

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Third Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



सत्यमेव जयते

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday May 12, 1992/Vaisakha 22, 1914
(Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues, Shri Hem Raj.

Shri Hem Raj, a veteran freedom fighter, an advocate and an active social and political worker, was a Member of First to Fourth Lok Sabha during 1952-70 representing Kangra constituency of erstwhile composite Punjab and later of Himachal Pradesh.

An able parliamentarian, he took keen interest in the proceedings of the House and lost no opportunity to highlight the problems faced by the downtrodden. He had also served on several parliamentary committees.

A social enthusiast, he took keen interest in the upliftment of tribals and other deprived sections of the society. He was also actively associated with adventure sports, study of scriptures and other literary activities.

Shri Hem Raj passed away on 1st May, 1992 at Chandigarh at the age of 88 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The Members may stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

11.02 hrs.

RE.U.S. SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRO AND GLAVKOSMOS

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES
(Muzaffarpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir.

I have given notice of two Motions.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have received it.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): We have given a notice for breach of privilege. It will have precedence. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Today is the last day of the Budget Session of Lok Sabha. I am sure, there are some important matters which the Members would like to raise and those important matters would be allowed to be raised. But please be brief and give opportunity to the Members who are sitting on the last benches, so that we can provide opportunities to all other Members.

I am not accepting the adjournment-motion of Mr. Fernandes but I am allowing him to make his submissions

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it would have been better if you had admitted my adjournment motion. Since to day is the last day of the session, I think then at least once every week Members raised the question of overawing attitude of the U.S. Government in the matters concerning the security of this country . Today U.S. Government has announced its decision to blacklist Indian Space Research Organisation. My opinion is that the way it has been presented, it is difficult comprehend its implications.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, National Space Research Organisation is not an ordinary research Centre. It is linked with entire space research programme of this country. We have spent on it about six to seven crore rupees of our budget this year .American Government has announced imposition of curbs on the exchange of technology. The implications of such news published in the newspapers are beyond comprehension. That is why I had given you a notice..(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are raising the same matter again and again. I would like to inform you that adjournment motion has an element of ceasure i.e. it is allowed only when the Governemnt is responsible for that action, otherwise it is not admitted.

[English]

We are allowing you to discuss it

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I complain about the attitude adopted towards the American stance during the past many months and it is a natural consequence of all this. I have already

submitted that the matter does not concern space research a alone. We would then lag behind in all satellite programme whether these are communication satellite, remote sensing or weather. it is to be kept in view. I hold the opinion that America had communicated its final decision that it would co-operate with India but it can push this country into such a situation which we may find difficult to face. The Director of India Institute of Technology Prof. Swamy made a long statement on American Government's decision. I would like to quote a sentence. Greatly agitated he said,

[English]

"Look at the way the screw is being turned."

[Translation]

It is true and America has reached the conclusion that India should not be allowed to make progress. We had discussed the Pentagon Document, in one form or other, quite a few times. In it that Government had sought to check

[English]

The Indian hegemonistic aspirations

[Translation]

Preventing country from marching forward. The aspirations of South Asia and our own aspirations are not to be allowed to make headway. It is becoming rather clear how American Government is moving forward on these lines. I feel very much concerned about our Government's actions. You might be remembering that I had requested Defense Minister to make a statement about his talks during his visit to America last month. But he did not approve of it. He made statements in America and in other places, but he did not make any positive statement in this House. In these statements which he made out side the House, he stated two

things only. First that the relations between both the countries were very congenial and secondly we had not gone there to procure weapons, we had gone there to ask for technology. Now it has become clear that we won't be able to get technology and how we can be black mailed in technology matters and we are not in a position to get it. (Interruptions) The transfer of super 301 technology had been concluded a few days back, now transfer has been banned. I would like to draw your attention towards our concern in this matter. American Government is making demands which our Government is unable to fulfil and so it is pressuring this country. Is it a fact that American Government is interested in setting up a naval base at Vishakapatnam port and wants refueling facility there? It wants to use this port as a base for submarine ballistic Missiles. Since we are not still ready to fulfil these demands, America is trying to pressurise us in this manner. We would like to seek some clarification from the Government in this regard. For nearly last one year, on the one hand, America has been trying to pressurise us and on the other we are joining hands with them in joint naval exercise. We have agreed that Army Chiefs of both the countries would meet once in a year. We have also agreed to exchange intelligence information. I would like the Government to clarify the kind of intelligence they would provide to this country and the type of intelligence information that would be provided to them by us. They would tell us where they are not going to check the progress of rising hegemonic aspirations. I would like to know clearly from the Government about all these things.

