee under his Chairmanship on September 11, 1988, in order to resolve the Jharkhand Problem.

[*English*]

**SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE (Aurangabad):** Sir, no Minister is present here (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA (Tamluk):** Where is the Minister? (*Interruptions*). The treasury Benches are empty.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota):** Mr. Chairman, Sir, today, not even a single Minister is present in the House.

**SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh):** Mr. Chairman, Sir, it seems that the Government is not serious about this discussion. It is against the dignity of the House. (*Interruptions*)

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** As soon as you said, Shri Sitaram Kesti has entered the House.

**SHRI KALKA DAS:** Mr. Chairman, Sir, you should issue instructions to the effect that such things should not be repeated, because the dignity of the House is lowered thereby and moreover they themselves had moved this motion.

[*English*]

**SHRI K. P. REDDAIAH (Machilipatnam):** He is entering the House without any seriousness. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Many senior leaders of the Congress Party including Shri Chandulal Chandrakar are present in the House. Your sentiments shall be conveyed to the hon. Prime Minister. There is nothing to worry about.

(*Interruptions*)

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Mandal Sahib, you may please continue.

**SHRI SURAJ MANDAL:** I am a great supporter of Shri B. P. Mandal and I whole-heartedly support the recommendations of the Mandal Commission. To come back to the point, a Committee on Jharkhand Matters was constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs on September 11, 1988 and it continued its deliberations for two years. The Committee visited Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa and submitted its report along with its recommendations to the Union Government on May 18, 1990.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, today there are demands for a Jharkhand State, Uttarakhnad state, a Bodo State in Assam and for other autonomous states, but no solution to such a serious problem has been mentioned in the President's Address. It is the most serious problem. If you keep your eyes and ears open, you must have come to know of the statement

[Sh. Suraj Mandal]

made by a Member of the Autonomous Demands Committee in which he had said that there was only one solution to this problem and that was AK-47, which obviously meant taking to arms.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when India attained Independence, we had only 14 states, but today we have 25 states. We would like to know from the Union Government as to what is the harm in having one or two more states. It is very clear from the contents of the Constitution of India that the scheduled areas of Chhota Nagpur and Santhal Pargana have been constituted under Jharkhand area under the provisions of Article 244. Thus, the Union Government is responsible towards that area. If the State Government is not able to protect interests of the tribal people, then it is the responsibility of the Union Government, the Ministry of Home Affairs to protect their interests. It was mentioned in the House just now that our foreign debt is on the increase and that a loan of Rs. 1,000 crore was obtained recently. Shri Paswan wondered as to where such a huge amount had disappeared. I would like to inform the House about the manner that money was spent with ample illustrations. 112 blocks in Chhota Nagpur and Santhal Pargana in Jharkhand region in Bihar State come under the purview of the tribal sub-plan. That money was allocated for the Tribal Sub-plan under which there should have been overall development of all these areas. I have with me the statistics brought out by the Development Department of the Bihar Government. They have provided district-wise figures. Of the 112 blocks, which fall under the 12 old districts, I shall start with the Sahebganj district.

Development in Sahebganj is 1 per cent, in Palamau it is 2 per cent, Dumka 3 per cent, Godda 4 per cent, Giridih 5 per cent, Hazaribagh 6 per cent, Gumla 7 per cent, Deoghar 8 per cent, Ranchi 11 per cent, Lohardaya 12 per cent, Singh-

bhum 13 per cent and Dhanbad 19 per cent. These are the percentages of 12 districts. Similarly, I have with me the figures relating to the allocation of funds district-wise and year-wise under the Tribal Sub Plan, but it will take a long time if I start giving these details. What I want to tell is that this is the level of development after having spent funds worth crores of rupees of this Board in different five year plans. These funds had come from the I.M.F. I would like to ask Shri Buta Singh and others as to who pocketed this money? Naturally you, because you are in power for the last 40 years. This is how development is taking place these days.

I would like to cite an example on the question of employment. Shri Buta Singh was saying that the Congress is the soul of the country. As I said a few days ago, only the bare-chested men are seen in this part of the country, but in my constituency, even women are not able to have clothes to cover their bodies fully. Such is the area to which I belong. Who is to be blamed for bringing the country to this sorry pass during the last 40 years? How can the Congress be the soul of the country? The opposition has been in power in Bihar only for 4½ years out of these 40 years. What has been the achievement of the Congress? The total number of jobs in the State Government is 2,94,173. Out of this number the share of scheduled tribes is just 21,387 which comes to 5.43 per cent. In the Public Sector Undertakings of the State Government the total strength of employees is 26,354 and out of it the number of employees belonging to scheduled tribes is 757 which comes to just 2.86 per cent. The total number of employees working in the local bodies is 26,500, but the percentage of those belonging to scheduled tribes and Harijans is zero. Who ruled the State for 40 years? It is the Congressmen. An amount of rupees five is a big thing for a poor man but for Ambani even Rs. 500 crores is a small thing.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, an amount of rupees five is a substantial amount for the people of the area to which I belong. The people in that area cultivate their fields and produce paddy, wheat and vegetables, but they do not have money to buy even salt and edible oil. You will be surprised to know that it is our area which produces the entire wealth required for running the Government. You just go to Dhanbad and you will find that the people call it 'Sone ki chidia' (Golden sparrow). Wealth is produced there and the people from all over the country have thronged that place to possess that wealth. The C.C.L. and E.C.L. are located there. We are simply the watchmen of this vault, but key to this vault is with you. The poor is simply guarding it. Gradually, the local people are also learning the art. We want to tell the Government not to thrust all these problems upon others. Please do not try to cover up your failures. If you do that, you will be encouraging extremism because you do not take into consideration the reality of the situation.

The people talk of elections in Punjab. The moment your party came to power, you got the elections in Punjab postponed. I know you are expert in political arithmetics. Had elections been held in Punjab as scheduled, your party would not have won all the 13 seats. It would have been difficult for you to win seats over there. That is why you took the pretext that the other parties did not want elections in the State. During the Prime Ministership of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the students in Assam started an agitation on the question of foreigners in the State. At that time, all political parties were in favour of finding solution to the problem of detention of foreigners, and stopping agitation of students before the elections were held in the State. But your party did not postpone the elections. The result was that the State Government employees decided to boycott the elections and to refuse election duty. In that

situation, you carried the Bihar Government employees to Assam and held the elections there. Electoral rolls and ballot papers were printed in Assamese, but the election duty staff being from Bihar did not know that language and as such, they were not in a position to read the ballot paper. One of the high ranking officials was my friend and he told me that we went to the voters with ballot boxes at their houses and got some ballot papers put in the ballot boxes. What I mean to say is that you did not postpone elections in the State at that time. You must admit whatever mistakes you have committed till date and you must also try to correct them. I would like the Central Government to take all these things seriously. So many urgent issues are waiting decision of the Government. The Government of Bihar is losing Rs 2 crores daily as royalty and cess. The Central Government does not have even time to give a thought to it. They should compensate this loss of the State Government.

That this money could be used for development. The number of States in the country went upto 25 from 14. We demand that the bigger states should be further bifurcated and the Central Government should set up a States' Reorganisation Committee for this purpose. Otherwise take it certain that Tamil Nadu, Kashmir, Punjab and Assam will be autonomous states one day. Another thing that we were talking among ourselves was that the Congress Party got fresh lease of life after the death of three Gandhis. Firstly, it got a fresh lease of life after the death of Mahatma Gandhi. Thereafter when the Congress was on the verge of extinction, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's assassination gave yet another lease of life to the Congress. Then for the third time, when Congress was on the brink of being wiped out, Rajiv Gandhi's assassination came to its aid. Therefore, all these things should be kept in view and States Reorganisation Committee should be constituted to solve out problems.

[Sh. Suraj Mandal]

If the Government is sincere in carrying the principles and ideals of Mahatma Gandhi to the people, it must strive to solve the problem of Jharkhand by 2nd October, 1991, failing which the people of Jharkhand will not allow the work in all the coal mines. Coal and iron ore will not be allowed to be taken out from the mines and a big agitation of economic blockade will be launched. Then you will say that it is taking the form of extremism. Therefore, I would request the Central Government to take this problem seriously before it is too late.

Since all these points do not find mention in the President's Address, the Motion may be amended accordingly.

With these words, I conclude.

[*English*]

SHRI SUNIL DUTTA (Bombay-North): Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address to both the Houses of Parliament—Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

In the President's Address, two things are of great importance and special emphasis is given to those two things. Firstly, violence in the country and secondly, economy of the country.

Violence is spreading like a wild fire in the country. Violence has taken away the life of our beloved Leader Shri Rajiv Gandhi who was the torch bearer of that India that is united, integrated, secular, self-reliant and modern.

Rajiv Gandhi was just nine years away from taking India stepping into the 21st Century. He was a symbol of encouragement and strength to the youth of our country. Alas the budding flower that was spreading its fragrance in the beautiful garden of India fell at the hands of violence. Violence has been the cause of destruction of mankind and that violence has taken away from this planet earth,

men like Lord Christ, Imam Hussein, Guru Arjan Dev, Guru Teg Bahadur, Mahatma Gandhi, Indira Gandhi and now Rajiv Gandhi.

I want to submit that Shri Rajiv Gandhi was not assassinated only by LTTF but he became a victim at the hands of those people, parties, organisations who spit the fire of violence. People who breathe violence, people who speak violence. We witnessed this violence during elections. If I may say so, the election was not a democratic election but the election was, as if we are fighting a civil war in some of the areas.

I appeal, Sir, through you to the hon. Members that let us all sit, think, speak and unite. We decide to eradicate the violence out of our system for how long, India will keep on sacrificing great men like Rajiv Gandhi? And why only Nehru and Gandhi family have become the victims of such violence?

When the President was reading out his Address, I found that the sound system was not working properly in the Central Hall. When the first Citizen of the country is speaking, I think it becomes the duty of the department concerned to see that the sound system is checked much earlier. I agree with my colleague, Shri Jaswant Singhji and other hon. Members who also pointed out about this sound system.

I do not know whether the other thing was also true or not. But I was told that at the time of the election of the Speaker, our Prime Minister, P. V. Narasimha Rao, tried to seek the cooperation of Mr. V. P. Singh, but, somehow, I was told, that he declined to give his support. I wish, if the Prime Minister had narrated to him this *sher* (couplet) he would have agreed. I will narrate that *sher* in this House.

"Ranjish hi Sahi Dil ko Dikhane Ke liye aaj.  
Aap phir se hamen chhod ke jane ke liye aaj"

I think this might have good effect on him and we would not have the problem of consenses.

I shall compliment our Prime Minister on his clear-cut policies and vision that he has expressed in his summing up speech on the Motion of Confidence in the Council of Ministers. He said as follows:

"The people have comeback to Congress, but with a warning. They say, yes, Congress will form the Government. But Congress will not ride rough-shod. The Congress will have to try its very best to find a consensus with other parties."

It is a question of the country's progress. It is imperative on all of us that we must join our hands together to take the country ahead. If we keep on fighting and finding faults with others, I think, this country will have much bigger problems. Therefore, through you, I request all other political parties and their leaders that though we are in a minority. But for the sake of the country and for the country's progress, if we come forward with some programmes, they must give us their supporting hands; that is the only way to take the country out of the turmoil that we are going through.

Secondly, his statement encouraged me much more when he talked about Assam. He said as follows "Left to myself, I would let the State Government deal with the problem without interfering, without taking any initiative from Delhi itself and creating more confusion."

I am sure, the Centre-State relationship will be discussed in detail and there will be more autonomy given to the States so that they can visualise their own problems, because every State has got its own

problems; and the people of every State know much more about their problems than the Centre knows. Therefore, we must give them more freedom so that they can solve their own problems in their own States.

I was very much pained to find that there was no mention in the President's Address about some of the important people of our country; that means 10 per cent population of our country; and they are the most beloved people, the disabled people. There is no mention about the disabled people in the President's Address; and it has pained me very much. We have 85 million disabled people in our country. The people of India were waiting that the President of India would make a mention about the disabled people in our country in his Address. The President should have mentioned about them so that they feel encouraged that the Government is doing something for them also. I received so many telephonic calls from all over India saying that there was no mention about the disabled people in the President's Address. I would like to bring to your notice that, according to WHO and the United Nations, the population of the disabled people is 10 per cent of our total population, that is 85 million disabled people. The Government of India's survey says that the number is less, 8 per cent. A private survey says that it is more, 10.8 per cent. In our country 36 children are born disabled every day, three per hour. We have 20 million mentally handicapped, 18 million blind and 25 million deaf and polio-stricken. Just a mention about them was enough, that the Government would take care of them. Eighty five million handicapped would have been pleased with the Government because the prayer of the handicapped reaches the God, and Lord Rama much earlier than of the other people.

I have with me three Addresses of the President. I have the President's Address of July 11, 1991. I have

[Sh. Sunil Dutt]

the President's Address of December 20, 1989 and I have with me the President's Address of February 21, 1991. It has different colours. But the basic thing is the same.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: The substance is the same.

SHRI SUNIL DUTT: Exactly. That is what I want to bring to the notice of the Government. They talk about Punjab. I will read from the Address of December 20, 1989:

"The Punjab problem has defied solution so far. Over the past few years we have witnessed widespread violence. There will be no compromise with separatism and no yielding to extremists. But there is admittedly a compelling need for a national endeavour to resolve the problem."

February 1991: "The situation in Punjab is being constantly reviewed. The Government shares the grief and sorrow of all those who have been victims of the senseless violence unleashed by terrorism. Government is determined to put down terrorism and secessionism with a firm hand."

And now July 11, 1991:

"Violence and terrorism in Punjab continue unabated. It is, however, heartening that the people of Punjab have maintained communal harmony in spite of the nefarious tactics of the terrorists who constitute small fraction of the population."

In these ten years, from 1981 to 1991, 9,070 people have been killed. They died because of violence in Punjab. Every Government that comes, comes with a promise that they would bring peace to Punjab and every time there is an endeavour which ends in violence and frustration. I as one of the Members of this august House for the honour and peace of Punjab walked through my country for 78 days from Bombay to Amritsar and met the people of

Punjab. The people in Punjab are peaceful. There is communal harmony. There is no difference between Hindus and Sikhs over there. Anybody who is living there, is an Indian. And I assure you that 90 per cent of the people there want to live in peace and harmony in Punjab and I generally feel that there is no political will in all the political parties who are here in this august House, whatever may be the Government that has come here to solve this problem.

I have witnessed one of the meetings of the political parties and I assure you that they were more aggressive and they were more violent than the various extremists or Atankvadis about whom we have been talking, or the terrorists. There is no doubt about it. In comparison, I feel I should say it in this august House that we must re-think and adopt a different policy on Punjab. We have hurt the psyche of the Sikhs. We have hurt the psyche of the Sikhs for a long time. I beg to submit that Shrimati Indira Gandhi kept on saying, after the Operation Blue Star that "We have to give a healing touch to Punjab." What have we given to Punjab? We have given nothing. We have given them bullets. We have sent armies over there. We have sent CRP there. We have sent the armed forces to Punjab. But we have never given a healing touch to Punjab. You can ask only the mothers of those people, whether they were innocent or terrorist who have become victim to the violence, what is happening to them and to their families and houses. I always feel that we should give proper compassion when we talk about the solution of Punjab problem.

Sir, I know, being a congressman, the gruesome assassination of Shrimati Indira Gandhi. It was one of the most terrible thing. I also admit that the killing of Sikh children and all other people was a great tragedy. But this House never consoled or said that it was a terrible thing.



Today we have to revive and bring back honour to Sikhs. The other day I was in South India. When I was talking to a South Indian, he told me that he had been to Andaman and visited the famous Kalapani Jail. He said that there is a list there as to how many people gave their lives for the freedom of the country and as to how many people were in the Jail, and were hanged over there. Sir, in that list, Bengalis are the first and Sikhs are the second. The Sikhs gave their life for the freedom of the country. They are in our Armed Forces. How can they say that they want a separate country. I cannot even think about that. Sir, I was in Golden Temple for 4½ hours. I met all the five Heat Granthis and also the terrorists over there. In 4½ hours, nobody ever said that they want Khalistan; nobody ever said that they want a separate country, nobody ever said that they want a separate nation. How can I believe that they want Khalistan? It is a thing that is being propagated by politicians because they cannot reach them. When you push the people to the wall, they will shout. We have pushed them near the wall. When they wanted to escape, they became angry. Their pride was hurt. You will have to bring back their pride and say that they are the greatest people and they are the greatest asset of the country. How can we ever forget that Sir? My appeal is this. Why should we be rigid on Punjab? Punjab was that Punjab from the Frontier to the boundaries of Delhi. Punjab was a Punjab when Haryana and Himachal were there. Now Punjab consists of 12 Districts. If we cannot maintain peace in those 12 Districts now, then what is the use of having a big august House and fighting elections and spending millions of rupees? I appeal that they do not want an independent country. There is no harm in changing its name as 'Khalistan'. They will abide by the Constitution of India and it will be a part of India. They admit that. Then, why can you not give the name? When you can keep the

name as Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, there is no harm in changing its name... (Interruptions)

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): But you just now said that they do not want Khalistan.

SHRI SUNIL DUTT: They do not want an independent Khalistan. Why do you not name it as Khalistan? Punjab means five rivers. Now those five rivers are not flowing in Punjab. Therefore, Punjab should be given a top priority.

Sir, I earnestly feel that if there is peace in Punjab, then there will be peace in India.

SHRI PRATAP SINGH (Banka): I rise to oppose the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address moved by Shri Buta Singh. This is a very crucial period of our history and we did expect something very different in this Address from what we have had to find.

My basic reasons for not supporting this Motion of Thanks first of all are that he has not adequately touched upon the burning issues which the country is facing. We have problems in a number of States like Kashmir, Punjab, Assam and other places. We have a great unemployment problem which this country is facing. But the President has not addressed himself to this. So also is the need to develop areas in this country which are well behind the norms for development. In the State of Bihar where I come from we find that we are way behind in all the amenities which any people can expect. Our roads are not enough or well-made or maintained. Most of our primary and middle schools are in a dilapidated condition. The education system in my State is on the verge of practical collapse. These are the burning issues. These must be solved because we cannot afford to waste the life of our future generation. The rate at which the progress is being made specially in the

[Sh. Pratap Singh]

field of education, I can assure you that before we have adequate number of primary schools in my State, a generation will pass. At this critical juncture of our history, can this nation afford to lose an entire generation of people due to lack of education? Education is our biggest asset and wealth. I regret to say that this has not been properly recognised and no proper steps have been taken in this direction.

In para 12 of his Address the President says

"Government recognises that the country is in the midst of an economic crisis of unprecedented magnitude"

I think, most of us are aware of the present situation and how this country has come to this pass. In fact, I would say that perhaps this is rather an under-statement of the enormous amount of disaster which this country is facing today. He further said

"It has been living beyond its means and adopting soft options"

Well, I do not know exactly what is meant by "soft options" since I am not a financial wizard. But looking at it as a normal person I can only say that "soft options" means that an individual goes to a bank, takes an overdraft and have a withdrawal. I would like to state that for the last 40 years under successive governments headed by the Congress(I) Party this country has been taken for a ride and they are responsible for all this mess (*Interruptions*). I quote again from the President's Address. - In Para 12 it is mentioned..

"Government is committed to the macro-economic stabilisation and structural reforms which will unleash the nation's latent energy to bring about accelerated development"

Now, at a glance it appears that perhaps we are looking at the name of some new bacteria. Our observation is just the same that the present Government is hoping that the people of India will pull out chestnuts out of the fire. This is the sorry state of affairs for any Government to make when they say that we are waiting more or less for the latent energy of the nation to be unleashed, which will thereby accelerate development.

Now, I want to say something about generation of black money. We are talking about putting an end to this putting a curb on this menace. I charge that the previous Governments have systematically taught this nation how to be dishonest by providing a system of taxation which for the individual at least is very cumbersome and causes embarrassment. I do feel strongly that this needs to be looked into. It is the duty of the Government to see that there is no incentive to have black money. This should be detected. How they are going to get the black money is for them to do.

Now, I want to say something about Jammu and Kashmir. This problem of Kashmir is going on far too long. We have faced with this problem ever since independence and I find in the President's Address it is mentioned and I quote and that is the only thing that can be said about Jammu and Kashmir is this

"Special attention will be paid to providing employment for the unemployed youth of Jammu and Kashmir"

This shows how we are really hoping to bribe the Kashmir is and keep them within our fold if it is possible. I submit for your kind attention that the Kashmir situation needs to be given a fresh look and we have to see the reality as they are.