Lastly, I would like to make one more point. Government should not express its helplessness by behaving in such a manner. We are not an ordinary nation. We are a powerful nation. We acknowledge the prosperity of the USA. We know its GNP is hundred to 125 times greater than our's. It is also technologically much advanced. Since the other superpower U.S.S.R. has collapsed, America is trying to suppress us. Its actions are aimed at polarising 125. My submission is that

Government should not yield to such pressures now as it used to do. We do not underestimate either Soviet Union or the developing nations. Though Union of Soviet Republics has collapsed, still it has displayed a sense of great courage to transfer rocket technology to this country in spite of the opposition by America. It is then the responsibility of this Government to strengthen its relations with the countries of the Third World and with their cooperation it should try to face the threat from America becoming the big brother to the whole world. Mr. Speaker, Sir, with these words, I conclude.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow five or six Members. Please be brief because there are other Members who want to raise other issues. This is an important issue, yet we can briefly make our statements on this.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Sir, those who have given the notices, they should be called.

MR. SPEAKER: Provided, they do not repeat the same points, Now Shri Jaswant Singh:

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will put across the points that I have to very briefly. This issue featured earlier in the House. But in the earlier manifestation, it was only as a cautionary signal. The House has cautioned the Government that a possibility existed and then a response was sought from the Government about that possibility. That possibility has now come into being. And we have to recognize that in today's situation, the instrumentalities of course, as new leverages of diluting independent status and independent foreign policy have come to control over trade and control over technology. I would not elaborate that point.

But I will point out the three principal objections that we have or the three principal aspects of this present sanction that the U.S. Government has imposed both on the Russian republic as also on the Republic of India. And they are indicative of the U.S. attitude.

Firstly, is the aspect that behind these sanctions lies the U.S. desire to protect U.S. commercial interests. I would, therefore, want from the Government of India, a clarification that did there earlier not exist negotiations between ISRO and the Space Organizations of the United States of America for supply of precisely this Cryogenic engine?

Secondly, did not the Government find the price demanded by the U.S. Government as excessively high and then began to negotiate for this cryogenic engine from France?

Did, therefore, thirdly, not United States of America raise objections with France that rather than they supply this cryogenic engine to India, let the United States of America supply it? And, therefore, this contract was signed with the Glavkosmos of Russia. Is it not? And the objection raised by the United States of America is it not indicative of purely attempting, through all means-fair or foul, acceptable or unacceptable - to protect their commercial interests?

To protect their commercial interests, they have gone to the extent of imposing sanctions both on Russia as also on India, thus again emphasizing the aspect that I started by that in today's world, the leverages or the instrumentalities of coercion are trade and technology.

The second objectionable aspect is this question of missile technology control regime (MTCR). India is not a signatory to MTCR. ISRO is not a signatory to MTCR. United States of America cannot unilaterally impose MTCR or the clauses of MTCR on India when India has not accepted the very rationale of MTCR. As I have just stated

elsewhere also, if the rationale of MTCR were to be accepted as it is, whatever chemicals go into rocket propulsion, could we be treated as becoming part of MTCR and trade on them ban. Even an ordinary metal like aluminium for example, could be treated a part of MTCR. And United States of America tomorrow could turn around and say, we impose sanctions on India because of that MTCR. Therefore, they cannot trade in aluminium. I would want the Government of India to clarify it.