MR CHAIRMAN Shri Pratap Singh, please wind up

**SHRI PRATAP SINGH** Sir, it reminds me of a situation where a husband is trying to keep hold of his wife has found for herself another younger lover. Under such circumstances, there are few options that you are left with. You have a choice to buy back your wife by paying off the lover. You have the choice of bribing the wife to remain with you.

**MR CHAIRMAN** You are not being very charitable to the ladies.

**SHRI PRATAP SINGH** Well, Sir with due apologies to the ladies, I would put forward my last point which is that the last option is to put the country on your own head and call it a day. We have to recognise that the Kashmir problem has gone long enough and we must realise that to keep the entire people against their will is not going to be possible through coercion. It is not going to be possible through bribery and it is certainly very difficult at this point of time to persuade them to remain with us.

Lastly I would like to say that this Government is quite silent about the future of Centre-State Relations. Unless we address ourselves properly to this need we cannot hope to keep this country unified and on an even keel. With these words, I conclude.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR** (Durg) Mr Chairman, Sir, today the House has taken up discussion on the motion of thanks moved by Shri Buta Singh on the President's Address made on 11th July. The dastardly assassination of a great leader like Shri Rajiv Gandhi, has proved the growing cult of violence in the country's politics. So much so that it has emerged as a threat to the country's democratic policy itself. Not only this, the law and order situation in the country has deteriorated to a great extent in the last one and a half

years. It has brought social, political and economic crises in the country. Similarly, the income disparity between the poor and affluent sections of the society is widening. It is very important that we give a serious thought to solving these problems.

**AN HON MEMBER:** Has the law and order situation deteriorated only in the past one and a half years?

**SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR** Apart from being in politics, I have also been a Journalist and it is precisely this experience that comes handy, while talking on political matters. I am talking about the latest matter. I will also talk about the situation in the past. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had once said that when the country faces any threat, then we should face it with all the strength at our disposal. What I wanted to say is that we should seriously think over the present crisis and the disturbing conditions that have emerged as a consequence. Mahatma Gandhi had made a significant remark, that when a person, society or elected representative take major decisions they should ponder over it and ask themselves as to how it will affect the life of the poorest of the poor. If the persons like us who are in public life adopt this attitude, it would be the best thing to happen. If we start believing in this policy and follow it honestly, it would help in solving many problems.

In the past many years, we have experimented with both socialist and capitalist ideas in our economy, but unfortunately we failed to get the success, we had envisaged. Therefore, we should think over as to whether the time has come, to follow and implement Gandhian policies, after thoroughly studying it and understanding it. Implementation of Gandhian doesn't mean a return to the 'Charaka Age' or the Pre-Independence era. It doesn't mean closure of big industrial units. Rather, it means that...

**SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota):** You were in power for forty long years. Why did not you think of this in all those years.

**SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR:** It seems to me that it will take some time for you to understand what I am saying. You please give me a patient hearing, you will understand it, but you are impatient. What I wanted to say is that we have had a mixed economy for the past so many years, in which we had experimented with the ideas of both socialism and capitalism, but it has failed to deliver the goods. Thus, under the circumstances, we should definitely ponder over whether the path shown by Mahatma Gandhi would prove beneficial to us. It seems that you haven't gone through the writings of Mahatma Gandhi. You please read the "Collected Works" of Mahatma Gandhi and if that is not possible, do make it a point to read volumes 35-82. It is a treasure house of knowledge and you will certainly benefit from the scientific and spiritual knowledge contained in them. Such a repository of knowledge cannot be found anywhere else. Please do make an endeavour to go through it.

The President in his Address referred to the various burning problems faced by the country and the gravest of them all is the problem of unemployment. Now the question is how to solve this unemployment problem, which is assuming gigantic proportions, day after day. It is not that in such a large country like ours, we are not in need of workers, but the time has come for us to make changes or at least review our education policy. Our basic mistake is that we have not been able to make the appropriate changes in our education policy. For example, the number of unemployed people in our country is in crores, but at the same time, we find that our industries, libraries and other institutions are badly in need of staff, but unfortunately we do not get right person for a par-

ticular job. In the present education system, it is very necessary to introduce changes from the Primary school level to the Middle school level and from the High School level to the college level. Suppose there are 45 hours of study or 45 classes in a week, then if not more, at least a few classes should be fixed for job-oriented education which would help the students to become self-reliant and enable them to get employment. Even in the industrial sector the position is same. They are badly in need of skilled workers. Even in Delhi, it is difficult to find stenotypist, who doesn't make much mistakes. This is because they do not get the right kind of training. Thus it is necessary to introduce changes in our education system and training should be provided to people on the basis of the requirements of the job. Then only eligible candidates would be available. The need of the hour is to open such colleges and universities in the country, where the students may get right kind of job-oriented training so that they could get the suitable job as soon as they pass out. Today it has become a fashion that every student wants to somehow get a Degree. They are not contented with any diploma, they are only interested in getting a Degree. For example, I would say that ours is primarily an agriculture-based economy. Deforestation (felling of trees) is taking place on a large scale in our country and as a result thereof our forest area is dwindling. There are only three universities in the entire world, which impart training for horticulture and forestry. One of them is in Himachal Pradesh. However, the unfortunate part of it is that even in this university, which is the only one of its kind in the country, education is imparted in the English language. It is necessary to set up universities which impart horticulture and forestry education of a high standard. These universities should be opened in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa etc. Similar is the case with the institutes of Technology. If you go to countries like England or France, you will

find that even those who white wash the walls are given three years training and are Diploma holders in this field. That is why, their quality of work is also good. While in India, we too have many people who do the same job, but they are not provided the right kind of training. What I want to convey is that we should bring about such reforms in our education system that while on the one hand, the students should get education of a general nature upto the age of 14-15 years and after that they should be provided job-oriented education. They should be given education of a general nature and after that they should be provided with training to work in the fields, in the factories etc.

[English]

**SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY** (Jagatsinghpur): Sir, am I to understand that my hon. friend is advocating the change of 1986 Education Policy which the Government has formulated.

**SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR**: If you have not understood, I can tell you, it is true

[Translation]

What I mean to say is that it has become necessary to bring about major changes in the existing education policy. (Interruptions) Today, we also face the problem of growing black money in the country. Everyone is aware of it. Everybody knows the ways and means to deal with this menace. There won't be any dearth of ideas in this regard, but my humble suggestion is that a time-frame say, of 15 days a month, two months or whatever that is convenient to the Government should be fixed. Within this time period all those who possess black money, should be asked to deposit it in the banks. However, they should not be questioned about the source of their income. One thing that should be kept in mind is that at present it

is being misused in many ways and this has given birth to many a problem. Therefore, it would be much better if they are given some time say 15 or 25 days to enable them to deposit their money in the banks. The Government can use that money for constructive purposes.

Secondly, I would like to say that when the Government levies income tax, it is imposed on the earnings of a person and obviously, anyone would be reluctant to part with a part of his or her income. Moreover, the irony is that half of the money that is levied in the name of income tax is spent on establishment or collection itself. Why don't you lower the income-tax rates? (Interruptions) In countries like Germany, Income-Tax officers do not have a separate cabin for themselves. In countries like France, Germany and Japan, there are only large halls in which about five to six thousand people sit. Income Tax payers are guided to the table which deals with their case and where they have to present their documents. The papers are examined and the cases are disposed off them and there itself. For this subsequent presentations, they have to approach other officials and they don't have to go for a fourth time. This system prevents any kind of corrupt practices in the process of income tax collection.

I would also like to draw the attention of the House towards a very important issue. There is a severe drought situation in Madhya Pradesh. There have been no rains in the state and in regions like Chhattisgarh, where only one crop, namely paddy is grown, the drought situation is much more alarming. The State Government is not carrying out any relief or rehabilitation work, as a result of which Gastro-Enteritis, (Some people even say it is cholera) has created a havoc in the Bilaspur, Bastar, Raipur, Durg and Rajmandgaon districts of Chhattisgarh region. Although it has already claimed

[Sh. Chandulal Chandrakar]

more than 2,000 lives, the State Government has turned a deaf ear to demands for relief and assistance. The region is facing an acute shortage of Doctors, Nurses and Medicines. Not even a single Minister of the Madhya Pradesh Government considered it necessary to visit the affected areas. *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI.** Has this epidemic made its appearance only in the last two years? It is only now that you have come to know of these shortages. You were a Member of the Lok Sabha previously also. Your party has remained in power for forty-four years *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR:** Please see for yourself how many people died there. You should feel ashamed of it. You should visit that place when people are dying there. What I mean to say is that the local government is not doing any developmental work. Within a year and a half the government encouraged corruption along with deteriorating law and order situation. The Madhya Pradesh government caused a deficit of Rupees Three and a half crore intentionally just to give benefit to one of their persons. What I mean to say is that in the recently held elections in Madhya Pradesh, the government of Madhya Pradesh... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

**SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE:** Mr Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of order. The hon. Member said:

[Translation]

"You should feel ashamed of it"

[English]

It is unparliamentary and I request you to take cognizance of it and remove it from the record.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** If it is an unparliamentary word, it will be removed.

[Translation]

**SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR:** Sir, my submission is that in Madhya Pradesh elections were held in 40 Lok Sabha constituencies during the last elections. Elections were held in other States also but in Madhya Pradesh Congress Party got 27 seats out of 40. Likewise Gram Panchayat elections were also to be held but the state government apprehending their defeat did not allow elections there. What I mean to say is that the state government of Madhya Pradesh which is run by BJP should be dismissed immediately. The reason is that corruption is rampant and moral degeneration is also there at every stage.

Secondly, in chhatisgarh region of Madhya Pradesh the people are facing several problems. Chhatisgarh area, especially, has been prosperous from every angle. The people are hardworking and honest but the development and progress in chhatisgarh has not come up to the expectation during last few years. Reason being, that the youths are not getting equal opportunities for development. You know that Madhya Pradesh is the largest state in area but there is only one single centre in Bhopal for I.A.S., I.P.S. and I.F.S. examinations whereas in Maharashtra which is a smaller state there are two centres—one at Nagpur and the other in Bombay. Governments changed. We tried to draw the attention of the government to this issue and demanded a separate centre for I.A.S., I.F.S. and I.P.S. examinations at Raipur which is at a distance of 1300 Kms. from Bhopal but till now it has not been done. Similarly there was a proposal for laying a railway line from Rajhara to Bailadila in Bastar which is pending for the last twenty years. Sanction of the said railway line was given during Shri Lalit Narayan Mishra's time. Due to the absence of this railway line alone, Bastar area remained extremely backward. What I mean to say is that the people of Madhya Pradesh are not getting equal opportunities for

making progress. The condition of all the big industries there is causing much concern. In these industries justice is not done to the local people. Small industries or factories there do not get the desired encouragement from the government. For example, small industries are not getting any encouragement from Bhilai Steel industry. Due to this a feeling of dissatisfaction is continuously on the increase among the people of Chhatisgarh. People are in trouble. There is a growing demand for making Chhatisgarh a separate state. Now-a-days the people have so much discontentment that is assuming alarming proportions. Therefore, the government of Madhya Pradesh, be it of any political party, should take special care of the emotions, feelings and problems of the people of Chhatisgarh. They are being exploited at every stage and the developmental works are at a standstill. With these words I thank you

[English]

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI (Sikkim): Mr Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the motion of Thanks to the President's Address. I endorse the views expressed by Shri Sunit Duttji about the need of healing touch in Punjab. I would like to say that we have to learn a lesson from our past and try not to create another Punjab in our country. In his Address, the President has stated:

"Negotiations are always possible with those who eschew violence and accept the framework of our Constitution."

I hope this applies to all the areas of our country where the cult of violence has raised its ugly head. If I am to understand that this is the stand of the ruling party, it saddens me no bounds to inform this august House that today more than 10 million Nepali-speaking Indian people of this country are very much agitated because

of a statement made by a Member of Parliament of the Congress Party. He has gone to the extent of saying that Nepalis have no place in India. I protest his statement and condemn his statement with all my might at my command. Somehow it is beyond one's comprehension that such a statement comes from a Member of Parliament, that too from the ruling Party. Such a statement has far reaching consequences. I would not like to bring it open as it is a very very sensitive matter. But for some people, such matter may be a matter of gaining cheap popularity. For any right thinking citizen, it is a very sensitive issue and with all my humility which I can summon at my command, I request such Member to refrain from making such irresponsible statements. Since the particular Member belongs to the ruling Party, Mr Chairman Sir, through you I want to ask the Prime Minister and the Home Minister and also draw the attention of the Opposition leaders to such irresponsible statement of a Member of this House and wants to have a categorically reply from the Home Minister whether this Member was voicing the feelings of the ruling Party, if so, the basis thereof.

Sir, I am very much pained to see that there has been no mention of the need for inclusion of Nepali language in the VIII Schedule of the Constitution despite longstanding demand of Nepali speaking Indian people. The State Assemblies of Tripura, West Bengal and Sikkim have passed resolution in the past recommending for such inclusion. So many times, Bills have been brought before this august House also. On the top of it, a Member from the ruling Party has come out, to add insult to the injury saying that Nepalese people should leave the country. By doing so, he is a casting aspersion on the loyalty of those people who have served the nation for many generations and over this period, thousands of them have sacrificed their life defending their country against the enemy. Many continue even today to serve under heavy,

[Smt. Dil Kumari Bhandari]

hazardous, difficult terrains defending our sacred borders where at any moment they may be called yet again to sacrifice their life for the cause of the country and they will do so with all their might.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I leave this to the wisdom of the ruling Party whether to consider the mother-tongue of those people and is worthy to be recognised and included in the VIII Schedule of the Constitution, language of all those people whose blood is worthy to be shed in the defence of their country, their mother land.

The President, in his Address, has mentioned that we are proud of our Armed Forces. Yes, indeed we are very proud of our Armed Forces. But alas, the families of thousands of those people who are sacrificing their life for the cause of the country, who are guarding the border of this country, are being asked to leave the country. I am also sorry to say that there is no mention about the need to record the excellent service rendered by the Border Roads Organisation in maintaining the highways on border areas

Regarding price rise and public distribution system, I hope the Government will sincerely try to fulfil its promises to lessen the burden of the economically backward people keeping in view all hilly and difficult terrains of the country also

Regarding protection improvement and enforcement of women's rights the appointment of a Commissioner has been mentioned.

For achievement of Indira Mahila Yojana and to fulfil the dreams of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the Government should consider and constitute a National Commission for Women. This is required keeping in view the declining sex ratio. The Committee on the status of women had viewed

the declining sex ratio as secular consequence of composite process of women's declining status in Indian society. The marginalisation of women in economy, in family, the community and the political process in the community's view, all contributed to women's growing poverty, hunger and higher mortality in virtually all groups. This has been substantiated by the news of a mother killing herself and her child in a well which has been said in this august House by some hon. Member.

Sikkim is a State which is very peaceful and the crime not only in our country but in the world has gone down. In Sikkim, people are peace-loving and they maintain peace. They have seen the need for keeping peace in their State. They have been able to develop much in a little time by keeping peace in the State but irresponsible statements made by responsible people cause disharmony among the people. This should be restrained. I want to send this message to the Prime Minister

With this, I thank you for giving me the time to speak.

**SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum):** Some of the bigger groups say that they are not getting their due share in the deliberations of the House.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Hon. Members, I presume that in the Business Advisory Committee, this must have been decided and the time is allotted.

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD):** In the Business Advisory Committee, it was decided that Prime Minister will speak today at 5 O'Clock. But in the afternoon, I received requests from a number of Members of Parliament from both Opposition and ruling side. So, I telephoned to all the Business Advisory Committee Members. *(Interruptions)*. It is decided that instead of today at 5 O'Clock, the Prime Minister will



speak tomorrow immediately after Question Hour so that we can adjust more Members. If the Members so desire, we can sit even beyond 6 O'Clock, at least up to 7 O'Clock so that many Members can speak.

**SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE** I think the hon. Minister should amend his statement. He should say "immediately after the Zero Hour" *(Interruptions)*

**MR CHAIRMAN** If the sense of the House is to extend the time of the sitting whatever the House desires we will proceed according to that.

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE** On such an important matter like the President's Address all the Groups should be accommodated. That is the normal tradition of this House.

**MR CHAIRMAN** Yes, every Group is being adjusted. I think the CPM has had two speakers so far. Every group is being adjusted.

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI PIUS TIRKEY** (Alipurduar) I am one Member standing from my party to speak and you are not allowing me to speak.

**MR CHAIRMAN** As the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs has just pointed out that if the House so desires then the sitting can be extended so that more and more hon. Members can be given an opportunity to express their views.

**SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD** We don't mind even if the House sits up to 9 or 10 O'Clock today.

**MR CHAIRMAN** I would request the hon. Members to indicate their preference whether the sitting should be extended today or not.

**SEVERAL HON MEMBERS** The sitting should be extended.

16—11 LSS/ND/91

**SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD** They can sit up to 3 O'Clock. We don't mind.

**SHRI IMCHALEMBA** (Nagaland) This is an important subject. I am the lone Member from Nagaland. If I don't say something it would not look nice.

**MR CHAIRMAN** I am sure you will get the opportunity. The point is should the sitting be extended today?

**SEVERAL HON MEMBERS** Yes.

**MR CHAIRMAN** OK. The sitting of the House today will be extended.

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA** (Bankura) Shri Pius Tirkey must be allowed to speak.

**MR CHAIRMAN** hon. Members let me point out one thing. Shri Vaipavee is a senior Member and when he desires to speak we have to accommodate that. That doesn't mean that the discussion is being closed. You may be under that impression because Shri Vaipavee is speaking and after that the discussion is being closed. It is not like that. It was his preference to speak. After that as the Minister has pointed out, if you wish to extend the sitting we can carry on sitting till 8 O'Clock. Everybody will get a chance. Now, I request Shri Vaipavee to speak.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

**SHRI PIUS TIRKEY** Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Members from BJP have spoken so much. Please listen to my point of view also.

**MR CHAIRMAN** You may request Atalji.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR CHAIRMAN** Atalji is speaking now, all of you be seated please.

*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT (Ponnani): After Shri Vajpayee's speech, my party Member should speak (*Interruptions*) ..

MR. CHAIRMAN: The point is Shri Vajpayee is on his feet. Kindly listen to him and not to interrupt him. He is on his legs

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Members from North-East, Muslim League and you will get a chance to speak ..

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You do not remain present in the House when your name is called. What can I do for that?

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Mr. Chairman, we have to take our lunch also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I know that lunch is also important

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ATAI BIHARI VAJPA-YEE (Lucknow): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is my maiden speech. I will not allow interruptions in it. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: His maiden speech of Tenth Lok Sabha. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPA-YEE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, President's address to the joint sitting of both the Houses is a historic event. If the Address takes place immediately after the elections it is all the more important. There is a need to maintain the solemnity of this occasion. Several Members including Shri Sunil Dutt who spoke just now and prior

to him. Shri Jaswant Singh spoke,—mentioned that the Members who had assembled in the Central Hall to listen to the President could not listen to his address. This should not be repeated. The programme is rehearsed and the arrangements are reviewed several times. We invite foreign dignitaries to participate in this event and if the loudspeakers do not function properly, we feel that we are not discharging our duties satisfactorily.

Another incident took place on that day. Some honourable Members whose party affiliations are not known to me and I don't know to which House they belong, wanted to say something, and they were feeling extremely restless. They wanted to interrupt the President's address to express themselves. But there is no scope for such things. Such scenes neither allow us to listen to the President's address nor the words of the Member are audible to us. It would be better for some Members, who are very keen on saying something before the Presidential address, to meet the President and express themselves after the address is over, but it would be still better if we avoid to such interruptions.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish my suggestion is followed in States also. When the governor is addressing, he simply reads out the speech prepared by the elected government. The Governor is the constitutional head of a State. At times, some Governors had to quit office on account of the address. ... (*Interruptions*) ... but if there is a scuffle, a pandemonium during the governors' address, such an incident diminishes the dignity of Indian democracy. There is a need for preparing a code of conduct and we should take some effective steps in this regard after the Lok Sabha elections are over and this is the proper time for taking some steps, because if the Congress party is ruling here and in some states it is in the opposition and if we are in opposition here, our party is in power in some States.

This applies to Janata Dal as well as Marxist party. As such if we make an attempt to set up new traditions then the democracy can be made stronger and successful.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, a reference to national crisis has been made in the President's Address. The crisis is not only financial, but it is political and social also and above all, at present the nation is facing a serious crisis of morality.

I would like to discuss the prevailing economic crisis at length in my speech. The Government has taken certain steps in this regard and the on going discussion is to ascertain whether the steps taken by the Government are right or wrong. Take for instance devaluation of rupee, which has been done in two instalments. It appears as if something has been done surreptitiously, gold has been sent abroad and that too in instalments and in such a manner that as if it is being smuggled out or being sent stealthily. Was all this necessary?