There is a third aspect. I find that aspect full of irony, the United States of America is taking objection to ISRO attempting to develop its own launch vehicle on various groups, various stated or unstated objections, I find it ironical that as part of the MTCR, United States of America did not find it strange that they supplied harpoon missiles to Pakistan. Where did MTCR come then? Where was MTCR then? If they can supply harpoon missiles to Pakistan, then certainly independent India has every right to purchase cryogenic engines from anywhere in the world. I would wish the Government of India to clarify this second aspect also.

Then, my submission is that United States' attempt is to use the MTCR, use this occasion of ISRO's space programme to indirectly influence India's position on NPT. I would not elaborate this point. But I would want a response from the Government of India about this aspect also. I request these clarifications for three very simple reasons.

Firstly, it is to clearly articulate BJP's stand on this particular sanction as imposed by the Government of United States of America on ISRO and on Glavkosmos. Secondly, that it is to bolster Government of India's resolve, pour a little bit of cement into their spines and to elicit from them a clear enunciation of policy through a response so that we ought to know because if trade and technology are going to be the instrumentalities of coercion in the years to come, then we have to have a clearly enunciated policy and stand now.

Thirdly, this an attempt though we have said this earlier on different occasions and an occasion at reaching a kind of national consensus on the issue and through that national consensus to build up and strengthen the national resolve on the subject because this road of independent self assertive and self-reliant foreign policy is a lonely road. On this lonely road, India will have to stand by itself. But it will have to stand with a clear idea of the hierarchy of national interests and national priorities. We would, therefore, demand of the Government before this day is out - after all of this session it is the ultimate day - a definitive response on this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: May I take it that you have asked questions and not expressed your views?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Pardon me.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: It is expression of our views also.

SHRI ASWANT SINGH: I could not hear your question, Sir. It is, of course, an expression of views and submissions that I have made.

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your views and questions also.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Sir, the whole nation is very much concerned about the recent decision of the US to impose curbs on ISRO and other missile technology on us. We know that after the collapse or rather the disintegration of the Soviet Union, the United States is trying to become a super power and try to impose all conditions as a big brother. I rather do not use the word 'big bully' because they are more than that, Sir. This is the time, I feel, that the whole House has to be united and give a very strong message that under no circumstances this country will yield to any of the pressures from anywhere in the world. I am glad though our hon. Member, Shri George Fernandes has initially given a notice for adjournment motion

realising the danger that is now posed on this country, he has agreed that some sort of a discussion should be there to express our dissentment on this issue. The threat of America like Super 301 or the Dunkel formula has been hanging like Democle's Sword all this time. The US is no much against us because this Government has boldly to their pressures. If in some way, we have yielded to their pressures, they would have been very happy and they would not have taken so much stringent action against us. There is no question of yielding to their pressures. Today, I am happy that the entire Opposition is united at this hour in giving their message. But in the last few weeks, throughout the session, the whole attempt was that this Government was trying to sell out the interest of the country. That is not true. This Government has taken every steps to regain its honour to keep its integrity. (Interruptions)..Why are you annoyed/ I do not want really to sound any discordant note. But I am rather sad that just two days back, a very responsible Member of Parliament, a former Prime Minister of this country, had stated that by selling out this country, we mean selling out the furniture. We also have got minimum intelligence.

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to the point, Mr. Charles. If you widen the scope, it is off the mark and if you lessen the scope also, it is off the mark.

SHRI A. CHARLES: Sir, this decision has larger implication. At present, there is a two year ban on imports and there is no contract which has anything to do with America, both for Soviet Russia and India. And I fully endorse the view of the hon. Member, Shri George Fernandes. This is the time that the entire third world has to stand together and India should come forward in a big way to hold the leadership and say to the whole world that this country had resisted the yoke of foreign rules and with the quit India movement, we were able to kick out the foreigners out of this country. This country with 850 million people are bold enough to

resist all pressures and in one voice we should say that we are here not to subjugate ourselves but to resist and go on to build this great country. Thank you, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think that it is the most challenging period in the history of the nation. I do not take it as an ordinary incident. I think that today, every citizen of the country is concerned over the American attitude because America is openly opposing our every step being taken to protect our freedom, sovereignty and for our progress. I do not agree with the views of Shri Charle's that our Government is too strong and there is no question of bowing down before America. That is why they are taking steps against us. In my views the fact is just the opposite. Our Government does not have enough courage to challenge them. The way America has been misusing its influence in Security Council and UNO and building up an atmosphere in the world, has created a threat to the Indian tradition of working for national, international and human values to safeguard the honour of the country.