My submission is to have a discussion on the issue of devaluation of rupee to find whether the move was right or wrong. But the basic question is as to how such a situation arose that we had to resort to devaluation of rupee. Why and how the country was pushed towards an economic crisis which compelled us to devalue the rupee, sell our gold and make desperate efforts to get foreign aid.

The hon. President has made a cursory mention of this issue in his Address. He has said that

15.35 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

"The Government recognises that the country is in the midst of an economic crisis of unprecedented magnitude. It has been living beyond its means and adopting soft options. We have been over-taken by events".

[Translation]

further he says

[English]

"The country must prepare itself to take hard and unpleasant economic decisions"

[Translation]

Our expenditure exceeds our earnings. How it happened and what made us reach this state? Were our policies faulty or they were not implemented properly or did we hand over our economy in the hands of such persons for whom the interest of the nation was not important.

Excuse me for being harsh. After all the policies that have been formulated will lead the country to total bankruptcy. Could it not be perceived before hand? All right, our country is democratic and democracy is prone to a certain degree of populism but populism of a very less magnitude. If we run after the means and totally ignore the way of achieving it in that case we should realize that we have the deficiencies somewhere.

I know that this is not the right time for allegations and counter allegations. The Prime Minister is not present in the House. During the course of his discussions regarding crisis he commented on the work done by the previous two Governments but he has not made any comments on the work done by his party's Government which ruled before them. That should also be mentioned. After all among the previous Governments Shri V. P. Singh's Government remained in power for a very short time and the Chandra Shekhar Government ruled

[Sh. Atal Bihari Vajpayee]

with the support of Congress and enjoyed power as long as Congress extended its support. It is true that Shri Chandra Shekhar took some important and bold steps. If my information is correct then according to it after assuming the post of Prime Minister when Shri Chandra Shekhar called the officers and asked them about the reason behind the prevailing situation in the country, then reply was that—

[English]

now the situation cannot be retrieved.

[Translation]

Did the officers have no role in this? Are the formulators of the policies not to be blamed? Taking debits indiscreetly and spending it indiscriminately has brought the country on the verge of economic crisis and as such this issue should be seriously discussed.

Now we are approaching I.M.F. for financial assistance. On what conditions and the amount of the loan we propose to take and what are the conditions imposed in the case of those loans that we have taken till date. The other day, my colleague Shri Indrajit Gupta had raised this question. I have also gone through the reply given by the hon. Prime Minister. He is not prepared to divulge the conditions. What does I.M.F. expect from us and to what extent are we prepared to accept their conditions? Mr. Speaker, Sir I urge that the copies of the correspondence between the present Minister of Finance, officials of I.M.F. and Managing director should be laid on the table of the House. Copies of the correspondence relating to the agreements made between the former Ministers of Finance of the previous two Governments and the I.M.F. should also be laid on the Table of the House.

We expect the countrymen to drastically cut expenses to make sacrifices and bear the burden of new taxes. The country has immense power of tolerance, I am not prepared to believe that at the time of any crisis, the countrymen will not rise to meet the situation. They will stand by the country not because of this Government but because they love their country and have a deep sense of patriotism. They are in favour of safeguarding the self respect of the country. But if we wish to ask for the support of the masses it is very important to win the confidence of the poor who are in majority. Is it not essential to take this House into confidence? What is the necessity to send gold in this manner, what conditions are being imposed by the I.M.F. and what is need to conceal it? But it is very unfortunate that we are being kept in the dark. (*Interruptions*) Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are supposed to return the amount of the loan that we have taken. I would like to know the total amount that is to be repaid in the next ten years year-wise. The country and this House should be informed about it and we are keeping it confidential from our people and even keeping the House in the dark. But the thirty representative countries of the I.M.F. are well aware of the entire situation. How much loan the Government has taken and why it became necessary to take commercial loan? What was the need to take short-term loan and the reasons for taking this loan?

As per my information State Bank has also taken loan from I.M.F. although State Bank should not come into the picture so far as foreign credit is concerned because financial assistance from any foreign source should be sought through the Reserve Bank of India only. As such how State Bank was involved in it? There is no discussion on the amount of loan taken by private companies, Public undertakings and Defence. Loans are taken for Defence purposes also. What is the total liability and the terms and conditions of the loan are

never disclosed. What is the intention of the Government behind it. I would like the Government to take the House into confidence.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are very much worried as to how this loan will be repaid. Our new Minister of Finance is getting weaker day by day on account of it. He has already a weak constitution and now this problem is torturing him day and night. I know that he is not a shrewd politician as he has entered in this atmosphere recently. I will not be surprised if I am told that he is having sleepless nights, he is losing weight day by day but the share markets of the country are flourishing by leaps and bounds. The manner in which the prices of shares shot up and to what level it implies that there is no dearth of wealth, earned through honest means in this country. On one hand the prices of shares of companies are rising sky-high and on the other hand it is an irony that the country is facing acute financial crisis. I hold the view that the idea of liberalising economic measures has played its role and the result is that the capital is coming out and people are eager to join the main stream. Perhaps they were looking for encouragement. But there exists a paradox in our economy. I want the Minister of Finance or the Prime Minister to clear all ambiguities in regard to this issue.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I have said earlier that there is no dearth of capital, talent and man power in this country. Perhaps there has been some deficiency in running the administration of the country, there has been some flaws in it. The Indians who go abroad make themselves affluent and they make a vital contribution in making that country prosperous. Many Indians migrated to America as farmers, professionals, and small traders. They have reached the stage where they have the capacity of earning 50 billion American dollars and they have earned the same. Local people of Britain are jealous of Indians settled there. Wherever

Indians go they try their utmost to earn money and they achieve great success. But it seems that the moment they come to this country their talent is blunted.

We are struggling against our deficit economy. In my opinion if policies are changed condition of the country can improve. For that we will have to make a new beginning. For new beginning it is necessary that leader should have clean record. Government official should be accountable and the industrialists should be asked to earn only reasonable profits. They should not be allowed to make excessive profit.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not among those who immediately become defensive whenever the name of IMF is mentioned. IMF is not something like a bug bear India is an ancient and a vast country. It is not possible for anyone to purchase India. When Shri Chandra Shekhar was our Prime Minister I had said that nobody can purchase the Prime Minister of India and I am prepared to repeat the same for the present Prime Minister too. The Prime Minister of this country is an elected representative. It is immaterial whether he is elected by a majority or a minority but it is a fact that he is the Prime Minister of this country and nobody can purchase him. If he sells himself, that is different thing. But it is not possible for IMF to purchase us. IMF cannot swallow such a big country.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): But this happened in Japan.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: If conditions are being laid down we have every right to analyse the merits and demerits of those conditions. It is not proper on

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our part to feel frightened whenever the name of IMF is mentioned. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not that wealthy countries in the world are very much anxious to invest in India. Actually, they have a number of other better opportunities. The fact is that people lose their senses as soon as they disembark on an Indian Airport. After all they have the market of Soviet Russia, Communist China and Eastern Europe which need investment and they are offering attractive conditions. It is true that we had a bitter experience of East India Company. But if country does not act with self confidence, it would be very difficult for us to overcome this crisis.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are three aspects of the present problem of foreign exchange. The first is the smuggling of gold on a large scale. On July 12, 1991 the Minister of State of Finance told the Parliament that the Custom department had seized about 2926 kg gold i.e. about 3 tonnes of gold worth Rs. 102 crores from January to June and everybody knows that only two or two and a half per cent of the total gold smuggled into India is seized. We can guess from it as to how much gold is being smuggled into the country. According to our estimate it is 200 tonnes every year. During the last ten years from 1981-82 to 1990-91 the price of gold has been about Rs. 36 crores per tonne. It means that gold worth about Rs. 7200 crores was smuggled into the country during the last ten years and which comes to about 36 billion US dollars.

Another aspect of the foreign exchange crisis is over-invoicing. The Government has come forward with a number of proposals of economic reforms, but nothing concrete has been put forth by Government in this regard. We took loan from foreign countries to meet the immediate crisis. That is all right. But what will happen in future? How can we guarantee that the country will not retrace the

path which led the country to the present catastrophe. Smuggling of gold should be checked. I would also suggest some effective measures for this. But besides those, other measures should also be taken.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we import plants, equipments, spare parts and raw-material for industrialisation. During 1980 to 82 and 1990 to 91 we imported plants, equipments and raw material worth Rs. 2 Lakh crores and 29 thousand 640 crores. Generally, it is believed that importers indulge in 10 per cent over-invoicing. The Commission taken in the arms deal is also a part of this over-invoicing. I have consulted the industrialists, ten per cent is not a high amount. But at this rate of 10 per cent we left about Rs. 22 thousand, 964 crores in foreign countries during the last ten years. Which comes to about 11.4 billion U.S. dollars.

Third aspect is that of under-invoicing. We export commodities. During 1981-82 and 1990-91 we exported commodities worth Rs. 1 lakh 57 thousand 655 crores. Generally it is believed that the exporter deposits 10 per cent on an average of his export in foreign countries. However, some exporters are only for name sake while some one are genuine. If we accept that five per cent under-invoicing is done then the deficit comes to Rs. 7 lakh 8 thousand 883 crores, which is 3.9 billion US dollars. It means that we paid about 1 lakh 2 thousand 845 crores because of this defective system. I agree that in this process recycling of money takes place. Suppose we allow a margin of 25 per cent on account of it even then that money comes to about 39 billion U.S. dollars. If the decades of 50 to 70 are included then the amount comes to 56 billion dollars. This should be checked. If we fail to check it and continue to meet our immediate requirements by taking loan, then we may get immediate relief but we will entangle ourselves badly in this crisis again.

At present we have not to face elections and there is sufficient black money in the country for the purpose. About Rs. 90,000 crores of black money is generated every year. That day during the Question Hour it was said that one cannot fight election with black money. The President in his Address has referred to the ways to eliminate black money. But its generation should be stopped. Many schemes and proposals are being put forth to bring the black money into circulation and suggestions are being made about the purposes for which it should be used. However, I would not like to go into the detail. I am not talking of black money at the moment.

We will have to think how the smuggling of gold, under-invoicing and over-invoicing should be checked. A suggestion in regard to issuing gold bonds has been made. The Government can issue bonds or take other measures. There is a great demand of gold in the country despite the fact that due to her weakness for golden deer, Sita was abducted. Now Sita has been elected to the Parliament and Ravana is also there and there is no fear of abduction. The truth is that the BJP has brought Sita and Ravana together. This should not create any confusion in the 'Banar Sena' sitting opposite us.

Love for gold is always very strong and people require some gold for domestic purposes. Measures should be taken to ensure that they are not forced to meet their requirements through smuggled gold. Many proposals have been made in this respect. More suggestions and even suggestions to bring about basic changes can be made if the Minister of Finance so desires.

Suggestions to check under-invoicing or over-invoicing can also be given. As for instance in regard to import over-invoicing, the representatives of industry and finance should be called and directed to find out the rates of plants, equipment, spares and

raw-material etc. in the international market. They should contact the foreign chambers and publish the price list regularly. A constant watch should be kept on the prices of plants and spares being imported. I think it can be checked to a great extent. No efforts have been made so far in this regard. We can seek the cooperation of foreign chambers and can also invite quotations from authorised dealers by contacting them. Some are of the opinion that it can give rise to corruption. If the persons involved are dishonest they will find out loopholes, despite bringing about lot of improvement in the system. I do not assume that people in our country are corrupt or dishonest. We should have faith in the honesty of the citizens of the country. We should encourage them, we should provide opportunities to them and see that they are not forced to take wrong steps.

There is also a suggestion to check export under-invoicing. A foreign consultant concern can be appointed to assess the cost and the market price of the commodities being purchased from us. This should be done at regular intervals. Exporters should be made to export their goods at actual prices.

Other developing countries are also facing the similar problem of under-invoicing in export and over-invoicing in import. Indonesia is our neighbouring country. They have entrusted the entire responsibility to look after the customs of their country to a Swiss company. I am not advocating its case. But they have taken such a step. I only want the Government to take immediate measures to check bungling of foreign exchange which may enable the Government to save fifty million dollars.

International situation has changed. It has become more difficult for the developing countries to get assistance from the West. We should understand this fact. Not many days have passed when in December, 90 a German professor named Hatmat Elanne

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had visited Delhi. He delivered a lecture. I had chance to go through it.

16.00 hrs.

He spoke very bluntly and these blunt things are a challenge as well as a warning to us. It is true that he referred to those countries which get aid. But we should understand what he wanted to convey. I quote him:

16.00 hrs.

"But this aid will be characterised by conditionality. It will be extended under rather severe conditions because the South no longer has the option of threatening to change allegiance from one power bloc in the North to the other. The argument, if you do not give us aid on the terms we want, we will get it from elsewhere, will not longer be operative."

[*Translation*]

It is a sort of hidden warning to the developing nations. Now you have no other option and you will have to come to us. It is true that we are not getting aid, rather we are concentrating on trade. It is also true that we took loan and we are paying it in instalments. There may be difference of opinion over the way gold was mortgaged. However, the whole country, including all of us, would like that the country should pay the instalments of the loan at every cost. We would have every right to ask as to why the situation was allowed to be deteriorated to this extent. We would also want that such a situation should not arise in future. But it should not be taken that we can make the country self-reliant only through words but virtually rejecting it in practice. If the assistance or aid suits the interests of the country we should accept it, otherwise we should reject it. Besides we should create confidence and determination among the people. When I

suggested setting up a National Government, my friend Shri Indrajit Gupta said about that...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Whatever you said in the House, has been reported in my name.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPA-YEE: They also want that you and we should cooperate. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is good that the Government has won the Confidence vote. It is a matter of happiness. But Shri Advani also pointed out in his speech as to how long will this arrangement last on day-to-day basis. It is just like digging the well everyday and drinking water. There should be some permanent arrangement. The country is facing crisis and I agree with hon. Prime Minister that even if he had full mandate he would not have been able to solve it single handedly. I do not want to go into the details of the crisis that the country is facing today. I would like to confine myself only to the economic crisis. The country is in a war like situation. I am not saying war situation but war like situation and that situation is even more dangerous than war. The enemy is known and well identified in a war but here it is assaulting us from behind the curtain. We are in deep economic crisis. There is political instability in the country and therefore, the people should rise to the occasion and resolve to stand united. All of us should help in creating this national resolve. But this cannot be done by keeping the opposition in the dark. We should be taken into confidence and the people of this country should also be taken into confidence. If this Government works on these lines, I am sure that we can overcome this crisis.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have received a letter from the Finance Minister. He has sought time to make a *suo motu* statement at 4.45 P.M. Now, Shri Rajesh Pilot..



[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): Mr. Speaker, Sir, being called to speak after Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee is in itself as big a problem as the one being faced by the country on which he was speaking. I was just now thinking that since 1980 when I entered politics I have heard many hon. Members and today after 12 years I have come to realise that the art of oratory is a must in this country. It is immaterial whether work is done or not done. The example is before us. Atalji must not have achieved even a fig through his speeches during the last 25-30 years. He raised 2-3 major issues and thrust the entire blame of the crisis on our 21 day old Government. Mr. Speaker, Sir, when we left power in November 1989, what was the condition of the country at that time. That is on record. I am not adding anything from my side. I would like to draw the attention of the House to the condition in June, 1991 when we took over power. The Prime Minister has mentioned everything in his speech. We are trying to follow in letter and spirit and drawing inspiration from whatever the hon. Prime Minister has said in his speech on the Confidence Motion.

When we left Government in 1989 the industrial growth had touched an all time high level of 8 per cent and it was so after almost 20 years. After the constant efforts of 20 years it had gone upto 8.8 per cent. Agricultural production touched 177 million tonne mark whereas in 1985 it was just 133 million tonnes. This is not my report, but it is the Government report which was submitted by a close friend of Shri Atalji, Shri Devi Lal, the then Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture. It has been mentioned in that report that the 1987 drought was the worst drought of this century and Government faced it bravely and helped the people. That is the report submitted the Government supported by him. That is

what the then Deputy Prime Minister said. When it came to Confidence Motion a mention was made that there is poverty in the country and that too 51-52 per cent. No Member or a responsible citizen would like that there should be poverty in the country. The Congress Party at least made some efforts in this direction and raised the slogan of 'Garibi Hatao'. We made efforts also in this regard. I will give the figures also later on. When a slogan is raised, work is also done.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri George Fernandes claimed in a report of year 1989-90 that 51 per cent people in the country are living below the poverty line. He applied a wrong formula instead of the formula prepared by the Planning Commission which says that a person having less than Rs. 6000 or Rs. 6400 as annual income would be treated as living below the poverty line. Shri George Fernandes prepared his own formula and raised the limit to Rs. 10,000 on his own. If we go by individual formulas the percentage can still increase. The Operation Research Group said that according to their analysis based on Planning Commission's formula there were only 27.5 per cent people living below the poverty line in 1989-90. It is a matter of serious concern and we want that poverty should be removed from this country. We are making untiring efforts in this direction and paying attention to it.

A little while ago it was stated that with the coming of Congress (I) to power, unemployment situation has worsened. I do not refute prevalence of unemployment in the country, but at least do not raise the efforts made by us in this direction to the ground. What was done during your tenure, but now at least we are making efforts. During 1985-90 the Congress (I) Government not only achieved the target of generating 2450 million man days, but generated 3452 million man days. I agree that the figures do remain on papers. We created

[Sh Rajesh Pilot]

3492 million man days. There can be margin of error between 2 per cent to 5 per cent, but definitely people got employment and benefits of new schemes did reach even villages and every corner of the country. This was the situation when we made over the charge.

Sir, today Shri Vajpayee raised the issue of Gold and country's economic conditions, but Sir I want to know when the Congress (I) Government bowed out of office in 1989, what was the position of foreign exchange reserves at that time.

**SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN** (Roser) How much was the foreign debt?

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT** I am coming to that point also. When we left the power the foreign exchange reserve was Rs 6605 crores but on our coming back to power it was only Rs 2500 crores. If Shri Vajpayee holds us responsible for it then it is injustice with us. When we went out of power the foreign exchange reserve was Rs 6605 crores but the present position is before the House and the House is well aware of it. With the assumption of power now the responsibility has been shifted to us. We have lost National credibility. Sir, you will agree with me that there is a saying in the countryside—that as long as credibility is there, even in the midst of poverty trade of lakhs of rupees can be done but if credibility is lost even crores of rupees have no worth. Our credibility has suffered but who is responsible for it? Why should I blame Shri V P Singh. During his regime of one and a half year, I believe the Government could function smoothly for only 3 months from November to January, as per the newspaper reports. In January Shri Atalji instigated Shri Devi Lal and I do not know what prompted him to tread a different path and with the result two Prime Ministers started functioning from February. The people

of the country know the conditions prevailing in the country at that time. What I read in the newspapers, if I stand corrected, that in reality you were running the Government from behind the curtain. Everyday in the evening a list of demands was submitted and they were compelled to accept those demands. They were afraid of revolt. Therefore, I do not blame the then Government. As per the newspaper reports the Government was facing a crisis but somehow it was running. Mr Vajpayee, believe me my Government does not believe in day-to-day bargaining. We will run the Government without entering into any kind of bargain.

**SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN**  
Clipping please

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT** Mr Vajpayee raised the issue of clandestine dealings. In this matter Atalji is more experienced than me. Moreover I am younger than him. Besides I am an ex-service man I have little faith in covertness and strongly believe in openness which I learnt during my tenure in the Armed Forces. I clearly understand what I am doing. You need not to worry about our dealings.

Sir, the policies of the Government are outlined in the President's Address. All the policies with details cannot be given in the President's Address. The Government tried to make a brief announcement of the steps proposed to be taken to improve the economic conditions prevailing in the country. Secondly, my party strongly feels that till the living standard of rural and poor people does not improve the country also cannot progress. All the policies of the Government are aimed at improving the lot of 80 per cent people of the country. How can the conditions of people of the country be improved? The Government has come out with clear details of the proposed policies likely to be opted, for tackling agricultural, irrigation,

industrial and educational problems the country is facing. Today in the morning Mr Chandrajeet raised the issue of reservations for the backward classes. Sir the approach of my party towards this issue is quite clear. A few months ago, Mr Chandrajeet, was in the Congress (I) and both of us used to meet the late Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi who had categorically stated that he had full sympathy with the backward classes and his party was also determined to implement the policies related to backward classes. Still our policies are clear. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN**  
Then why there is difference of opinion on this issue in the Cabinet?

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT** On this issue we have no difference of opinion. The difference is that you interpret in your own way. We stick to our policies and are determined to provide reservations to the backward classes. We have made our stand clear both inside and outside the House. I was discussing this issue outside with someone and I made it clear to him that the benefit of reservation must first go to the most needy in the backward classes category. During a discussion with Mr Paswan on this issue, I said to him that though I also belonged to backward classes, yet I wanted that reservation to backward classes—whether it was 27% or 25% or 30%—must first be given to the poorest among the backward classes. Today my son is not in so much need of reservation but its benefits must go to the son of that person, who lives in a village and whose son reads in the light of a hurricane lamp. Why is the reservation being given to those who are living in airconditioned houses. This was an example, I quoted to him.

**SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV** (Azamgarh): Reservation does not mean that to whom it should be given

or to whom it should not be given. It means the participation in power. 52 per cent population of our country is socially and educationally backward, but reservation has not been made for them in any sphere. So the question is of only participation in power. Reservation does not mean all that you have stated. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT** Mr Speaker, Sir so far as share of backward classes is concerned, you can see our party's mandates since 1952 and compare those with that party's mandates which claims itself to be the well wisher of backward classes. The Congress Government has always done a good job for the betterment of the backward classes. Even I say that we should not overlook the reality. Today we have to think whether we should uplift those who are really backward or the so-called backwards. The son of an I.A.S. officer belonging to backward classes should not be given benefits of reservation, as he has been already reading in a good school but the benefits be extended to the poor whose children study in the light of lanterns. We are moving in that direction. (*Interruptions*) It is the intention of party not to disturb the quota of reservation but we intend to extend the benefits of reservation first to those who are most backward among the backward classes category. This is our policy and we are going to implement it in a right way. The intention of the Government is clear. (*Interruptions*) Sir, the intention of the Government becomes clear if one goes through the President's Address, which clearly states that the Government proposes to set up a Backward Classes Development Corporation at an early date. This will be our first step to let the people of the country know the proposed line of action of the Government. Our policy regarding the reservation to the Backward classes is, therefore, absolutely clear.

**SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV** Have you referred to the issue of reservation anywhere in the President's Address? If there is any mention about the reservation for the backward classes in it, then please read it out.

**SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in response to what the Pilot has told you I want to say only this much as to why the government does not tell clearly its views to the Supreme Court? Why do they want to prolong this issue why do they not clarify their stand before the Supreme Court? The Supreme Court is angry about the government's vague policy towards this issue and it wants that the government should clarify its policy regarding this issue. *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT** As our brothers are very eager about this I would request them to allow us to do this job, however, they may take credit for this. We shall tell the people outside this house that we had done this work at the behest of Ram Vilas only. We believe in work, not in mere propaganda. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to assure this House that our government *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV** (Allah) There is need to clarify your policy to the Supreme Court right now as a case regarding this issue is pending there. If you do not send proper answer at the appropriate time, there would be resentment and ill-will among the people against the present government. On this basis, the Supreme Court's verdict may go against the government. It will mean that on the pretext of the Supreme Court's judgement the government will not implement the Mandal Commission Report and put forward one excuse or the other for not implementing the Report.

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT:** Ram Lakhani, Please listen to me first.

I would like to assure this House *(Interruptions)*

**MR SPEAKER** Please take your seat. All of us are ready to listen to whatever is being said here. The Minister of Finance is also present here and he has said that he will make a statement at 4.45 pm. I am permitting him for making the statement after the speeches of Members are over. Therefore keeping in view the constraint of time, there should not be any intervention in between the speeches of Members.

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT** Thank you Sir. An hon. Member has just now said that under the excuse of the Supreme Court *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI JASWANT SINGH** (Chitorgarh) Rajeshji, drop this subject and please proceed further.

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT** On this point too I would like to make it clear that we shall certainly give the benefit of reservations to the backward classes and nothing will obstruct its implementation. *(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

**SHRI SRIKANTA JENA** (Cuttack) I am on a point of order. If the Minister always tries to mislead the House, then there will be tension in the House. So I seek your protection.

**MR SPEAKER** This is not a point of order.

*(Interruptions)\**

**MR SPEAKER** I am not going to allow this kind of interruptions. This will not go on record. I will allow you to make a speech if you want, but not like this.

\*Not recorded

[*Translation*]

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT** Mr. Speaker, Sir, two or three members have referred to the problems of Assam, Punjab and Kashmir in their speeches. The Assam Government is trying all the best to create an atmosphere in which the situation that had been deteriorating in the recent past, could be improved.

So, as far as the problems in Punjab and Kashmir are concerned, these are the matters of concern for the whole country. There are no two opinions regarding what should be done in Punjab and Kashmir. These are the unanimous sentiments of the entire House that peace must be restored in Punjab and Kashmir by creating a conducive atmosphere for peace there and we must improve law and order situation there which has deteriorated there and the destruction which has taken place during the last one or two years should be made good. On behalf of my party I would like to assure that our party has never hankered after power. After making an accord for peace, we held elections in Assam, though we were in power there and we accepted the public mandate. The same we did in Mizoram where we were in power. We signed an agreement for establishing peace there. We signed an accord with Shri Lal Denga, who is no more now, to establish peace. I would like to assure the hon. Members of the opposition that the Congress party and its Government will make all efforts in resolving the problems of Punjab and Kashmir. I hope the problems of Kashmir and Punjab may be solved very soon if all of us take it into same spirit and adopt same policy. It has been our earnest efforts to create a conducive atmosphere in Punjab and Kashmir after holding the talks with all the concerned parties since the day our party came into power.

Lastly, I would like to refer to Shri Atalji, Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not hidden to any one and it is wide-

ly known as to how the country's condition has deteriorated, whether it is the issue of black-money or any thing else. What is the main reason behind all this? I was reading Nehru's speech delivered in 1952. I was reading his reply for Jai Prakashji [*Interruptions*].

[*English*]

Shri Amil Dattaji, you are a senior person. Listen to me.

**SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR** (Ballia) Do not quote Nehru, do anything.

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT** We have been living on Pt. Nehru's ideologies, Chandra Shekharji and you have also been living on Pt. Nehru's ideologies to some extent. We have been living on that ideology and that is why we will survive on this.

**SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR** You should not quote Nehru, you should keep quiet on it.

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT** Pt. Nehru's ideology will be followed, we have been following it and we will continue to follow that. That is our platform and we will not leave it on somebody's saying.

[*Translation*]

I was saying as to what is the reason of this malaise? who is responsible for such a situation? Why has the political situation deteriorated to such an extent? The main reason for this is the decline in the political standard of the country. It is different thing whether all the parties accept this fact or not. But this is the fact that unless every party of the country takes initiatives to raise the political standard, this malaise cannot be eliminated. I have mentioned it because Atalji in a very emotional tone had said that our country today needs to be strengthened and I fully agree with his assertion. But it is possible only when we have a strong

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political character. Unless we are politically strong, our problems will continue to grow, and they will not be reduced. We may make our country strong only when we strengthen our political character as well as our national character. But it is very unfortunate that today every political party does not have any concern for all these things. Unless we adopt all these things, our country will not march forward with strength. I am very thankful to you for giving me time. I have put forward the views of the Government in response to the points raised by Atalji and others.

[English]

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fatehpur):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this august House we have debated the verdict of the people, and there were differences of opinion and certainly there was not unanimity in interpretation of what the verdict is. In fact, it is not a single verdict, it is the numerical sum of two partial verdicts—one of the 20th May election and one of the 15th June, election. They are not only separated in time but they are also separated in context. It is like stapling two partial judgements of a judge and then trying to read coherence in it. Naturally, and no wonder, we do not find it. Anyway, this incoherence is the reality of this House. What its dynamics will be in future, I do not know. Rajesh Pilot Ji seems to be very assured about it. But it will be our endeavour to see that the voice of the people continues to be coherent and for that we are committed and on this ground we shall not fairly keep away.

Because of this commitment of ours to the people and the country, when it comes to issues of the integrity of the country, of its emotional and geographical unity, of its political and economic independence, Sir, may I assure you that we will

not function like parties but as citizens of this country because in the history of every country, there comes a moment when the real issue in the debate is not how we have managed the country but how the country has managed itself. This challenges before us today demand the sagacity that we all put our shoulders to ensure that the country manages itself well. We will do extend our hand when it comes to the issues of the country and of the people. And for this, the only way out is consensus. There is no other way out as we are paced in the House today. And if any coherence is to be read into the incoherent verdict of the people, I think they have given a verdict to run this House by consensus. But consensus assumes a culture of consultation. Certainly, if unilateral decisions are made and then if agreement is asked, it is not consensus. May I say it is non-consensus? So, let us not adopt this path, and I do hope there has been effort in this regard. The Prime Minister initially invited us but thereafter we were surprised that very major decisions were taken and we were just informed that it has been taken and now we have to agree or disagree. Sincerity of dialogue is to be developed. I think it is not only that the Government gets through the vote of Confidence. As the House is constituted, I think the Government should bring a motion of having confidence in the Opposition. I think that is what you need more. So, please show this confidence. When it comes to the country's issues, certainly we will behave responsibly, as that is our responsibility to the people, but certainly it is as much our responsibility not spare you where you make lapses or where you deviate from the interests of the country and we shall not spare you at all. We will be ruthless when it comes to that issue.

Sir, the President's Address is dreadfully silent on many things, and this silence gives shivers to us. It is silent

on the federal polity of the country it is silent on decentralisation it is silent on the commitment to the freedom of the press and electronic media it is silent on electoral reforms, it is silent on judicial reforms to ensure the independence of the judiciary So this silence is far more eloquent in the speech itself I do not know whether it is silence of the innocent or the silence of the kicked but certainly it is very significant because this issue is not of academic interest We have gone to the people on these issues They have given a verdict on this and it does concern us when there is no mention of these vital issues that relate to the democratic institutions themselves the erosion of which is what we exactly witnessed for some time now

When we talk of the federal polity there is a certain element of political equity in all these and a very delicate balance in the Constitution has been woven Somewhere we have to introspect on the problems of alienation in Kashmir, Punjab or Assam Apart from the external interference that is there, is not there some erosion of democracy that also has contributed? I do not say 'solely', but that is also the contribution to the element of alienation It is not necessary When we talk of the unity and integrity of this country when this element is there, I am sure this should have come in the President's Address on this very count that the federal polity of the country will be preserved and the Government is committed, but they avoided this issue But this is one thing which the Government may not take seriously, and I think when the Prime Minister replies certainly he will make this clear And also when we talk of the power to the people, in fact, there should be power to the poor And much has been said just now — 'commitment to the poor About the issue of Panchayati Raj and decentralisation, there is no mention of it in the President's Address We want to know exactly what is the commitment of the Government on panchayati Raj on the electronic media what is going to be the fate of the

Prasar Bharati Act What is the assurance regarding the freedom of press? Yes today I can say it because when we are in the Opposition we are all for the freedom of the press The test comes when we are in power and the further test comes when the places would turn At that moment we did pass the test There was no pressure on any journalist or owner of the press to change his tune or anything like that These are very fundamental to the democracy itself The issue of judicial reforms is very urgent We know that lawyers and advocates before getting the appointments as judges it is a sad thing that they go up and down the corridors of power What sort of judiciary we are having? What sort of institutions we are having? Precisely our issue is how far the Government is going to protect the democratic institutions from erosion which has led also to the present state of political situation we are having and also the Government should explain why these vital issues have been left out from the President's Address

Sir, so far this goes regarding President's silence I am now coming to what has been said in the Address May I start from the last phrase of the last sentence?

That runs like this

You have before you the historic task of building a strong and prosperous India, a humane India, an India where there is social harmony and communal amity, an India from which poverty has been eradicated, an India based on equality and social justice "

One has to come to the last phrase of the whole speech which has now become the first phrase of the millions of people who have known nothing for thousands of years except stability of this deprivation and their humiliation What will be our message to them? After this Address, what is the concrete message that they would receive? Will it be the stability of their stagnation or will there be a message of change? This change,

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may I make it clear, is not made by dolling out money from the treasury. Destinies of nations have not been forced by legislations, destinies of nations have been forced by social forces coming forward, those forces which have been oppressed and deprived. What are we going to do for them? They are not asking for crumb from the treasury. They want to have a share in shaping their own destinies and the destiny of the country. How much share are we going to give them in power? Here, I want to quote Gandhiji, who regarding Swaraj said:

“By Swaraj I mean the Government of India by the consent of the people as ascertained by the largest number of adult population, male or female, native or domicile who have contributed by manual labour to the service of the State.”

This was the dream of the Father of the Nation, that those who have contributed by manual labour to the country should shape the destiny of the country. Who are these people who contribute by manual labour? Gandhiji, in his mind, had not put the word ‘manual labour’ just like that deliberately there. Who are these people who toil and earn their livelihood by manual labour? Are they not the people of the Scheduled Castes? Are they not the people whom the society has labelled as ‘untouchables’? They had not asked for it. They did not ask us to call them as ‘shudras’. They are the Backward Classes; this is the main labour force. It is the productive force of the country and it is the producer class of the country. After 43 years of independence, we have a shape of country with the main producer class of the country not having a say in running the country. It is not so much of an issue of how much money they are going to get from the Budget.

Sir, when we talk of social justice which the President has said, no programme of social justice can be drawn up without recognising the social reality. If you put a curtain on this

social reality and then have a programme of social justice, I say, we are not only deceiving ourselves, but we are also deceiving them. In the analysis that we do of the country, it is not only necessary that the economic and political realities have to be taken into cognizance, but the social reality also should be taken into cognizance; not only they should be taken into cognizance separately, but their interrelations should be clearly understood. It is a very ugly fact that those who are in the upper strata of the society do have a major share in the power structure of the country and in the power structure, I include the bureaucracy also because it is an institution of power. It is also an ugly fact that those who are in the lowest strata of social order have smallest share in the power structure. This is the sole reason why all developmental efforts do not reach those people who ought to benefit by these developmental efforts. Unjust social order gives rise to unjust power structure and this power structure distributes the benefits of power unjustly. Unless we make a direct assault on this nexus, I think, we will be only debating. So many Members have debated that the benefits do not reach. This issue is not concerned with only with this Party or that Party. That is the reality. Somewhere in the whole mechanism, the political will is missing. Among those who control power, some element of political will is missing. Who will have genuine political will? It is the deprived that will have the political will. So, if we have to induct an element of political will, we have to induct the people of the deprived sections into the power structure.

I request you to bear with me as I read out some excerpts from the book of Guynar Mridal on *Asian Drama*. The insight that he has, for a foreigner to come and have such an insight is remarkable. He says, India started with grand leadership. There were a galaxy of statesmen. A



very few developing countries have this. There were people of integrity, commitment and sacrifice. Then, what happened over the years? This is what he said. That is what we have experienced. I do not endorse it merely because he has said so but we have also experienced it. He says:

“The upper class status of those who stepped into power disposed them to abstain from taking policy measures that would contravene the interests of privileged groups. The operation of the political forces under stratification that has kept the masses of people poor, ignorant and passive.”

That is the relationship of the political system and social order. He further says in the context of what had happened:

“India's acute problems, made it seem imperative to avoid issues that might threaten the unity of the articulate upper strata.”

Precisely that is the sin we have committed.

“The urgency of achieving order and stability induced most leaders to shelve ideological commitments and acquiesce in postponing the implementation of the full Congress programme. Even the fact that economic and social reforms are largely ineffective in practice can, in a sense, be described as “stability”.

I think, there can be no better diagnosis of what “stability” had made for all these years.

“But this kind of stability has only been achieved through the incapacity of the political system to induce the social and economic changes that development calls for. By leaving real power with the opponents of economic and social change, political stability implies stagnation.”

I think, this is an issue which we may address seriously, not of accusing or blaming each other but let us list this on the national agenda, irrespective of Party consideration. It is not how it may affect one of us or the other. It is going to affect millions of people, not something remotely, but something which they live through their lives, from birth to death, on the daily basis of experience of life as we have in the present social order and set up.

In this context, I do hope that light will be thrown not only on some superficial level but we will address ourselves to this more seriously.

I will take you to paragraph 36 of the Address where the President has said:

“The Government attach great importance to make administration more efficient and responsive.”

Now the need to have a responsive administration is on record. How is it that merit alone is all the qualification in the examinations? All those who pass IAS do not have low IQ or intellect or knowledge. It is never suggested that administration is not knowledgeable. It is knowledgeable. But it is not responsive. That is the complaint of the common man. Responsiveness is admitted merit. Have we not seen what administrative merit is? Is not responsiveness to people a valid merit than all examinations? For instance, Defence Services. Only on mere examination, they do not say “You go and be a personnel in the Defence.” There are some other human qualities and if responsiveness is a merit, experience has to be part of it and the experience of suffering only can bring responsiveness, not reading of books.

It is also said in this very para that the Government will complete the drive for filling the backlog of vacancies meant for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in various Minis-

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tries and Departments. (*Interruptions*) We will cooperate fully with you when you take any measure (*Interruptions*). I am taking you into confidence (*Interruptions*). We considered this in the Cabinet. (*Interruptions*). We had considered it in the Cabinet among ourselves. We had come to a decision among ourselves—Shri Ram Vilasji was there that we will bring a legislation because today there is only Government Order, a Circular or something like that, regarding reservation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. We had decided that we will bring a legislation where it will become an enactment and it becomes justiciable. A Member of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes can go to the court and get justice. We have promised this to them about half a century ago. I will request the Government to bring this legislation in this very Session. We will all cooperate. Let it come from Prime Minister himself tomorrow.

Rest assured also that while we extend this cooperation, let us assure, as Opposition, if it does not come in this Session, we will go to people and agitate and fight for it because we can no longer wait. So, we have given due notice of our intention of cooperation and also of opposition. Let it not be known that we have kept any secrets. Also, there is a silence, a dumb-founded silence regarding labour participation in management. There is no mention of it. Of course, there is a mention of labour having some shares etc. But what about labour participation in management? If the capital has a share in management, in the production of wealth so also the labour is a partner to it. Why should it not also have a share in management? it is not a mere trade union demand. It is a commitment of the Congress Party contained in its manifesto regarding labour participation in management. We have brought a legislation in the House regarding labour participation

in management. We want a very clear assurance of what the Government is going to do about that Bill which we had introduced. We want that in this very session because it doesn't require budget or foreign exchange or it may not have to go to Finance neither the first office of Schedule Caste/Scheduled Tribe nor of labour participation in management.

Sir, apprehensions have been expressed. It is stated that labour has not come to this level. But the Reserve Bank of India's study shows that sickness on account of labour is only 2 per cent and on account of management it is much more. So, let us have confidence in our productive forces or labour force. Why speak of all other things? But we don't have confidence in them. We should have confidence in them. Precisely, this is what the signal that should go from this House. We may be short of money. We may be in some difficulty. But we do have confidence. On this, we must be rich. We are not poor in confidence in our working and toiling people—that is the message that should come from this House. That is what I demand. It is not contrary to our today's challenges of modernisation or competition abroad. Germany has got labour participation and it is competitive in the international market. Japan has a model of cooperation, not of antagonistic relationship, industrial relationship. It is competitive and competent. We want a very categorical assurance. May I also give notice that if we are not going to give an assurance on labour participation in management in this Session, we will go to the working class industrial town-by-town and we will marshal them here till you give them the right. That is the signal that should go from this House. (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF  
THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR  
(SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY); Mr.  
Speaker, Sir, our hon. Member and  
former Prime Minister of India was

discussing about the participation of workers in the management. His Government has brought a Bill and is pending in the Rajya Sabha. May I know from him, Sir, after the introduction, why it could not be passed at that time? Let him kindly explain. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:** It is the Congress(1) which did not cooperate. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH:** I am very happy that he has given assurance that he is ready to bring that Bill and place it. We will give you all the support. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY:** You are not passing that Bill in the Rajya Sabha. Why are you not doing that? (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH:** Are you going to bring that Bill or not? That closes your mouth.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:** We could not bring that Bill because the Congress(1) did not support us.

[*English*]

It is on record that they wanted that that Bill be sent to the Select Committee. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH:** It is precisely this thing that I requested. Let not serious matter be scuttled by these superficial remarks. Let us be serious. All right, we have made all the mistakes. Are you ready to correct them on labour participation in management?

**SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY:** Yes. (*Interruptions*)

17.00 hrs.

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH:** Our commitment has been clear on it. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur):** Is he supposed to reply to questions put by a Minister? (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH:** We are the authors of that Bill the Labour Participation in Management. I want a commitment of the Treasury Benches even for giving a last date.

Coming to Paragraph 28 of the Address relating to backward classes, it says

"Government is committed to special measures in favour of socially and educationally backward classes."

Mark the words "special measures". It does not say about the reservation in Government jobs. Again it says:

"In implementing these, preference will be given to the poorer sections among them."