In the pre independence era Mahatma Gandhi and Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru worked for the promotion of those values that every country has a right to get freedom and every country has the right to follow its own economic and social policies and has an own independent role to play, be it a big or a small country. But what is happening to day even after 43-44 years of independence? Margaret Tuveller, the spokesperson of the State departments of United States. (Interruptions) Why should I not mention the name, I am not abusing her. She had threatened, about a week ago, to take action against India. I would like to submit to the government that only a week ago this threat was given; prior to it, super - 301 was imposed; while the Indian Ambassador to USA had sent the report that America was not likely to take action against India, that the

American Government had suspended their action against our country and that India need not worry in this regard. Thus not only the Government but also the whole country has been kept in the dark and under wrong impression. Whereas America was under the impression that India is bowing to them.

The action taken by the American Government yesterday to impose ban on transfer of technology for two years and to black-list the ISRO, is totally unjustified. They have taken this action in spite of the assurance given by the Government of India that we would neither use this technology nor the space programme for manufacturing arms of any kind; we would utilize them only for peaceful purposes and programme, we would utilize it to gather information for weather forecast and develop means of communications. Even then USA did not believe us.

First of all, I would like to submit that if at all we have to uphold the dignity of the country, the Government of India will have to take a firm stand and in this direction our first step should be to withdraw from Joint Naval Exercise immediately. If we do not take this step we would be compromising the dignity of the country. My first demand is that this joint naval exercise should be stopped, and measures should be taken to make them realise that our country has its own prestige and that we are not their slaves. Today they have adopted an attitude as if we are their slaves.

During the war innumerable people, including a large number of children, died in Iraq. War was over but milk and medicines were not available to the children in that country whereas we failed to take any concrete step. We could not raise our voice in the Security council in an effective way against this American atrocity.

Today, I would like to submit to you that I have dedicated 30 years of my life to restoring peace in the world and safeguarding

the freedom and honour of the country. But today I was shocked to see that we do not have any self-respect. I am glad that Shri Charles has supported the motion that Shri George Fernands. It is upto the Government whether it takes any action or not but I would like to submit that you should convene a meeting of the leaders of all the parties in your chamber and a resolution should be passed by the House — House of course, does not mean the Government condemning the action taken by the American Government and directing the Government of India not to bow to American conditions. With these demands, I urge you too to take measures in this regard

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Sir, I join the other colleagues of mine in this House to express great concern and anxiety of the decision of the United States of America for imposing sanctions on the ISRO and the Russian space organisation. There is no doubt about the fact, it has already been said and I also join them to demand that Parliament which represents the sovereignty of our people, it is not the representative of the spokesman of the Government, it represents the sovereignty of the people and this Parliament should adopt a resolution condemning the attitude of the United States of America and their policy of hegemonism is and their policy of interference in the internal affairs not only of India but also of the Third World countries.

After saying so, I want two or three points to be clarified by the Government in this respect; Sir, is it a fact or is it not a fact, that this matter of transfer of technology, that is, missile technology was taken up by the Under Secretary of the State for International Security Affairs of the United States with our Defense Minister, Shri Sharad Pawar when he visited the United States of America last year?

Is it also a fact or not that Shri Pawar

explained that this technology would be used for peaceful purposes, as has been mentioned by many and it would be specifically used for boosting a satellite into a geo-stationary orbit which would be used for remote sensing, weather forecasting and tele-communications?

Is it not fact that the Under Secretary of State gave an understanding, or rather gave the impression to the Government of India that they believe in the explanation given by the Government of India? If that is so, would the government of India take a stern attitude against the United States of America after the United States of America has gone back upon their commitment, as earlier mentioned by me?

The second point I want to know is, whether it is a fact that Mr. Boucher, the spokesman of the State Department also announced that India's efforts for importing the super computer would also be adversely affected? If it is fact, the Government of India should explain what has been the agreement between the United States of American and India on the question of the import of that Super Computer.

Are pressures are also being mounted on India for joining the NTCR? And lastly, whether the Government can assure the House that all effective measures will be taken to achieve self-reliance so far as this missile technology is concerned and if we are in a position of Self - reliance I think the Government should assure the nation that ISRO's activities would not suffer in any way,

Finally I demand that a resolution of this nature should also be adopted in this House.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Sir, up to now, no one has thanked the U.S. Administration. Let me do that. In quick succession it has been able to tell the whole world what globalisation means, what integration with the world economy implies. In very quick succession it has also

indicated what justice means, viz riots there racial riots and simultaneously demanding Libyan citizens to have a similar kind of justice in the court of the United States. It has been mentioned that they have already put an embargo on trade and technology. Let us not miss the other point also. They are trying to have an embargo on soft loans from Asian Development Bank also. So, on the Financial front, on the technology format on all these fronts they are trying to strangle our development process. We can acquire the strength through this development process. Therefore the adjournment Motion has some sense in this context also. We have to tell the world that we are not to be cowed down by this kind of strangling measures and as protest and as a has been demanded, immediately the Indo-US exercise has to called off. That is the best possible signal to all the world, to all the developing countries as to what we can do in retaliation.

Secondly, the demands has been made that a Resolution under your leadership, of Parliament, should be passed. a call must go out from this Parliament not only to the United states but also to the people of all the developing countries, the Non-Aligned movement, that here is India calling upon all the people of the world to deny the attempt of supremacy of the United States' Administration. Such a Resolution has to be passed and, therefore, I am requesting that let it be under your leadership. (*Interruptions*). I sympathise with Shri A. Charles and Shri Sharad Power. If they feel that they are affected by the consequences and refuse to go down to the roots, we are all shocked by their attitudes. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): We are equally bold. (*Interruptions*). We did not submit to the pressures. You have to support us

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I accept that you are bold (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Why is it necessary?

May I request you to comment on the issues, not on the speeches made by other hon. Members?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: A few more actions on the part of the U.S. Administration is necessary to develop this kind of understanding on that side also that but for the economic policies that you are pursuing for the last ten years and intensifying today, such things could not have happened to India. Would you wait for that or would you say right now that out dependence on the IMF will no longer be there? These are merely funds of the U.S. multinationals and U.S. administration. We need not depend on World bank on the economic field also. We must stand up our own legs for our economy so that we can really throw a challenge and be with the rest of the Non-Aligned countries.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Sir, there is no doubt that all the hon. Members who have spoken before me have expressed their indignation. I also consider this to be an act of outrage and the USA has crossed all limits in imposing this ban of two years on ISRO and Gavakasmos. But what is really intriguing is this that one Corporation- General Dynamic Corporation - of U.S. and also Ariæ Corporation of France took part in the bid for this particular project when it come up in 1989. Now, this is the meanest type of action which can be taken by so called civilised Government to push its commercial interest. It has been said several times and our moral position taken in the past has been that we are pursuing this technology not for any military purposes. We are pursuing atomic energy technology or rocket technology only for peaceful purposes and not for any military purposes. This missile technology control regime that they have set up with their allies and friends is to impose that on the Third World countries only to prevent these countries to develop their own space technology for peaceful purposes, for the advancement of their agriculture, for

weather forecast, for remote sensing and for such other things. They want the countries of the world today are put under their mercy, under their discretion for all kinds of advancement that is necessary to take each country forward. In this context what is necessary is that we should take a firm step. I fully support that this House should pass Resolution against it. I have no objection to it. But before that I also demand that the Government come out with a strong statement and concrete action of rebuthal against this kind of action. It is very much necessary. On that basis the unanimous Resolution by this House can be taken up.

In this connection I must say that the kind of response the Russian Governemnt has so far given is also welcome. I hope that despite many unfortunate developments that have taken place in the former Soviet Union and then the country large Russia is there which was a Republic of former Soviet Union they will go back on the commitment they have made to our country. I also believe that the people of Russia will also stand up to the threat imposed by the U.S. Administration on their space research organisations. They have also the honour of their country in their mind. Our people have the honour of our country in their mind. The people of the Third World and the people of different countries will now understand that they have to come together to face up this challenge. In this regard we must take a lead. India being a leader of the NAM nations, must take a lead.