We do not know what these measures are. It further says.

"Where poorer candidates are not available, the benefit will go to other members of the backward classes. The Government will also ensure that the benefits of reservation are provided to other economically backward sections who are not covered by the existing schemes."

This construction of sentence leads us to grave doubt. Why? Firstly, there is no reference to job reservation in Government service. It talks about "only special measures." It should be clear that the Government is committed to job reservation for the backward classes. Secondly, the doubt is, there is no reference of

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list. Which list will you follow? I want a clarification. Which list of the backward classes is going to be followed? Are you going to follow the Mandal Commission list? If they are going to follow that, why don't they write it here. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Why did you not write it in your order? You had not accepted the Mandal Commission list in full. (*Interruptions*) That is the whole problem. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER. Please take your seat. No interruptions please. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: There is no reference to job reservation. There is no reference to list. I do not know whether they have produced one of the Mandal Commission's lists. We had adopted a common list of the State and the Mandal Commission. We had sent 14 joint secretaries. They had given the report. It is ready with the Government. Are you going to follow that list. Please make it clear. Otherwise, you will scuttle it for another ten years and the report will be kept in the cupboard. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I am in the opposition. I have got a right to question. I have no duty to answer it. (*Interruptions*) How can a Minister question an opposition leader? We have a right to question. (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): How anomalous it is. So far as Arunachal Pradesh is concerned, backward classes have been mentioned and they are in the list. Ten names have been mentioned. Not even 50 people are there. If that is followed, out of 80 per cent of population, only 50 people

will be taking the benefit of 27 per cent reservations. Sir, such is the anomaly. I do not know whether they knew it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I think they are not well-informed. What was done is a common list. If it is in the State list, only then it will be all right. If it is not in the State list, then we will work out. When any Minister rises, he is committing the Government, and not a person. It very clearly shows now after this reply from the Minister that the Government does not have a list at all and that he has not given thought to it and that how he is going to fulfill this promise. I want a clear assurance. (*Interruptions*) There is no quantisation about the percentage. Are you back-tracking from 27 per cent? You have back-tracked. You have not been able to give a commitment. The President's Address has come. You have responded in the House and questions were put and there was not even a single answer based on your great sympathy. How much is it? It is 001 per cent or what is it? (*Interruptions*) We have seen the conduct of the Government here and also in the Court. As the last day was expiring, hon. Members raised the issue here and that is why they have asked for time. We want very very specific answer on this. At no occasion, we wanted the reservation for all times to come. Even in our statement, we have said that after 10 years it will be reviewed. I do not want to go into the whole debate. There are other things to be discussed.

About the women a lot has been said that they want to do several things about women.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SUNIL DUTT (Bombay-North): The entire nation is anxious to know where the gold of this country has been sent? The hon. Finance Minister is present in the House. Let us hear him about the whereabouts of the gold.

**MR SPEAKER** Sunil Duttji, the hon Minister is going to make a statement on the issue which you have raised. But there are several hon Members who are to speak on the President's Address. Let them speak first and thereafter the Finance Minister will make a statement.

[Translation]

**SHRI SUNIL DUTT** You allow big leaders to speak for a longer duration whereas we are given only 5-10 minutes.

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRAIAP SINGH** Sir, I will answer that question when I come to economy issue but they are not ready to listen.

[English]

In paragraph 27 of the President's Address regarding women it has been said

The programme aims at developing a new sense of awareness among women particularly in rural areas and empower them, so that they become active participants in the process of social transformation and regeneration.

In our Panchayati Raj Bill, which we had processed within Government we had this proposal to have 30 per cent seats reserved for women. If you want to make them involved in the development and transformation then we want a clarification. Are you going to give any place to women in the Panchayati Raj institutions? (Interruptions)

**SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR** (Mayiladuturai) Will you yield for a minute? (Interruptions)

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH** No, I am not yielding.

[Translation]

**SHRI TEJSINGHRAO BHONSLE** (Ramteb) Only for 30 per cent has been said Maharashtra Government. (Interruptions)

[English]

**SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR** Having yielded to the lady, why not you yield to me for a minute? (Interruptions)

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH** Well, I will give you the same honour of the lady. (Interruptions)

**SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR** Is it not a fact that the proposal to reserve 30 per cent seats for women in the Panchayats was first made by your predecessor Shri Rajiv Gandhi? (Interruptions) Secondly, is it not a fact that in the Indira Mahila Yojana which is the context in which you read out this quotation it was specifically stated that the entire programme would be administered by Mahila Sabha comprising of all the adult women of a village who would form among themselves choose *sathus* who would act as a focal point of the programme?

In view of this I do not know what is the clarification the former Prime Minister seeks. (Interruptions)

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRAIAP SINGH** I am very happy that they are going to bring in 30 per cent reservation in Panchayati Raj for the women. I am very happy. (Interruptions)

**SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH** Are you bringing in or are you not bringing in? (Interruptions)

[Translation]

**SHRI TEJSINGHRAO BHONSLE** This should be 30 per cent. Maharashtra is the first state where we have implemented it. The same is true about other states where Congress party is in power. But during their rule. (Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your point, please take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRAIAP SINGH: Sir, they have been in the Treasury Benches for a long time. (*Interruptions*) Still, they are behaving as if they are in the Opposition and we are in the Treasury Benches, asking us questions and answers.

[*Translation*]

AN HON. MEMBER: Have they accepted anybody else as backward accept Sharad Yadav and Ram Vilas Paswan? Not any Member of Lok Sabha Member or any governor. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. You can speak only when the hon. Member who is speaking is yielding. You should not rise from your seat again and again. Once or twice is all right but do not do it again and again.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not do it again.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down now.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You have to sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat now.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot continue like this. You understand if he yields, you can speak.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I can explain to you. You come to my Chamber.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL: We shall resume our seats, but they are creating disturbance. When the hon. Members from other side rise from their seats, disturbance is bound to be there.

MR. SPEAKER: I have told you as well as those on the other side. Do not give me a chance to warn you again.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You are also disturbing him.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Regarding the economy, there is a need of a conscious approach because we know once the country gets into a debt, then it takes more than a decade to come out. It is certainly a duty of all of us. We are all conscious of it irrespective of party considerations that the country is not allowed to slip into such a condition. But at the same time, what Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and hon. speakers earlier also had mentioned is that there has to be transparency. The country has to be taken into confidence. It has to be told what is the situation; what are the measures to be taken; what will be the consequences if they are not taken. And after taking these measures, what further is whole economic remedy by which we will be able to pay loan or not get into a situation in which we got and analyse the reason how we got into that. Unless the people are not taken into confidence, I think, it will be very difficult politically to take the measures or anything that you have in mind. It is like a diabetic patient. If he is suffering from diabetes, it is better to

tell him that he is suffering from it. This is the problem. Otherwise if you say, you are all right, and if you do not tell him that he has got diabetes but say, "you stop taking sweets", he is going to beat you. (*Interruptions*) It is a situation which has not developed overnight. The foreign debt from 1980 to 1989 multiplied ten-fold. In 1986, I had the occasion to be in the Finance Ministry. I had brought before the Cabinet a paper—well—documented—as to how the variables of expenditure, of revenue, of loans, money supply all will behave, and had predicted that by 1990-91, the country will be in a deep crisis or financial crisis, though an analysis was basically on the domestic side. But we know the foreign exchange and the domestic situation are interlinked. That was four years ahead, I had warned that we are on an accident path. If we apply the brakes now, we can avoid it. If we apply the brakes two years later, perhaps we cannot avoid the accident. In that paper, I predicted that—I am speaking by memory—the revenue deficit by the year 1990 will touch about Rs. 14000 crores and somehow it has exactly touched that figure. At that moment, as my conscience was clear I had done my duty and warned that these will be the things which will come. The various measures that I had recommended were accepted by the Cabinet but my tenure was only about a month and a half. But I remember one thing that there was lot of pressure to take foreign commercial short-term loans. I resisted it firmly during my tenure and it could not come. After I went out, the window for short-term loans had opened and that created greater problem. When long-term loans also will get accumulated, they will catch up the problem. But the problem arises greater immediately with the short-term loans because you will have to pay in three months and six months. So, there may be some reasons which I do not know as I

was not there in the Government. But certainly, when we came back to power in February 1990, again we stopped this short-term loan. It might have been going on for sometime in December or January. So, these measures were taken. I do not want to go into the details as to what we have done and what you have done and I do not think that is the spirit of this debate. We can do it on some occasion in the Budget session. I cannot go into all those details but I can well answer those questions that have been put. I think that is not the spirit of this debate.

Government has a foreign exchange budget also. The foreign exchange budget should become an integral part of the regular budget. There is no reason why it should not be so. When I was there, the foreign exchange budget usually was prepared by October. It makes no sense. So, next year, I tried to make it by March. When we pass the deficit in our normal budget, we think that we have got the rupee, we will print the rupee or earn the rupee. But inherent in it is the foreign exchange deficit. It is not taken into account and the House passes it straightaway. After passing, there will be pressure. So, this is an area which demands better management. The Finance Minister is here. I would request him to bring the foreign exchange budget along with the regular budget. When there is such a crisis, there is no reason why it should not be discussed in this House.

Deficit is truly reflected and that is why, I tried to correct it. I got some figures. The Reserve Bank loans are shown under the heading 'Loans' and not under 'Deficit'. It is a genuine deficit because some fiduciary money is created. The House debates hypothetically and true deficit is not reflected and I tried to make some corrections and some figures used to come to the Parliament. Dr. Manmohan Singh is there. He is an expert in all these matters and, I think, certainly the House is justified in demanding it.

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The other point which I would like to say is that there must be some restriction on deficit. I found that it does not arise within the Government. We are all elected. We also have compulsions to make many programmes and schemes. I do not think that pressure is there and so generally we have to accept it. It will not be advisable also to have somebody outside the Government. The Expenditure Commission was once suggested by Ch Charan Singh but it will become a super Government. Why cannot we evolve an economy within the House? If the Government goes beyond a certain limit of deficit, say, 10 per cent or 15 per cent, then for every supplementary it normally comes back to the House and if there is a majority it gets it passed. Why cannot it be made as two-third's majority? Then there will be a consensus for making deficits than running the country into another debt trap. If there is two-third's majority, then the Government will have to talk to the Opposition for getting more deficit. I would request one thing on my own. I do not commit my party to it. If Money Bill fails, the Government fails. It brings a political problem on everyone's head. A Government should fall on a no confidence. If a Money Bill fails, let not the Government fail. Then we will really be free to debate a Money Bill on its financial merits and not on other considerations other than finance (*Interruptions*). This is a 'right' that I am suggesting for you. You acquire it!

Then Sir, the Reserve Bank should be allowed to function as a Reserve Bank and not as an extension of the Government. It has become a department of the Government. It should be given authority and autonomy to function.

AN HON MEMBER: Should it not be responsible to Parliament?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Of course it should be

responsible to the Parliament, but not like a Government Department.

There should also be stability of excise duties and direct taxes. When we assess an industry that this is its saving capacity there is no reason for this capacity to increase every year unless there is a dramatic change in the economy or a dramatic improvement or fall in that particular sector. With regard to customs, we cannot have stability because it has to respond to the international situation. But stability with regard to excise and direct taxes should be a part of our reforms and revenue should be utilised for expansion of economic activity and that is the best way to use revenue on a long term basis.

In all this we talk of tightening of the belt. Whose belt is to be tightened? That is the question. Is the poor man's belt going to be tightened or is it the belt of those who can afford? When there will be a price impact because of all these measures how does the Government intend to benefit the poorer sections on the price front?

These are the questions that we have in mind. Sir, I do not know how much time is there and there are others yet to speak.

Coming to Punjab the sentence in the address reads as 'Law and order situation in the country has been a cause of grave concern for some time now'. After this sentence Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir were discussed. I am sure the Prime Minister might not have scrutinised it and the Cabinet too might not have scrutinised it. I have all respect for the Prime Minister. His political sagacity would not reduce Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir to a mere law and order problem. If you see it from the point of view of law and order only then that is not the point. And this perspective calls for change. Now elections in Punjab are postponed all of a sudden. Nobody knows how it has been done and who has done it.



and how the Election Commission functions. We demand that a date be fixed for elections. We have seen that after every postponement of elections, the Government has not been able to improve the situation. Therefore, a fair election date should be fixed and we should go ahead with the elections. He also talked about a law which is going to come, where if anybody makes any statement regarding secessionism, he will be debarred from membership. How will this law operate? It will be misused and it will be highly dangerous. We have come across some instances. If you see the files of some of those members who have been elected to this House, you will say that they should not be released. But after getting elected, they were normal. You released some and I also released some. They were the members elected from Punjab. Let this normalisation take place.

The other aspect that I am going to talk about is the federal structure in Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir. Somewhere this federal spirit is eroded. I have been given some disturbing information with regard to Nagaland. My Party colleagues have mentioned that a team of certain responsible persons from the ruling party have gone there. They are in the toppling game. This is a very highly dangerous game. Let us not add more examples of the erosion of federal spirit. This is how alienation starts. Toppling of governments is not the way to arrive at a consensus. Here I want to make it clear. Let us not play such games. It may have serious repercussions here too.

I want an assurance for the Defence Forces personnel and that is pension for ex-servicemen. We took a decision in the Cabinet that from Sepoy to Subedar and for the officers, there should be an increase of pension. That was under our consideration. We demand from this Government that they should only publish the decisions of the previous Government and not just throw them out. If they do not

do so, that will be the greatest injustice to the cause of ex-servicemen.

I would also like to mention something about the 15 point programme and the employment of the minorities. We took a decision that in every Selection Board, there should be one member of the Scheduled Caste and one member of the minority community, so that justice is ensured. Now, we want a time bound declaration not only regarding Minorities Commission but also for Rapid Deployment Force. Earlier, you had mentioned that you are going to give statutory status to the Minorities Commission. You had also mentioned about maintaining the *status quo* of shrines etc. We welcome them. But, there should also be a ban on slogans, cassettes and advertisements. They are highly inflammatory. I challenge that it is not only a political, economic or social question but there has been an attempt being made to challenge our culture also. It is not the challenge on the Government but it is a challenge on the psyche of the people. This is most dangerous. I think we must strengthen the unity and integrity of the country.

Our position is very clear regarding Ram Janma Bhoomi issue. This issue should either be settled amicably or the law of the land should be honoured. We said that the Courts should be kept away from this. The mechanism of resolving disputes and arriving at a decision has been incorporated in the Constitution. Now, we are saying that you take away that mechanism and after that, you solve the problem.

Shah Banu's case was quoted. Regarding this case, there was a judgement and then we came to the Parliament for amending the law. We amended the law and an assurance was given that only the will of the House will prevail. Now, either you submit yourselves to the will of the people or let the Parliament decide on that issue.

[Sh Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

At the end I want to say this. We should keep this in mind that India will not reach its fulfilment unless its two-thirds population which had been deprived for millions of years does find a place in the governance.

I think, this message will clearly come out from the deliberations here.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia) Mr Speaker Sir, I have not to make a long speech (*Inter-ruptions*)

[*English*]

Nobody can let me down. You are accustomed to that.

[*Translation*]

Sir, I do not want to be dragged into these controversies. I want to mention only those issues which concern the future of our nation and which have been raised both inside as well as outside the House. Perhaps I did not want to speak in the House but I am constrained to point out that the Hon Prime Minister is not present in the House. On that day he had said during the course of his speech that the steps which he took to solve the economic crisis should have been taken by me. I want to say that all the papers were ready but due to the difficult situation I was facing I could not take those decisions. It is only on the basis of those papers that the hon Prime Minister has taken this decision. I understand my responsibility towards the nation and towards this House. To say that these issues did not come before me and that I did not think in terms of finding solutions to them is beyond truth. There may be some short-comings in me, but I cannot be accused of delaying decisions. I do not know how the Prime Minister took the decision, it is his domain and only he can tell about it. But I do admit that the capability which he has to take a decision is not there in me. I am not talking in terms of

the support of the hon Members, but of capability to take a decision. This capability to take a decision is unparalleled in him. I had written him a letter telling him that he took very speedy decisions. I have no objection to his taking speedy decisions, but the manner in which these decisions are being taken, I think, will jeopardise the future of our country. There would not have been any objection to me had the Prime Minister taken the decision himself, or had the Cabinet or the Parliament or the Congress Party taken the decision, but I am constrained to say that, from what appeared in the newspapers, it was clear that the Parliament and the Congress Party did not know about this decision. As for the Cabinet, I do not know whether it had any knowledge about the decision or not.

Just now, my friend Shri Rajesh Pilot was speaking. I know him, he is a young man with a zeal to make further studies and take the country forward. He was quoting from Nehruji's speech. I told him not to quote Nehruji. But he still ventured and did not quite succeed because you can not stretch Nehru beyond a particular limit. I did not agree with all the policies of Nehruji but the message of self reliance and 'Swadeshi' which Nehru gave in the economic sector was the legacy of Gandhi's movement. Through you I want to tell Shri Rajesh Pilot that they are no more associated with that tradition. His party has broken the last link with that tradition during the last three months. While I am saying so I am not swayed by emotions. I have been in Parliament for the last 29 years and I have seen how policies were framed. Industrial Policy Resolution was not framed in a day. MRTP Act and FERA were not passed in a day nor was the policy governing the Indian and Foreign Companies formulated in a day. Our Gurudev Atalji is sitting here and he knows how much heat was generated during the debate on the MRTP Bill in the Rajya Sabha. The House had to sit throughout the night after the normal day

sitting to discuss the Dutt Committee report on that Bill. He would also remember that beside discussion in the Parliament Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had invited the experts and the learned people from all over the country for an open debate on the Industrial Policy Resolution. The debate lasted eight years from 1948 to 1956. The work which Nehru accomplished in eight years the task which, Smt. Indira Gandhi could accomplish in 4.5 years, has been completed by Shri Neelamrao Rao in three days. I congratulate him for this efficiency. He has turned all these policies topsyturvy. The documents were ready. After all where from the documents came, who prepared these documents. There should be a discussion on these questions. I do not want that all these things be made public. Quite innocently he said that we would not like to know the details of the Budget nor would he like to disclose them. The people who have been elected to this House at least know this much of the Parliamentary tradition that neither any one would ask the details of the Budget nor anybody was going to disclose them.