I demand that Governemnt should come out to spell out a concrete action. It may be the cancellation of the joint Naval exercises with U.S.A I do not know what for that exercise is being done. If it is for transfer of technology that we expect from U.S.A. for our defence purposes, I must say that they are the most unreliable friends in this aspect. We cannot depend on them for transfer of technology. I feel insulted that small officers from U.S.A.- I do not want to take their names - dare to give threats to a big country a big democracy like India. it is very insulting. Their spokesman - I do not want to take names- has said that Super comuter that we

are trying to have from U.S.A. for our country will also be affected. I again say that we cannot depend on them for technology in the future also for development of our own research ares and defence purposes.

Hence, for independence in puring our research work, for our defence and security matters we have to take a firm stand. I demand that Government should come out and declare that U.S.A is not at all dependable on these matters. They should take a firm action which will inspire the people of the world at large. Thank you

SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK (Buldana): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in a matter of last two weeks the United States has struck twice at the sovereignty of India. I join the previous speakers who have expressed their views against the U.S. sanctions against ISRO and Glavkosmos. The sanctions are not against these organisations but are aganist these two countries. We, in India, do strongly feel about this because, as Shri Jaswant Singh pointed out, today in the changed world the means to subjugate other countries has also changed. I do feel that imposing sanctions on technology transfer sanctions having trade have replaced bullets today. In all practical purposes, these sanctions, which have been imposed by the United States, have launched a war against India and the sovereignty of India. I strongly condemn such action and I feel that, as the previous speakers have already expres, the whole House should unanimously pass a Resolution condemning such action, Sir, I reollect here that when the discussion was going on for the transfer of a nuclear reactor from India to Iran, the United States Opposed such transaction. But the one nuclear reactor which is there in Iran, it is that which is supplied by the United States. Today if there is proliferation of nuclear weapons, is it not because of the United States; if there is proliferation of missiles technology is it not because of the United States and today the way the United States has decided upon this matter, it seems that it is India and other developing countries which are responsible

for the proliferation of nuclear weapons, but rather is it not the United States which has been responsible for the proliferation of nuclear weapons and missiles in the world. Sir today the time has come where the Non Aligned Movement which, during the last few months and few years, has undergone a change, will have to rise to the occasion. India being the founder member, India being the leader of the Non-Aligned Movement, will have to revitaliz the movement and reply to the United States in the most befillaing manner I once again reiterate that the House should unanimously pass a Resolution condemning the U.S. action.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have rightly pointed out that no argument should be repeated. Therefore, I would raise only one question in this House whether India is weaker than Libya? I am referring to Libya just because Col. Gaddafi had as much courage that in order to safeguard the honour of his country, he refused to hand over two persons against whom American Government wanted to take action in regard to an Air accident.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government of India remained silent in regard to the action taken against Libya through UNO. I am raising this issue because I feel that the manner in which Shri Wasnik and Shri Charles have raised the same issue, indicate that they too are not happy over the way the things have taken place. I would like to point out that Libya being a very small country has successfully safeguarded their sovereignty; whereas despite utter disgrace the Minister of Defence of our country, after paying a visit to America, felt glad to tell the country, the House and the people that the joint naval exercise would continue. Therefore my submission is that America has already taken two actions against our country during the last 10 days which include the imposition of super 301 and ban on transfer of space technology for two years. I have already

submitted that I would not repeat any argument. however, I would give an instance as to why America has been adopting such an attitude against our country. You know that 'New York Times' is the most established newspaper of that country; and the things published in that newspaper are supposed to be the views of the Government of that country. In the editorial of that newspaper dated April 28 it has been stated

[English]

"The U.S. Administration has very significantly suggested that the obligation imposed on India by the recent changes in the world politics to go global in its political and economic relations is a source of political leverage for all countries with an interest in nuclear free India.,

[Translation]

MR. Speaker, Sir, what is their attitude and why they are suppressing India, has been made clear in the New York Times of 28th April. That is why I would like to say, as has been said here, that America has pressurised India that the nuclear reactor should not be sold to Iran. India's will to decide has ended. We are not aware of the attitude of the Government and its decision regarding supply of rice to Cuba.