Sometimes we are surprised about it. Should we not discuss the policy matter? Should we not respond to the laws when we change our policy? When I have already handed over charge to him I am surprised when I am told that all these decisions were being taken at my instance. I was worried a bit when I was told that there was a report of the World Bank on the basis of which these decisions had been taken. That report was submitted to the Government in November 1990 after I assumed office. I held the office of the Prime Minister from November 1990 to June 1991. Although in the eyes of our friend Shri Somnath Chatterjee I was the Prime Minister just for name as I depended on other's support. But it was the misfortune of the country as well as mine that I happened to represent the country at that time no matter whatever weaknesses whatever lack of understanding

and whatever low capacity to take decisions I had. During these 6-7 months that report was not submitted either to me or to the Minister of Finance or even to our higher officials. That report was confined only to a group of 8 to 9 officers of the Government of India. I would not like to mention here any of these officers' name as you might be knowing them. However I say that most of these officers have been the officers of the World Bank at one time or the other. And. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It is a very serious matter.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): It is a very serious matter. There has to be an inquiry on this.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wrote a letter to the Hon. Prime Minister requesting him to clarify as to where this report had been kept and why this was not shown to me and why this was not discussed? As Atalji has said, when I discussed various issues with the Ministry of Finance a day or two after assuming my office, one of the officers appraising me of the situation told me that the situation was so bad that nothing could be done then. I asked him why was he retaining the post despite having such conception? That higher officer, who is very close to Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh is still in the Government of India and he may again reach that high post. I asked him that very day to relinquish his office as that kind of pessimistic views were not required. I requested the Prime Minister to make an inquiry into and gave him an assurance that I would not raise this issue publicly till I am apprised of the fact after the inquiry. But I would like to ask my Congress friends as to why should I keep silent when the Prime Minister, after getting my letter states that his decision has been

[Sh Chandra Shekhar]

taken on the basis of the papers prepared during my regime' Is there not any responsibility on my part for this country or for this Parliament

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH) Mr Speaker, Sir, I have great regard for Shri Chandra Shekar I wish to assure him that all the papers have been prepared by us and no outside agency has been involved directly or indirectly in the preparation of these papers

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR I hold Shri Manmohan Singhji in high esteem He is my friend He might have prepared papers at his own level without any help from government during the last 57 days Even then I cannot believe that as I am not so unknown or ignorant I too have seen some of the papers as well as that report of the World Bank I possess two pages of that report Should I read them out but it would be an unprecedented move? The contents of the speech of our Minister of Commerce tallies word by word with this report The same policies are being adopted as have been suggested in this report of the World Bank In this report everything has been suggested in detail as to what should be the State policy and what should be the industrial policy, that the customs duty be reduced and excise duty increased in the budget These are the 18 papers that have been sent by the World Bank since 1987 and I am surprised that on these papers discussion can be held in the IMF in the World Bank and in the multi organisations of the world but these can not be shown to the Parliament and the Prime Minister of this country and, moreover, I am being held responsible for taking decisions on this If Shri Manmohan Singhji has taken this decision, this is something phenomenal as there is much similarity between the way of thinking of Shri

Manmohan Singhji and that of the IMF and the World Bank. And I would not like to say anything in this regard But I would certainly like to point out the other thing Well, they have taken the decision What necessitated them to take the decision within three days, could be the country not await for a week and could he not take his own party-members into confidence? They want to change the policies that have been framed by this country and by this Parliament in the last 20-21 years saying that they are helpless that it is in the interest of the public and that is for the sake of development Now they want to convince the country that they have decided to change these policies after a deep thought I have full confidence in their wisdom but I am not ready to hold the wisdom of any Prime Minister any Member of Parliament or any Minister of Finance higher than India's wisdom of 21 years taken together It is my helplessness Therefore I say that the matter should be considered seriously I do not blame that they have a mala fide intention nor do I say that some sort of bungling has been done But, is it proper that those eight officers continuously kept this report in their possession for seven long months and did not bother to look into it for fifteen days? Is it proper that they take major policy decisions without consulting anyone? I would like to say that much cry was raised when the smuggled gold was sent outside during the period of our government and that act was allegedly called by the Congress Party a national Party betrayal But that very act of national betrayal of the month of May has become today an act of patriotism I cannot make it public here as to what is there in the files I had withheld that decision not for one or two days but for fifteen days but the persons like Shri Somnathji who constantly called our government a care-taker government compelled me There were certain big powers that wanted to compel that caretaker government to take wrong decisions I do not want to

say more than this. But I want a thorough inquiry into all these matters and all the facts must be brought before the country in unambiguous terms. I think that the devaluation was not required. Even, today I am of the same view but I would not like to make any comment whether this act of devaluation is right or wrong. In my opinion we could do even without this. Shri V.P. Singh did not devalue nor did I. No one did talk about devaluation with me but suddenly within seven days the whole scene and all the circumstances in the country changed and we became helpless. I know that we have shortage of money. I would not like to talk about loans our country is burdened with and also about who is responsible for this and to what extent. Shri Rajesh Pilot delivered a very learned speech here. I congratulate him as well as the Congress Party which has got such a competent member like him. He made a reference to the amount of loan they had left behind but did not state as to what happened to the foreign exchange amount of rupees six thousand crore kept in the secret reserve? A sum of rupees five thousand crore had been spent by them and the remaining one thousand by Shri V.P. Singh (*Interruption*). And the reserved amount of rupees six thousand crore. (*Interruptions*)... Sometimes, I am very much confused. Two things perturbed me one thing, as our Gurudeo Shri Atalji has said that if a man is changed, the society will change itself. So far as the I.M.I. is concerned he has suggested us not to call a spade a spade. We call a spade a spade because we fear that Atalji might be misguided. Although I am saying all this, these are not new things. I did not know that I would have to speak today. I would not make a mention of the reports of 1982 but the U.S.A. treasury submitted a report to the U.S. President in 1982, in which the functions of the I.M.F., World Bank, Asian Development Bank have been defined. I wish all the members of the House to go through that report.

In that report it has been stated that the business of these Banks is to work for the economic, political and strategic policies of U.S.A. The report says—the countries which are taking loans should support USA on external affairs. If they don't support her, they should at least remain neutral.

India is a backward country. It is a poor country belonging to the third world. But we and especially those people who always refer to the name of Pt. Nehru should not ignore the fact that India is the leader of third world countries. India is the only country in the world which is still raising its voice. Our friend Shri Indrajit said the other day that India was the only country which was raising its voice and Brazil was the second such country and the rest of the countries had yielded. The people of Asia, and the people of backward regions look to you with hope. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the people devoid of any political knowledge are saying a lot of things. At one time they talk of USSR and on some other time they talk of Gorbachev. Mr. Speaker, Sir, perhaps they are not aware of the fact that the society which Mr. Gorbachev is heading has got an army which is alert and politically active. There is a great difference between that society and our society. In spite of that a person like Gorbachev is waiting for an invitation from the countries of G-7. He is also not likely to get any help. Our country has to enter new frontiers and take up new decisions. Now-a-days countries like Japan and Germany are ready to help us by way of giving us loans. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am saying with great responsibility that a tendency is developing in our country and there is a Government set up in our country which is not interested in running the Government. They want to create only one feeling in the country that this country will disintegrate. There will not be any I.M.F. and the World Bank. I am not against I.M.F. and World Bank. During my term of office I also received

[Sh Chandra Shekhar]

a loan of the order of Rupees 1200 crores. I had levied taxes also. The capitalists of this country would have to be told that if we have to tighten up our belts, they will have to do it first.

Mr Speaker, Sir, what is conditionality? If you want to know it, you go through the report of the World Bank. You should go through the Report of Treasury submitted to the President, they don't work stealthily, it is known to the whole world and the entire country knows it except the Parliament of India. I am saying this that if steps are being taken deliberately I have nothing to say. But I apprehend that we are heading towards pitch darkness where we are mortgaging our future. Mr Speaker, Sir, I apprehend that we are not only putting our economic independence at stake but we are playing with political independence as well and it is not our experience many countries of the world have taken such steps. Gone are those countries gone is that economic independence and gone is their economic development. I would like to ask Shri Atalji who is a great supporter of culture and civilisation as to what happened to the culture of Korea and Brisbane? Is the dazzling light of gold and silver, economic development a large number of motor-cars etc. the tradition of our country. *(Interruptions)* I am talking of these countries which are considered as developed countries be it South Korea, Philippines, Thailand or Taiwan. What has happened to their culture and civilisation? I don't want to mention about all that. *(Interruptions)* India can't adopt that path, and the day the nation is led towards that direction the countrymen won't stand by you. Therefore, I want to tell you all this.

I would conclude my speech with a word about Punjab. There was a discussion about Punjab and Shri Indrajit Gupta asked as to who had taken the decision? He wanted an answer to his question. Our friend Bala Singh said that I had not con-

sulted anybody, although everybody's opinion was known. Parties like CPM, BJP, Communist Party and a few people from Akali Dal were participating in this process. Only extremists were opposed to the holding of the elections and a neighbouring country of ours was also opposed to the holding of elections.

I don't hold any secret talks. I had consulted all the concerned people including the Governor there. Moreover I had consulted all the sections of the administration and we had unanimously taken a decision that elections should be held in Assam and Punjab. It is known to everybody that the Honourable President objected to this. I told him that he could have his reservations, but we felt that the circumstances were favourable. I would like to tell my friends from the Congress Party especially those from Assam that there was tremendous opposition against holding of elections in Assam, but elections were held peacefully there and Congress Party formed the Government there. What had happened within 15 days. My friend Shri Buta Singh said that I had gone out of Delhi for four hours and Honourable President brought the situation under control, otherwise the situation of 1984 would have been repeated. I have great regard for the Honourable President and his support was always available to us, but how can Buta Singh forget that in 1984 he was Home Minister and the present President was also a Minister. Why had the incident of 1984 taken place then? Shri Buta Singh is not present at the moment. I enquired from him at that time on phone, he was sobbing and saying that he was not able to do anything. I don't want that the question of human compassion and human suffering should be talked about in such a flippant manner. All the same you might have seen that a puppet speaks in the idiom of his master. I don't object to the puppet as long as his master is native of this country, but if the master belongs to a foreign country the situation becomes very bad.

What happened in Assam? The law and order situation has been disrupted once again. Through you have got a Government, the army is the same, and same is the police force. I don't want to take any credit but creating a feeling of repugnance and bitterness is not good. If we avoid indulging in such things, perhaps we may solve the problems of our country more easily.

Finally I would like to say one more thing. Shri Vishwanathji has made a point just now. He appears to be very impatient in propounding new principles. I would request him not to put forward a suggestion to make Reserve Bank of India an independent body. Shri V P Singh has been the Finance Minister. He might be having more experience about the functioning of Reserve Bank of India. It is not the question of any particular individual. It is the question of institutions. Now we have to see as to what an extent an excellent person could be influenced and how much powerful could be the external forces. Secondly, if the Governments are not voted out on the Finance Bill, how could the Governments be voted out then? One has to think as to how long Shri Natasimha Rao and Shri Advani can adopt different attitudes on financial matters? Therefore financial matters are extremely complicated. More might have been proved to be wrong on other matters, but he has spoken one everlasting truth that financial questions are decided by the inner strength of an individual and it inflicts pain upon the person itself when his or her interests are adversely affected. I remember the example given by him. If we discuss with a priest of the British Church and go on refuting 32 cardinal principles, he would continue to say that we are the children of the same Almighty God, we should live with a feeling of love and brotherhood, but if you tell the same priest, the same bishop that one square yard of the land of the

church belonged to you, he would forget all the things and fling the same cross on your head. So such dreams appear to be very good, but all the same it is a dangerous game. In economic matters, on the one hand, you have a feelings for the poor and the backward and on the other hand such is the condemnation of the economic matters. A person like Lord Buddha has spoken of —

Bahujana hitay, bahujana sukhay"

he has not said

"Sarvajana hitav— Sarvajana Sukhay

because there can not be consensus on such issues. All of us, I mean all the people including members of Congress party should think over it. There are different streams and these streams can not confluence at one point. Mr Speaker, Sir, if we keep all these things in our mind we may arrive at the correct decision about the future of India and the poor people of India.

[English]

MR SPEAKER The hon Finance Minister will make a statement. The other Members may speak later on.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) While the hon Speaker was inside, the sense of the House was taken that the House will be extended upto 8 O'Clock.

MR SPEAKER We will sit upto 8 O'Clock and allow the Members to speak.

18.00 hrs

## STATEMENT BY MINISTER

### Gold Transactions

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH). We are faced with balance of payments crisis of an unprecedented nature. Our foreign exchange reserves have despite significant borrowings from the IMF in July 1990 and January 1991 fallen to a very low level. Due to the weakening of international confidence in the rupee, international commercial banks have become extremely reluctant to lend us money. For the same reason, inflow of remittances from non-resident Indians into foreign currency and rupee denominated general accounts with banks in India has ceased to be a positive figure and in the last month there were signs of a large net outflow on this account. All over the world, expectations about the future value of the rupee were highly unfavourable and this was encouraging India exporters to delay the remission of export proceeds to India and also encouraging illegal export of capital from India.

It is in this background, that we took the decision on 1st & 3rd July, 1991 to adjust the exchange value of the rupee. This action has had a favourable impact on the psychology of international markets and all the principal players therein. I am confident that over time, the exchange rate adjustment together with the trade policy reform measures we have taken our balance of payments will significantly improve and there will be a return of international confidence in our currency.

However, in the immediate run, we have a major liquidity problem. We have compressed our import bill to an unprecedented degree to save foreign exchange for import of only the most essential articles.

At the same time, we have large external debt service payments falling due. We have taken a firm decision

to honour all our international commitments and not to default on payment of debt.

We are, therefore, faced with a situation where we have large financing requirements which cannot be met immediately by increase in exports, or by further import compression, or by increased external borrowing from international commercial banks or by way of increased flow of remittances from non-resident Indians.

It was in this background that the previous Government led by Shri Chandra Shekhar took this decision to sell abroad 20 tonnes of gold out of Govt stocks with an option to repurchase it at the end of six months. The actual export of this gold took place between 21st and 31st of May, 1991.

The previous Government had also agreed with the decision of the Reserve Bank of India that in the present difficult situation, upto 15 per cent of Reserve Bank of India gold could be sent abroad to be kept in safe custody with a Central Bank. The Reserve Bank of India's intention was to seek a short term loan against the pledge of gold sent out of India. Under Section 33(5) of the Reserve Bank of India Act, Section 33(5) of the Reserve Bank of India has the power to keep up to 15 per cent of its gold abroad and the Reserve Bank of India can take decisions in this regard on its own. However, for the sake of abundant caution the Reserve Bank of India consulted the previous Government and they agreed with the Reserve Bank of India's proposed course of action. When our Government came into power, I was aware of the decision of the Reserve Bank of India as concurred in by the previous Government. But I did not consider it wise to countermand that decision. In exercise of its powers, the Reserve Bank of India sent abroad 4.8 metric tonnes of gold on 4th July, 1991 to be kept in safe custody with the Bank of England. On 7th July, a



further quantity of 20.91 tonnes was sent. On 11th July, a further quantity of 10.01 tonnes was sent. On 18th July, a further quantity of 12.09 tonnes was sent. Thus in all, the Reserve Bank of India has sent abroad for safe custody with the Bank of England a total quantity of 46.91 tonnes.

Against the pledge of 46.91 tonnes of gold, the Reserve Bank of India can borrow for a period of one month at a time a total sum of about \$ 400 million to help us tide over the serious liquidity problems we are now facing.

With the transfer abroad of the final instalment of gold on 18th July, the whole operation has been completed as originally planned. For obvious security reasons, the movements of gold had necessarily to be done without prior public announcement. Hereafter no further gold from the Reserve Bank of India stock will be sent abroad.

The export of gold was a painful necessity. However, I am confident that the various measures we have now taken will, over a period of time, lead to a significant improvement of our balance of payments. It will be my sincere effort to work to bring back to India as early as possible the gold we have sent abroad.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): I have sent a note for clarification. What happened? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): In reply to a question, some assurance was given by the Minister.... *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Is it true that during the period April to June we had an export surplus? Is it being put to use? Is it still high? *(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ahamed.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER. Shri Ahamed may speak now.

18.10 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS *Contd.*

*[English]*

SHRI E AHAMED (Manjeri) Mr. Speaker. Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks moved by the hon Member, Shri Buta Singh, on behalf of my Party, the Indian Union Muslim League.

Sir, for the last three days, this House has been discussing the Address of the President. All these three days I have been listening to the speeches made by the hon Members of this House, particularly the leaders of the Parties. The President's Address, Sir, has prompted the hon. Members of this House, particularly the leaders of political parties to ..

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum) Sir, may I draw your attention to one thing? A Minister of a State Government is present in the House. As far as I remember, Sir, there was a Ruling in the Lok Sabha ...

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): She made a speech today in the morning.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Mr. Advani will corroborate this. There is a Ruling in the Lok Sabha that a Minister of a State Government is not permitted to speak in the Lok Sabha. In the Rajya Sabha there is a different directive. Since she has already spoken, the entire speech must be expunged from the proceedings of the House, Sir, I want a Ruling on this.

MR. SPEAKER. I will look into it.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): Sir, she is a Member of the Lok Sabha.

**SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:** I know that. Precisely there is a Ruling on this. So, he or she will not be allowed to speak here unlike in the Rajya Sabha. There is a slight difference between the rules of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

**SHRI E. AHAMED:** Sir, during the discussion on the President's Address, it was interesting to see that leaders of political parties are hurling the charges and counter-charges especially with regard to the present-day economic crisis. May I say, Sir, the present situation is the result of some of the reckless policies pursued by the previous government. All these national political parties had their share in power at some time or the other barring the Left Parties. But there is no meaning in arguing or hurling the charges and counter-charges. It is time for all of us to rise above the party politics and to sit together and find solutions to the problems facing the country.

Sir, I would like to say that the President's Address is a document of political and social emancipation of the country. Many of the leaders have described the President's Address as a document containing nothing I disagree with that view. According to me, Sir, this Address of the President is the enunciation of the policies of the present Government in the context of immediate priorities as well as in the realisation of the long-term national objectives. The President has depicted a true picture of what India is today and he also has promised certain remedial measures for solving the problems. Sir, I do not want to take much of the time of the House on these matters, but I am just inviting the attention of this House to a very important matter concerning the country. The fissiparous tendency is growing in a dangerous way in the body politic of this country. This fissiparous tendency, according to me, Sir, is not a law and order problem, not even a political issue. This is a problem concerning the very unity and integrity of the country. The President, in his address, has men-

tioned certain measures as to how we will be able to tackle these issues. Unfortunately, many of the leaders who have participated in the discussion have forgotten to mention the growing communal and social divide in this country. Unfortunately in this country we find the communal divide which, according to me, is much worse a phenomenon and we have to take whatever steps possible to contain this and also put an end to such a phenomenon. As a matter of fact, this malaise is deep-rooted and we have no soft option to tide it over. I venture to ask: why are our people quarrelling in the name of religion? Why are they being killed in the name of religion? There is no place for such things in our religions.

Sir, I come from the State of Kerala which is a very small State. I feel Kerala can serve as a model for many northern States in terms of its tradition of communal harmony, amity, social progress and political achievement. Kerala is a living example of communal harmony where one can see the peaceful coexistence of temples, churches and mosques. They stand side by side as a picture of perfect communal harmony. This is the time for our national leaders to strive hard to propagate and emulate this cultural heritage of Kerala. The cultural heritage of Kerala is an integral part of Indian heritage. We have been following truthfully, we have been adhering honestly the principle handed down to us by no less a person than Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. He had said that the unity of this country is in diversity. We have been following this principle all along. Therefore, this is high time for our people to learn to live in perfect harmony.

Sir, there are many problems that the President has mentioned in his Address. One of which is the Babri Masjid-Ram Janma Bhoomi dispute. Much has been said about it. There is a civil case pending before the High Court Bench at Lucknow. Therefore, I do not want to go into the merit of the case. But, at the very same time, we have to deal with the political

aspect of the case. Here, in the name of this unfortunate dispute many people have been killed, Hindus, Muslims, but all are Indians. Therefore, the mention made by the President in his Address with respect to the solution is a welcome feature.

Para 9, at page 3, the Address says

"We cannot allow communal elements to defile their sanctity by using such places as instruments to generate controversy and discord. Government will make every effort to find a negotiated settlement to the Ram Janma Bhoomi-Babri Masjid issue with due regard to the sentiments of both communities involved."

This is, of course, a welcome feature. But at the same time, I may also invite the attention of the Government to their election Manifesto, of their Congress Party which was released by no less a person than late lamented Shri Rajiv Gandhi. In this election manifesto at page 29 on Ram Janma Bhoomi-Babri Masjid, it is stated

"The Congress is committed to find a negotiated settlement of this issue which fully respects the sentiments of both communities involved. If such a settlement cannot be reached, all parties must respect the order and verdict of the court. The Congress is for the construction of the Temple without dismantling the mosque."

In the President's Address, I do not find the wording, namely "If such a settlement cannot be reached, all parties must respect the order and verdict of the court" I think, it may be an omission by oversight.

Therefore, what I venture to say is that if we try our best to have a negotiated settlement on this burning issue, it is the duty of everybody to help for such an amicable settlement. By any chance, if we fail to have negotiated settlement, we have to wait for the verdict of the court. It is the duty of every citizen in a civilised society to respect such a verdict of the court of law.

Another important issue, I would like to mention here is with regard to reservation. We always support the principle of reservation. But at the same time, I may say that the position of the minorities, the Muslims in this country is very much deplorable. Muslims are to be taken as a backward class all over the country. In Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, Muslims have been included as a backward class as enshrined in articles 15 and 16 of the Constitution. But in the whole of India, it has not been given. Even in the Mandal Commission Report, there are several anomalies. We have given a qualified support to the Mandal Commission report with the condition that such anomalies, especially with respect to the Muslims of Kerala should be removed. Therefore, we are for reservation but we request that the minorities should be given special reservation. Unless and until such reservations in jobs are made for the minorities, it will be difficult for government to take the backward section of the people to the national mainstream.

18.24 hrs. SHRI P. M. SAYEED  
in the Chair

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to take necessary steps so as to include the Muslims as a backward class and to give them special quota in the reservation, whether it is in the announced quota of 27% or by some other means.

May I also bring to the notice of the Government, the present deplorable position of the Muslims in the service? Their representation in the services is woefully inadequate. Muslims representation in the public sector undertakings is also very low. Therefore, the Government should strive hard to make some provision for the Muslims in providing jobs. If necessary, reservation should also be made. We are not very much interested in giving some Ministership or Ambassadorship to the poor Muslims. We are really interested in getting job

[Sh. E. Ahamed]

at grass-root level. I hope the Government will bear this matter in mind and take necessary urgent steps

Another important point I would like to bring to the attention of the Government is the security and protection of the life and property as well as the honour of the members of the minority communities

I very much appreciate the point made by the President in his Address with respect to the formation of a composite rapid action force. It is disgraceful that the constabulary under the control of the State Government have been taking partisan attitude in dealing with communal riots. Therefore, this idea that has been given by the late lamented Shri Rajiv Gandhi that such a situation will be dealt with by forming a composite rapid action force is a welcome feature and it will definitely be a sigh of relief if the Government will take urgent steps for the formation of such a rapid action force to deal with communal riots

May I also bring to the notice of the Government some of the problems facing the minorities in the country such as their difficulties to get admission in colleges and schools? Even now Muslims, as a minority community, are very much backward in education. Unless and until the Government also extends a helping hand, it will be very difficult for them to get necessary educational facilities. I hope the Government will appreciate these difficulties of the minority communities and take appropriate steps in this matter.

May I also mention here Sir, a word about Jammu and Kashmir? Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India. No force in this country can take away Jammu and Kashmir from our country. But at the very same time, I urge upon the Government that the ordinary man who has the patriotism and also faith in the mainland of India, may also be taken into consideration. The Government and the

authorities should deal sympathetically with them. Therefore, the political process should be initiated in Jammu and Kashmir. That alone will bring everlasting peace for that province of India

I may also make one point with regard to the foreign policy of our Government. The President has made elaborate mention with regard to the foreign policy. But during the last Gulf War period, it so happened that our Government has given a wrong signal to the countries in the Gulf region. The stand taken by the then Government was very much confusing. It is high time for the Government of India to remove the misunderstanding, if any, in the minds of the rulers of Gulf countries and Government should also take all necessary measures to improve the commercial link of India with those countries, taking into account the close proximity and also the possibility of improving our export. This should also be taken note of. The Government should also explore what are the commodities that we will be able to export to the Gulf countries. But unfortunately we do not have very good salesmanship in that region. Much of our opportunity has been ignored and much of our resource has not been tapped as far as this is concerned. Therefore, Sir, again with all due respect to the Opposition parties, may I say that we would like to have a consensus as far as the Administration of this country is concerned. This is the time to join together and solve the problems facing this country.

With these few words, I support once again the Motion moved by Shri Buta Singh and I conclude my speech

**SHRI IMCHALEMBA** (Nagaland): Mr. Chairman, Sir, our chance should have come much earlier. But till today, we are not getting the chance at all

**MR. CHAIRMAN** I have a long list. We have already decided

to sit late and then finish. Every body will get a chance.

**SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM** (Inner Manipur): Are you maintaining any list or are you adopting pick and choose method? Are you maintaining that?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** No. I am not going by pick and choose system. I have been advised by the Speaker how to proceed. He has given me the list. Already, the list is there. If you go on arguing like this, we will be further delaying our sitting here. May I seek your cooperation for doing help to you? Please be resuming your seat. I will now ask Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar to speak.

**SHRI PIUS TIRKEY** (Alipurduar): We have been waiting here for three days. All the parties should be given the chance.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Your name has already been included. You are the third speaker, according to the Speaker's list.

**SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR** (Mayiladuturai): Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks.

Sir, the President's Address reflects the courage and conviction of a party that recognizes its historic role as the natural party of governance of this great country of ours. Time and again, our democracy has afforded the opportunity to non-Congress parties to demonstrate their mettle. Almost always and almost everywhere the notable exception being West Bengal in the last 15 years the country and the States concerned have turned wearily away from non-Congress misgovernance and returned to the Party with the unbroken lineage of 106 years from Allan Octavian Hume to Rajiv Gandhi and now Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao.

Sir, I urge the Government to act as it has spoken, without fear and without inhibition, in consonance with the great principles and tradition of the Congress Party and in keeping with the Congress Manifesto to the last will and testament of Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

I know--as but two or three other Members of this House know--how much the Congress Election Manifesto was the personal handiwork of Shri Rajiv Gandhi. There were, of course, numerous drafts submitted and numberless suggestions made. These were considered with attention, sifted with care, and structured into a coherent philosophy of action and a programme of work. But, in the end, it was Rajiv Gandhi's own Manifesto, as much in concept as in detail. The broad brushstrokes were his as much as was the fine print. I hope I am betraying no secrets when I say that the release of the Manifesto was delayed by over a week because Shri Rajiv Gandhi wished to go over it line by line, clause by clause, para by para. I do not know why he wished to pay so much attention to it. Perhaps, he had a premonition of his coming death, perhaps it was merely a reflection of his usual punctiliousness. However that might be, the fact is that he meticulously crafted a charter of governance for the Congress Party over the next five years. Provided we remain true to the spirit and the vision of Rajiv Gandhi's last will and testament, nothing can deflect the Congress from remaining, even after the end of the era of massive majorities, the natural party of governance, whatever the temporary ups and downs of our electoral fortunes in any particular election. We fully recognise and understand the mathematics of the composition of the Tenth Lok Sabha. There are two fundamental coordinates. One, we are overwhelmingly the largest Party in the House. Two, we are slightly short of a majority. Therefore, as the Prime Minister underlined, there will have to be much greater consultation and much greater

[Sh. Mani Shankar Aiyar]

cooperation among all parties to enlarge the area of understanding and agreement. This would have been so even if we had secured a comfortable majority for, as the Prime Minister stressed—and I quote:

"I can assure you that I will keep my mind open. The Government mind will be absolutely open to new ideas, new innovative ideas that may be coming from any quarter."

I would request the House, Mr Speaker, Sir, to contrast the sheer graciousness of that statement with the utter gracelessness of some of the remarks we have been hearing from the benches opposite during the debate on this Motion of Thanks. There have been, I am happy to say some constructive suggestions and some interesting new avenues of thought but, by and large, instead of responding to the new spirit invoked by the Prime Minister, the Opposition have merely opened their old bag of tricks: denigration, denunciation and destructiveness. They seem to think they have us by the short hairs because we are marginally short of a majority. Let me remind them it takes two hands to clap. Our hand is ready. Theirs apparently is not. So we are treated to homilies about what they call the "new realities."

What new realities? They were divided when they cohabited on these Benches. They are divided now on those. They divided the country when they ran the Government in a comical three-legged race. They seek to divide the country now that they are in Opposition. There was a politics of opportunism in Government. There is a politics of expediency now in Opposition.

The largest of the Opposition parties does not have even half the strength of the Congress. The loudest of the Opposition parties would not be able to fill even one bogie of a railway train. The membership in the House of most other Opposition

parties can be counted on the fingers of one hand.

In the name of consensus, these warring groupuscules of the Opposition are trying to effect a backdoor entry into governance. The Government must stand warned against such illegitimate efforts to capture the levers of power. This Government is our Government. This Government is a Congress Government. Our duty is limited to carrying with us our allies, such as the Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. For the rest we will, of course, consult the Opposition, but let them not forget that consultation is being undertaken in the higher interest of the nation, it cannot be a trap to turn the hunter into the hunted.

Issue by issue we must see how we can carry our programmes through. That will require consensus, conciliation and concord. But not consensus born out of cowardice. Nor conciliation bred out of cowering. Nor, indeed, concord nurtured on cringing. It must mean consensus consistent with the cardinal principles of the Congress heritage. It must mean conciliation consistent with the Congress tradition of carrying the nation with it. It must mean concord consistent with Congress concepts and the Congress vision.

If, on this basis, the cooperation of sections of the Opposition is available on specific issues, we welcome that cooperation, we welcome every effort to widen areas of agreement and pursue areas of disagreement. But if cooperation consistent with our principles is not forthcoming on key issues that brook no delay, then we have no fear of returning to the people—for democracy decrees that the ultimate arbiter is always the people.

Merely to survive, no Congress government can become a BJP government in disguise—a kind of wolf in sheep's clothing, no Congress government can become a Left Front government in disguise—a kind of wolf in wolf's clothing, nor, indeed,

can any Congress government become a National Front government in disguise—a kind of sheep in sheep's clothing. No, Sir, we must remain ourselves. We are the party of the Freedom Movement; the Party of Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Lal Bahadur Shastri and Indira Gandhi. We are the Party of Rajiv Gandhi. We are now the party of Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao. We cannot be the party of that former Prime Minister who told us about all the pressures from abroad which he claimed that were subjecting us to decision making at the behest of foreigners. He is one who buckled like a man of straw in the face of American imperialism and allowed American war planes to be refuelled on our soil, when the Americans were conducting an imperialist war against a fellow Asian country.

The President's Address may lack the philosophical musings of Syed Shahabuddin, the blood and thunder of Shri Somnath Chatterji's oratory, the ritual incantation of "Jai Sri Ram" of the BJP. It may, indeed, read in places, like as Syed Shahabuddin observed like an office note. But an office note has the inestimable advantage of constituting a programme of work to be carried out over the next twelve months. It is a principled programme, it is a practical programme, it is a pragmatic programme. Almost everything that is in it cannot but attract the support of everyone or almost everyone in this House. May I specifically refer, in this context, to the desperately needed programme to supply of drinking water to every village, which the Government propose to name after Rajiv Gandhi? I am sure all or most sections of the House would wish to support us on such issues.

There are however, some other issues, more controversial in nature. For example, the firm stand taken in the President's Address on legislation in regard to preserving the status quo of places of worship as on Independence Day 1947 and the Ram Jamma-

bhooni-Babri Masjid dispute. On such issues, it is the Congress' view that must prevail, whatever be the consequences. We cannot, in the name of consensus, forsake our secularism and let ourselves be drowned by the waves of saffron that are threatening to engulf from behind such basically decent, rational men as Advaniji, Atalji and Jaswantji. They are the victims of the Frankenstein which they themselves have created. There is no need for the rest of the House—or, indeed, the country to suffer a similar fate.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must draw attention to a gaping lacuna in the President's Address. There is no mention at all of the Panchayati Raj and Nagarpalika Constitution Amendment Bills drafted by the Rajiv Gandhi government and defeated on the floor of the Rajya Sabha by a tiny handful of votes. Our Manifesto had promised to bring that legislation before Parliament in this Budget session.

Of course, as the Prime Minister pointed out in his reply to the debate on the Vote of Confidence, Constitutional legislation is distinctly different to other legislation. As we command less than half the votes in this House (and the position is much the same in the other House), we cannot hope to pass such far-reaching Constitutional Amendments without an accretion of support from the Opposition Benches. But there is always scope for bringing the Panchayati Raj and Nagarpalika Bills forward in their entirety, as drafted by Rajiv Gandhi, to Parliament and then, if necessary, referring them to a Joint or Select Committee for further consideration.

Given the crucial importance which Shri Rajiv Gandhi attached to saving our democracy by granting Constitutional protection to democracy at the grassroots, I would plead with the Government to clarify its position on these Constitutional amendments when it replies to this debate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Charles to speak now.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will we not get a chance to speak? *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Speaker was here for one hour and I have just now occupied the Chair. Now, you have seen that three important opposition leaders continuously speaking in this House. From the ruling party only Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar spoke. I am calling out the names according to the list drawn already. As per that list, I am going. Definitely everyone of you will be getting his chance. Kindly bear with me now. Mr. Charles.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: One after another, only the Congress Members are speaking. *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the matter now? All the Members of your party are on the list. I try to accommodate everybody. After Atal Bihari Vajpayee three opposition leaders spoke. Your name is there, you will get a chance to speak.

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: I have my own party and I have my right to speak. I am waiting for the opportunity. *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra): Sir, my suggestion is that you should give opportunity to all the Members on the List.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Tirkey, you are a senior Member, you know the procedure. After all, we have to

conduct the business of the House. Please bear with me. We have already extended the time of the House

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: If all of you talk together, how will I take a decision?

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: In the Ninth Lok Sabha I was in the Panel of Chairman. My experience was that either the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker or whoever is in the Chair makes an initial arrangement of speakers. In the course of the debate, some re-ordering of the list has to be done. It always rests with the Member who is occupying the Chair at the moment, to alter any suggestion which may have been left by the earlier Chairman. Therefore what I want to submit is that there must have been some slipping somewhere. When Group A with four Members in the House has not been called upon to speak, Group B with only one Member has already been called upon to speak. So, what I want to say is that there must have been some mistake in the list. This kind of priority is seldom indulged in by the Chair. This is my experience of the Ninth Lok Sabha. I was in the Rajya Sabha earlier to that. I know that this is what is happening. Therefore, I humbly request that all of them may be accommodated today itself. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I accept it. Definitely they will be accommodated. What I was telling is that all the three opposition leaders Shri Vajpayee, Shri V.P. Singh and Shri Chandra Shekhar have spoken just now. Then only Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar spoke.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not bring in party names here. We have taken all these things into account. Now, Mr. Charles.

*(Interruptions)*



**SHRI PIUS TIRKEY:** You have just now promised me and told that I would be the third speaker. *(Interruptions)*

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Everyone will get his chance.

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI PIUS TIRKEY:** You have told me that I would be the third speaker. Why have you changed your own decision? I want to put it on record. *(Interruptions)*

**MR. CHAIRMAN.** No, I have not said that.

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI PIUS TIRKEY:** Yes, you have said that I would be the third speaker and that my name was there I am waiting for the third number. What is the decision that you have taken?

**MR CHAIRMAN.** You have misunderstood. I told you that according to the list given, you are the third speaker. These are. Mr Mam Shankar Aiyar, Mr. Charles and then Mr. Tirkey.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I would request all the hon. Members to bear with me. If you go on arguing for the chance that who will speak first, I think, we will be losing our time.

*[Translations]*

**SHRI K. P. REDDAIAH (Machhlipatnam):** Mr. Chairman Sir, you read out all the names that are in the list.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** All of them are there. Your name is also these Shri K. P. Reddaiah.

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

**SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK (Buldana):** May I seek a clarification? If we are not able to

get time, can we lay our speech on the Table of the House so that it goes on the record of the House *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Chimur)** I have also been waiting for my turn. *(Interruptions)*

**MR. CHAIRMAN** Mr. Charles.

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI IMCHALEMBA.** All the major political parties have exceeded the time given to them. There are also parties like us who have not been given time and we represent a State. What about us? We have given our names

**MR CHAIRMAN** Mr. Speaker has already given these four names: Mr Mani Shankar Aiyar, Mr. Charles and Mr Tirkey and Mr. Mangal Ram Premi. He has taken one from BJP, one from Janata Dal, that is, Mr V P. Singh and one from Samajwadi Janata Dal.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** You are from Nagaland Members from small States and regions are there You all will be getting your turn. Therefore, kindly bear with me. Let us shorten the speech.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR CHAIRMAN.** You have already wasted 15 minutes. Three persons could have been accommodated.

**SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK:** Sir, is it the complete list of speakers?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** No, no.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Mr Charles...

**SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum):** Sir, I stand to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address moved by hon. Shri Buta Singh.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly be brief.

SHRI A. CHARLES: I have been waiting for the last two days. Kindly bear with me. We had been patiently listening when hon. Members from the Opposition were speaking. We are majority of the Members. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Don't boast about your majority. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. CHARLES: I have been called by the Chair. (*Interruptions*)

The President in his Address has given a broad outline of action to be taken during the next one year. Before going into the details of those programmes, with a deep sense of sorrow, I have to pay my respect and homage to our great departed leader Shri Rajiv Gandhi. The brutal assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi has shaken the conscience of the people all over the world as has been rightly pointed out by the *Rashtrapati*. As has been rightly pointed out by *Rashtrapatiji* it was at a moment of grave crisis in the history of our nation that Shri Rajiv Gandhi was compelled to take the leadership and to guide the destinies of this great nation. Sir, at times he used to encourage and give us a new hope to the frustrated millions of the country. He guided the country to the penacles of glory within a short span of time but quite unfortunately, the destabilising forces both are within and outside the country had been very unkind to him. I do not want to mention any name in this connection. I have been hearing with rapt attention the speeches made by most of the leaders on the other side. Our respectable colleague, hon. Vajpayee said, while he started his speech, that there is a national crisis. The national crisis is not only one. It is political crisis, it is social crisis, it is moral crisis, it is economic crisis. But after mentioning all this, he had dwelt at length only on the economic crisis which we are facing in the country now.

Sir, in one or two minutes, I may mention about the political, social and moral crisis which the respectable Member had mentioned here. Sir, who is responsible for the present social and moral crisis? I plead with the Members on the other side to search their hearts, if any, for the reply. I had the privilege or the fortune or the misfortune to have been the Member of Eighth and Ninth Lok Sabha. What was happening in the Eighth Lok Sabha? Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at an hour of crisis, when the whole world thought that our unity and integrity was lost by the cruel and inhuman assassination of our dear Indrajai, when the whole country was burning, was compelled and persuaded to assume the leadership of this great country. With painful heart, I may say that the people who were around him, the people whom he had trusted, people who had always supported him joined hands with the destabilising forces and simply betrayed him. It is a sad story. So, social and moral crisis that the country now facing is only because of the conspiracy of the destabilising forces at that time. But now I am very sorry to say that the former Prime Minister who spoke for about more than an hour spent about twenty minutes on Mandal Commission alone. I belong to a backward community. I had even to discontinue my studies in my younger days as I was unable to pay my fees. And so, I know the agony of the poor, common and a backward man. With a painful heart, I may say that the then Prime Minister, while he was issuing the order to implement the Mandal Commission Report, had betrayed the whole backward community of this country. (*Interruptions*)... The former Prime Minister had asked a pointed question as to why this Government is reluctant to give a reply to the order issued by the Supreme Court. I am not the person to answer. I am sure that the Treasury Benches will give a proper answer at the appropriate time. But, through you, may I ask a small question? How did he issue the orders for implementing the Mandal Commission? It was a *suo*

*motu* statement made by him. It was not an order issued by him. Like Buddha, one fine night, wisdom dawned on him and it appeared to him that 52 per cent of the backward communities of the whole nation have been betrayed for the last 25 years. In that period of 25 years, he had been the Congress Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh also. Every drop of blood in that person is of the Congress. But he defected from the Congress and he was received with garlands by hon. Members on the other side.

19.00 hrs.

He has been praised as a saint. What did he do? While issuing the *suo motu* statement, he has not released the list of backward communities eligible for reservation. That was a total betrayal. I ask him whether he stands by the list of backward communities mentioned in the report of the Mandal Commission. Sir, the problem is not merely giving reservations to the backward communities. The real problem is about the list. There are 3743 communities included in the list. What did he say while issuing the order? We all know that the order was issued just to stab the Tau whom he removed just like a sweeper without even giving a show cause notice. After all it was his politics. It is their business and we have nothing to do with it. But what has happened is this. The order did not contain the list of communities. It simply stated that 27 per cent of the reservations would be given for the backward communities and the list had to be prepared duly from the list given in the Mandal Report and the lists in all the States. Why did he not release the list. He was the Prime Minister then. If he were really sincere towards the backward community, he should have prepared the list. Now we find it very strange when he asks the present Prime Minister why in these two weeks he has not prepared the list. This is very surprising

Shri Paswan is not here. I wanted to ask him a few questions. In those days when he was a cabinet Minister I met him and I pleaded with him why the converted Christians from the Scheduled Castes should not be given the privilege when he extended the same privilege to Neo-Buddhists. But he refused to do that. What was his calculation? He did some simple arithmetic. 27 per cent reservation for 52 per cent population belonging to backward communities. V. P. Singhji, Paswanji and Yadavji prepared the arithmetic. With 52 per cent of backward people and 22 per cent of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, they have 74 per cent of the total population of the country in their pockets. With this calculation in mind, they asked the President to dissolve this august House. On these communal lines, they wanted to go to the people straight. The President did not give his permission. All of us know the whole thing and it is history now.

Sir, I am reminded of a story. There was a school teacher in the pre-independent India. Nowadays the teachers are an organised lot and they are very powerful. Because of their organised power nobody can touch them whether they teach or not, whether they go to school or not. But in those days, the future of a teacher depended entirely on the report of the schools inspector. A poor primary school teacher was teaching arithmetic to the Fifth Standard students, when the schools inspector came to a visit. He put a question: "If the length of the class room is 20 feet and the width of the room is 10 feet, what is my age?" The teacher was shocked. He thought that it was some new arithmetic not known to him. He asked all the 30 students one by one. One of the boys who was very intelligent, answered that his age was 40. It happened to be the exact age of that inspector. He was surprised and patted the boy and asked him how he arrived at the answer. The boy said that it was very simple. He had an elder brother who was 20 years old

[Sh A. Charles]

and he was half mad. The school teacher must definitely be 40 to put such a question. This is the arithmetic of Shri V. P. Singh too. What was your strength in the Ninth Lok Sabha? And what is your strength now in the Tenth Lok Sabha. That is why I am reminded of this story.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** You are all smiles, even though you too do not have a simple majority!

**SHRI A. CHARLES:** Though we are short by a few, we have got the will of the people. We have the support of the people.