Mr. Speaker.: I am faced with a question that a U.S. official made a statement which the whole house is discussing' how for this response is proportionate?

SHRI RABI RAY: That is why I would like to say that the government is not ready to do any work. My argument has proved that we have been insulted. The nuclear reactor has not been sent to us. We had asked a question, and it appears that the Government is not going to take any action in this way, one after the other, sanctions are being imposed against us. American President and his Government is thinking that we shall not resist them. That is why this proposal has

come from Governemnt and not from the opposition party. Shri Wasnik informed the House just now that there should be a move on behalf of the House that at least our attitudes should be made clear. Our resistance to this should be disclosed, the resistance which the country and the entire humanity has towards America, should also be expressed somehow. The Indian Governemnt had agreed to the joint naval exercis in the Indian Ocean We should tell these that we are going to withdraw from these exercises. We shall not do any naval exercise with them. It shall be a proof that we are committed to safeguards the sovereignty and integrity of the nation. I want that the opinion of the whole House should be make knoan to the world, and especially to the American Government that the entire House and the entire country is against this. I wish to say and the Government should say that we are rejecting the naval exercise.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHODHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have made a very significant remark that how for it is proprotionate to discuss it here.

MR. SPEAKER: I suppose our Government officers can reply to this properly.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: In response to that I would say that a depeuty Secretary in our Defence Department can write I would say that a letter to the US Government that we hereby cancel the joint naval exercise. I believe that will be proportionate.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRAJHA (Madhubani): Mr. Speaker Sir, since it is a very important issue I May be given an opportunity to speak on behalf of my party (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me please remind you that we are losing such valuable time despite the fact that the whole House is unanimous on their matter.—On the other day, when I riaisés this issue, every xay agreed. If we had passed a Resolution on that day itself declaring that the joint naval exercise will not take place, then all other things in the have been resisted by now, we have already lost valuable time and to day is the last day of this Session. How can ee lose any further time? (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: He shall only speak after you have completed. He will start speaking when you yieldu.

[English]

Why do you think that they are not going to respond? I think the Minister is here to respond.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosier): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall speak on the other issue, but I would only like to say one line in this connection. I am in agreement with the suggestion of Shri Chandrajeeit. But along with that. (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Paswan ji, only one issue is before us and that is, an ordinary officer of another country has made a statemant and in response to that. (Interruptions).

[English]

SHRI GEORGE FERNADES: Sir, with great respect, I would sumbit that this is not an officers's sttement; the US Government has decided. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.
(Interruptions).

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I appreciate the feeling which you are all expressing. Nobody can speak anything contrary to what you have said. But, this is how I look at it. Unless I complete, please do not respond.

Let us consider this issue in correct perspective and respond in a commiserate manner which is more or less than required. It should not be more or less than what is required. Only then, we would have acted in a correct and effective manner.

I am not saying, you do not pass the resolution; I am not saying that you pass the resolution. Let the Government respond. The party leaders can sit together and consider it. We will decide about it.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to raise a question that this is the decision of the American Government and there should be no doubt about this in anyone's mind.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let the Government respond.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Let Paswan ji speak. Look the debate its going on properly, let him speak. You should listen to him, why are you doing this ? (Interruptions)..

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosier):
mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to day that it is

not the case of an officer, it is the decision of the American Government and it is the question of India's prestige. So the Government of India should take it seriously. I would only say that I support Shri Chandrajeeit's suggestion, by the Government cannot Shirk its responsibility. So if the India Government had given its reactions earlier or have in the morning, this separable, would not be have airsen. But the Indian Government is compromising the self-respect of India, which is a matter of concern for all of us and the House as well.
(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Jha, if you speak, then how can I prevent others from speaking.