The former Prime Minister talked about consensus. He started his Prime Ministership with a consensus. He had said that everything will be done with a consensus I want to ask my BJP and Leftist friends one question. Did he consult them when he issued the order regarding implementation of this controversial Mandal Commission's Report?

He even failed to consult them when he betrayed the whole nation by playing the communal card. He divided the country. I am sure the historians will record that here is the man who has brought the entire country into a crisis by playing communal and caste cards. Now, he says the present Government has taken a unilateral decision and that amount to non-consensus. What was that decision which he took? What right has he got to ask this Government that we are taking a unilateral decision? We are for consensus. On issues, we consult everybody. One of the hon. Member has just mentioned about Panchayati Raj Bill. Who opposed that Bill? In that 30 per cent reservation for women was there. Who betrayed at that time? I challenge if that Bill is introduced here, are you prepared to support it.

We stand committed to that Bill? We stand committed to the people. I want to mention something about the Industrial Policy and also about Fiscal Policy but due to lack of time, I am not going to touch these topics.

So many changes are being brought forward throughout the world. Even in the Soviet Union, large changes have come. But unfortunately, our friends in the opposition who come from Kerala and West Bengal cannot understand those changes. We are for changes. We are for progress.

So, with all the strength at my command, I stand to support the Motion of Thanks.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI PIYUS TIRKEY** (Alipurduar): Mr Chairman, Sir, I have got an opportunity to speak after a long wait. I would like to draw your attention to a matter which no other Member has pointed out. I would like to read out what is mentioned in Article 244(1) and (2) of the Constitution of India. It is about Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. After going through it, one comes to know how much justice Congress Government has done to them. Over and over again it is repeated that a lot is being done for them. Reservation is being made for them. These things are mentioned in the speeches of almost all big leaders. But they do not follow what is provided there in the Constitution.

[*English*]

Article 244(1) and (2) of the Constitution says:

"The provisions of the Sixth Schedule shall apply to the administration of the tribal areas as are specified there." How far the Congress Government, in its rule, implemented the provisions? This is my question. Have they done so? I ask the Ministry, the Government of India and the ruling party to go through the Constitution of India.

[*Translation*]

Justice should be meted out to them. They are not beggars who want your pity or protection. They want their rights. They are being suppressed and denied jobs. It should be borne in mind that they do not want your pity. This was what Shri V. P. Singh wanted. The backward classes do not want to live on mercy. They want their rights and equality. That is why Congress joined hands with the BJP and made the Government fall and now the former is talking of doing a lot for the SCs/STs. Dams are being constructed and factories are being set up and lakhs of people are getting displaced. Where are they being rehabilitated? Has anything been thought about them. For whom is the dam being constructed? Lakhs of poor people are getting displaced in Adivasi areas. Where should they go? Some of them get compensation whereas some do not get anything. This matter should be seriously considered. This is why terrorism and atrocities are increasing. Naxilism is on an increase in the tribal areas. What is the reason behind it? The poor are being suppressed by the high castes for their selfish interests. Every year foreign exchange worth seven hundred and a fifty crore is earned. But what is the use? It is not used for primary education in these areas. People have been befooled. Some Members say that there would be 'Hindu Rastra' (Nation). About Hindus I would like to point out that the President is a Brahmin, the Vice President, Prime Minister, Chairman of the Planning Commission and Chief Election Commissioner Shri Sheshan are all Brahmins and Hindus. I am not abusing the Brahmins. They are depriving them of the rights provided to them under the Constitution. It has been categorically stated therein. There was agitation in Nagaland and North East. After lot of bloodshed they gave them their due. The Congress Government understands the language of gun only. It listens to those who fight for their rights. If it continues things will

deteriorate throughout the country. I dare say, this Government is blind. It cannot look. There was a report recently that 40 million hectares of land can be saved from the fury bloods. Tribal projects have been formulated but never implemented. Pollution of river Ganga is another problem. The need of the hour is to first save those 40 million hectares of land. Report says that with timely step 33 million hectares of land can be saved. There is large scale land erosion in West Bengal because of river Ganga. Big villages and fertile land is likely to be submerged therein. The Government policies are not correct. Townships and colonies are coming up on fertile land. They do not have a soft corner for the farmers. If they wanted to do something concrete for them they should leave fertile lands and set up colonies and Five Star Hotels in the deserts in Rajasthan. Townships are coming up on thousands of acres of fertile land. The farmers and poor are being exploited. The poor living in slums in Delhi do not have anything to eat and they try to get the left overs from dust bins and dumps. I have seen this with my own eyes. The poor people do not even have roof over their heads in Bombay, Calcutta and Delhi, whereas we are under the burden of heavy debt and are pledging our gold and smuggling Indian currency. Is this the concept of free India. Such a Government cannot run for long. That is why the people have not given full mandate to the ruling party. It is a lame Government. I therefore urge the Government to seek cooperate of all. The mistakes of the previous regimes, when you were in power should be rectified otherwise the people of the country will never forgive you.

[Sh. Piyus Tirkey]

All of you have taken the oath of allegiance to the constitution of India and it specifically mentions about the Government's duty to protect the interests of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Tomorrow itself you should introduce a Bill to make special provisions for areas marked as backward in all the States of the Country. You can either set up autonomous districts or autonomous regions.

[English]

I will ask the Government to go through the Constitution and do the needful immediately.

[Translation]

**SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI** (Bijnor): Sir, I rise to oppose the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. I wanted to say some thing particularly to Shri Buta Singh, who has moved this Motion. Unfortunately he is not present in the House, at the moment. The hon. Members have raised almost every issue but one thing that surprised me was that not a single Member considered it necessary to raise the issue of the problems being faced by about five lakh sanitary workers in the country. Shri Buta Singh is considered as a crusader for the cause of these people and it is said that their upliftment is of utmost concern to him, but when he joined the Cabinet few years back, he did not make any effort to improve their lot and he too forgot them. I would like to draw the attention of the House towards their living conditions. These sanitary workers, who work in Municipal Corporations, Notified Areas, Zilla Parishads and villages, are not paid salaries for eight to nine months. They are engaged on a daily wage basis and are exploited. Those who make loud proclamations about democracy and those who have been administering the country for about forty years have along been mute spectators to the exploitation of these sanitary workers. No effort has been

made to make their jobs permanent. They are being exploited. When India attained independence, the population was estimated to 35 to 40 crores and it is said that today we are 85 crores although I feel that it is near about 100 crores. However, the number of sanitary workers has not increased in proportion to the increase in the population and consequently the burden of maintaining cleanliness and sanitation has fallen on their shoulders. Is the Government providing any assistance to them? Has the Government ever thought of uplifting them, improving their standard of living, of providing them facilities to which they are entitled? Unfortunately, nothing is being done for them. Instead, they are being exploited further. I would like to tell you what's happening at B.H.E.L. (Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited). Hardwar. Contractors are entrusted with the work of sanitation. They are charging 40 to 50 rupees per sanitary worker but the contractor gives only Rs. 10/- per worker. Why is it so? Why that poor fellow is being exploited like this? Had Shri Buta Singh been present in the House, then certainly I would have reminded him of the loud proclamations he had made about improving the lot of these unfortunate people and also the fact that he never raised this issue even once in this august House, once he joined the Union Cabinet. I wonder whether there is a single hon. Member, who hasn't been benefited by these people, but they never deemed it necessary to bring to the notice of House, the tragedy of these poor people.

Sir, I oppose the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address, precisely because nothing has been said about them in the Address. You can go through it and verify the authenticity of what I am saying.

**MANY HON. MEMBERS:** You are right.

**SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI:** I would like to tell the House and the Government that although they are weak, they have got the potential to

make life hell for each one of us. Hell would break loose, if they decide to use the broom-their most potent weapon, in order to seek justice. If they stop working for just eight days, India would be facing a disastrous situation. Epidemics will spread. This is a community, which serves the society, by putting its own life and health at stake. Perhaps, that is the reason why they have been ignored in the President's Address and neglected by the Government. Congress Governments have been responsible for this continuous exploitation over the years.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, if you look at the condition of the sanitary workers in schools, you will find that although they have been working there for 15 to 16 rupees or 25 rupees or a maximum of 50 rupees. When the salaries of teachers, the peons can be increased, then why not of these people. If it has not been done, it is simply because the Government is not sincere about their welfare. Whether it is at the District level or the Block level, these people are engaged as watchmen-cum-safai Karamchari. They are paid so meagre salary that they are not able to properly maintain their families. They are not in a position to provide proper education to their children and if at all some of them manage to get education, he is asked to do the sanitation work. At many places, these children are made to work during day and night and if ever they are found enjoying some spare time, they are compelled to bring fodder for the buffaloes.

Sir, through you, I would like to tell the Government that it should pay more attention to these people. The fall of the Government is imminent, if it is not done, I appeal to the Government to make their jobs permanent and to consider them as Government servants. In notified areas, towns, and municipalities why they are not employed on a permanent basis and paid regular salary? If it is not done, then how these people can keep their body and soul together? I request the Government to make arrangement for the payment of their

salary through banks or post-offices. Otherwise they would be in trouble and consequently, they can create problems for others as well. If they are not paid, their children would remain an educated and would have a bleak future.

They are forced to pay bribes ranging up to 10,000 rupees to get the job of a sweeper. Reservation has become the in-thing. Harijans, backward classes etc., all of them enjoy the benefits of reservation. I wonder why this benefit of reservation in job, is not extended to these people? Why they are not being provided with such facilities? I urge upon all the hon. Members to give a suggestion to the Government.....(*Interruptions*). This is not mere rhetoric, Sir, a large section of our society is being exploited and I am just highlighting it. I would not like to take much of your time but certainly I would like to urge upon the Government to declare them as Government servants and pay their salaries regularly as their condition is deteriorating. As far as I know, in the villages, these people lead a hand to mouth existence. There, they are given 5 kilograms foodgrain and one 'Roti' per day. Why 'Safai Karamcharis' are not engaged at the block-level? It would not only help in maintaining cleanliness in villages, but also in small towns where heaps of waste are a common sight. The local authorities admonish them and they are warned of suspension, but these sanitary workers do not get adequate time to cope up with such a heavy workload. According to the Manual Report the number of sanitary workers should be increased, their salaries should be paid in time and they should be treated as Government servants.

Sir, I would like to say one more thing. If the birthday of Prophet Mohammed could be declared as a public holiday, then why not of Valmiki? After all, Maharishi Valmiki did so much for this country, he enriched Hindu society and philosophy with his immortal epic the 'Ramayana'. He prophesied that Lord Shri

[Sh. Mangal Ram Premi]

Ram would reincarnate after ten thousand years and save mankind. I would like the Government to declare 'Valmiki Jayanti' as a public holiday, to respect the sentiments of these people. With these words, I conclude and oppose this Motion once again.

[English]

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur): At the outset, I would like to express my unhappiness on behalf of my colleagues who are Hon. Members for treating us as untouchables. We have come here from very far away places in the northeastern area like Manipur, Nagaland, border areas of Assam. We expected that while giving chance the treatment will be state-wise. First you may give preference to bigger States. But after that the smaller States may also be given chance. But when you treat party-wise, we may not get a chance. We regret for this.

Sir, I rise to oppose this Motion. The President in his Address has rightly mentioned that the situation in Assam, Nagaland and Manipur has continued to cause concern. This is because there are troubles in Assam, in Nagaland and in Manipur. In Manipur, as you know, up-till now there has been in force the Special Powers to the Armed Forces Act. Please imagine under what circumstances it might have been enforced. This is not enforced in other States having special status. It is enforced in Manipur, in Nagaland and in some parts of Assam. Why is it so? I would like to bring before this House the seriousness of the situation and the circumstances prevailing there.

Sir, I hope, I shall not be misunderstood as parochial when I refer to the affairs of Manipur only because the time at my disposal is almost over. As you know, Manipur has got strategic border area bordering Burma and other parts of India. This Manipur State was a native State. It merged with India only in the year 1949. The Maharaja of this State was forced to sign the merger agreement. The

Maharaja signed it under duress. So, in this way, the Manipur became a part and parcel of India. But the people feel quite disappointed by this merger. Some sections of these youngsters took arms and rose in revolt against the Central Government because these youngsters felt that they have been betrayed. The situation had been created by the negligence of the Government of India. I am bringing this fact before the House.

Sir, Manipur was an independent sovereign State upto 1891. It fought for the last war of Independence with the British in the year 1891. It was the last State in India to fall before the Britishers who took it in 1891. But, still the Britishers gave it Statehood by allowing it to be a native State. According to the merger agreement, the people expected that they would be treated well, but they are quite disappointed now. As you know, Sir, Thomas Pane had said: "Where there is liberty, there is my home", but Gandhiji said: "Where there is no liberty, there is my home". With that spirit, of Gandhiji, our beloved Prime Minister Late Nehruji visited Manipur and at that time he asked for giving away the Kabow Valley to Burma, which was a part of Manipur. At first, the people resented to it. They did not agree to it. But Nehruji wanted to give it away to Burma because at that times Nehruji wanted to do this favour to Burma because he wanted to be friendly with that country...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Yumnam, your time is over.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: I will take some more time, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already taken five minutes...

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: Sir, I have spoken for more than twentyfive years in the Assembly.



This is my maiden speech in the House. So, I must take some time more.

So, Sir, in lieu of parting away this Kabow Valley from Manipur, the people asked for something from Nehruji and he agreed to it. But it was not so formal. He agreed that the Manipuri language must be made one of the national language in VIII schedule. After Nehruji, we pleaded it with Shrimati Indira Gandhi. I took a deputation and met Shrimati Indira Gandhi and she agreed to some extent, although it was not announced officially. I was given a chance to see her when I had gone to attend a Conference of the Presiding Officers in Calcutta, Shri Bal Ram Jakhar was the Speaker. He was presiding over the Conference. I was summoned from Calcutta by Shrimati Indira Gandhi while she was the Prime Minister. It was on that very ill-fated day that I was summoned from Calcutta to see her. I took permission from Shri Bal Ram Jakhar and went to meet her. But on that very ill-fated day, as soon as I arrived in Delhi, Shrimati Indira Gandhi was killed. The plane was late by about fifteen minutes, otherwise I could have met her and I could have even averted the very ill-fated incident.

Shrimati Indira Gandhi had agreed to some extent, although it was not announced officially that Manipuri language should be included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution and it should be recognised as a national language. Other leaders of this House, like Advaniji, leader of the BJP, have accepted that Manipuri language should be included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. The Leader of the Opposition, Shri Advani announced it in a public meeting at Imphal. The other Left parties, including CPI, CPI(M), have committed it to their manifesto that Nepali and Manipuri languages will be included in the VIII Schedule of the Constitution. Shri V.P. Singh, while he was the Prime Minister, almost took a decision on it and in fact he conveyed a message to us

through the Chief Minister, Manipur that he is going to announce it in a convocation function of Manipur University in Manipur. I am glad to find that our senior Member, Shri Indrajit Gupta and others have also put up an amendment to the effect that they will support this move of inclusion of Manipuri in the VIII Schedule of the Constitution of India. So, almost all the parties, National Front and other Left Parties, B.J.P. have committed for the inclusion of the Manipuri and Nepali languages in the VIII Schedule of the Constitution. I also hope that the Congress(I) Party will endorse it and I hope the Government will put up a Bill for this purpose.

Now, about the richness of the language, I need not say much. I would only say that the renowned scholar Shri Suniti Kumar Chatterjee, a doyen of Indian languages remarked that this Manipuri language is the most developed in all the Tibeto-Burman Speech family. And to give the justification for accepting this language to be the national language, I would like to give some points only. It is the mother tongue of about two million people. It is the official language in the State. The Manipur State Assembly has passed a Resolution to this effect and an Act has been enacted.

It is the Court language, used in the lower courts. It is a major Indian language. It is the medium of instruction of examinations from the primary level to the post-graduate level. It is recognised by the Sahitya Academy of the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon'ble Member may please wind up. You have taken fifteen minutes. You may now wind up.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUM-NAM: Sir, the Manipuri language has all the justification for the recognition as a national language of the country. Hence, I urge the Government for bringing a proposal in the

[Sh. Yaima Singh Yumnam]

form of a Bill so that the Constitution can be amended suitably to include Manipuri, as well as Nepali languages, in the VIII Schedule of the Constitution of India.

Coming to the other matter that I have put up in the form of amendment, I would like to mention one thing. As you know, there are seven constituencies of the Manipur Assembly which have now fallen vacant. The Hon'ble Speaker of the Assembly has disqualified seven M.L.As. from the membership of the Assembly.

SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE (Aurangabad): Sir, there is no quorum in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the quorum bell be rung.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, there is a quorum. Shri Yaima Singh Yumnam may continue. Mr. Yumnam, you have already taken more than 20 minutes. So, kindly wind up your speech.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH: He has already taken 35 minutes, I have got the record, and you are telling that you will give time for a new Member to give his maiden speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What to do? Your colleagues should cooperate.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: Mr. Chairman, since the leader of the opposition has now entered in the House I have to repeat again about the Manipuri language. Shri Advaniji addressed a public meeting at Imphal and very sympathetically he assured the public that he will take up this issue of Manipuri language for inclusion of this language in the Constitution.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: I am very happy to know that the BJP will be supporting it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up, you have already taken 20 minutes. All other Members are waiting. Please wind up now and cooperate with the Chair.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: Sir, in Manipur, the Speaker of the Manipur Assembly, by his order which was issued on 24th July, 1990, disqualified seven MLAs because of their defection.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member should speak on the President's Address. You have already taken more than 25 minutes and it is very difficult for me to accommodate other Members. I would request you to kindly wind up now.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: Sir, for almost one year now, the Govt. have not filled up those seven vacancies in the Assembly. I would like to ask the Government to tell whether the people of those seven constituencies will be left without any representation in the Assembly. In Delhi, the capital of the country, at least one of the roads in capital should be named after the great martyr who fought for the cause of Manipur and for the emotional integration of the people of the country.

PROF. MEIJINLING KAMSON (Outer Manipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to clarify one point. The hon. Member has given some wrong information. In Manipur, no doubt these seven MLAs were disqualified, but the case is still pending in the Supreme Court. In view of that there is no question of having any election there. So, the people are not deprived of their representation. (Interruptions)

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** You need not reply to his clarification. You can wind up now. I am going to call the next Member.

**SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM:** Sir, I am not given enough time to speak. So, in protest I conclude my speech now.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** It is very unfair that you have made such a remark on the Chair. Now, Mr. Jeevarathinam.

[Translation]

\***SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM** (Arakkonam): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I wish to say a few words in support of the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

Hon'ble President of India, Shri R. Venkataraman is a great statesman. His public life spans over a period of more than half a century. In shaping the destiny of the nation, he had and he still has a major role.

The country is undergoing crisis after crisis for the past 2 years. Hon'ble President has ably assisted in tackling all the crises. He helped democracy to take deep roots. I, therefore, thank the Hon'ble President on behalf of this august House.

The people of the nation have placed their faith in Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao and his Finance Minister and they hope that there will be a solution to all the economic problems facing the country.

All those persons who have come to this House from North India in the name of Ram were at one point of time or the other, supporters of colonialists. They were the persons who rejoiced over the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi and distributed sweets to celebrate the occasion. Today, they are in the House

under the umbrella of a different organisation. Whatever may be their past, I would appeal to them to extend their cooperation to this Government.

If there was no Mahatma Gandhi, we would not have got our freedom. If there was no Nehru, there would not have been any democracy in this country. I and you would not have come to this House.

The patron Leader of DMK, Shri E.V. Ramasamy Periyar opposed the freedom struggle. The present leader of DMK has joined hands with the LTTE which brutally assassinated the youthful Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi in a bomb blast. The DMK Government which was in power for the past 2 years did not check the growth of LTTE. The DMK Govt. in the State and the Janata Dal Govt. at the Centre were responsible for the kind of situation in Tamil Nadu in which we had to sacrifice a Prime Minister. Both the parties were taught a good lesson in the last elections.

20.00 hrs.

Let me now come to the drinking water problem. There is acute shortage of drinking water in my Arakkonam Parliamentary Constituency. I request the Hon'ble Minister to immediately provide the necessary financial assistance to the State to tide over the problem.

**SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE** (Aurangabad): There is no quorum, Sir.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Let the quorum bell be rung.

(Interruptions.)

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Nothing will go on record.

\*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE (Aurangabad): There is no quorum, Sir.

\* MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the quorum bell be rung.

*(Interruptions.)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Quorum bell is ringing. Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions.)\**

MR. CHAIRMAN: There being no quorum the House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow at 11 A.M.

**20.06 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, July 19, 1991 | Asadha 28, 1913 (Saka)*

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\*Not recorded.