SHRI BHOGENDRAJHA (Madhubani):
I would like to speak on behalf of the party.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Saffuddin has spoken on behalf of the party

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude within two minutes.

SHRI BHOGENDRAJHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have rightly said that our reaaction should neither be more nor less, but in the light of our experience of history, the talks of gunboat displomacy which we used to hear have appeared in a concrete form before us. (Interruptions).. Mr. Speaker, Sir, while supporting what our friends like Shri Chandrajieet and others have said on this matter, I would like to make one submission that since the Government is surrendering with the result, America is unboldoued Even Charlie si right when he said that the Government has not surrendered 100% even for this reason he has not done so that is why we still have a chance to made among When Suyodhan whom we call Duryodhan after his defeat was arrested during the exise of padavan and Yudhister gave a call to resere him Arjun shot back that they had been sent into exie through foul means Then Ydhister said that they would fight with them. They a

were five whereas the number of enemy was 100. (*Interruptions*). This is why we shall prove that we are not 100 and 5 but 105 in the house. So the Government should not tend to be weak in this and should immediately give a fitting reply. The navel exercise should be cancelled and the Government should give a call to the nation that we are making progress on the basis of self-reliance and the nation will be ready to sacrifice anything.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GREIVANCE AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): Sir, we had seen the newspaper reports regarding proposed sanction of the U.S. Administrator against ISRO this morning. It is only 10 minutes ago that I have received the official communication that the reports are correct.

We will require time to study the implications of the various sanctions which are now proposed. (*Interruptions*) the various sanctions which are now proposed. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: How much time do you need? Can you not react spontaneously on such a serious issue. (*Interruptions*).

12. 09 hrs.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): It is such a serious issue that the Prime Minister should have come here now.

SHRI NRIMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): What are the implications of the new economic policy? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: When you were speaking, nobody objected. Now let her complete. Before she completes, you are saying all this.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If I have understood correctly, this House is speaking on one voice. Now, that is why, do not divide the House. Let the hon. Minister also speak.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Prime Minister should come.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Fernandes, all the time you are asking the Prime Minister to come here and to respond, when one Deputy Secretary or somebody has responded. Well, you can consider whether it is a proper thing or not.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us not blame. If you are very serious about creating a condition in which the nation can stand solidly, please do not play politics.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: We share the concern which has been expressed by Members of all parties of the House. We assure the House that we will be taking necessary steps to safeguard the freedom of choice, the national honour and the dignity of the country and I also want to reiterate our stand which has been repeatedly told to everybody that our space programme is purely a peaceful programme meant only for peaceful purposes. This agreement with the Russians does not in any case violate the provisions of the MTCR. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not correct. I am saying this is not correct. You allow her to complete. You are all the time getting up and obstructing before she completes.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: This point was raised by all the Members when they spoke that we must reiterate our stand and I say that we are reiterating our stand I must also say that we are confident that Indian scientists are quite capable of meeting this challenge. Therefore, I therefore, assure the House that whatever is necessary will be done.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Are you canceling the joint naval exercis? Please tell the House. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: We have considered this issue for one hour. There are other Members whoare sitting quietly and they want to raise the issue. That is one point.

Secondly, I must say that you have done your duty by raising this issue on the floor of the House and cautioning the Government that they should not yied to power. At the same time, you have shown a sort of solidarity. Let us not please allow it to bettered away by raising voice in a different manner. Let this unity remain as it is. We should not be very eager to condemn anybody and we should not be very eager to prasiie anybody also. We are a responsible, mature Governemnt, country, Parliament. We all respond only to the extent in which response is necessary and not more than that.

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI; (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, having regard to your advice given just now, I would like to point out that the reply given by the hon. Minister cannot dispel the anxiety expressed a while ago because the anxiety is not concerned with the American sanctions against ISRO alone.

During the last few days certain incidents took place one after the other. These incidents relate from super 301 to the Dunkel proposal. We could neither discuss the American attitude regarding India nor the Dunkel proposal. It seems to me that today the House will be adjourned till the next session. In the present situaton, the Government should specifically clarify its policy. Merely expressing concern over it, will not be an adequate step. I would like to suggest, on my behalf and on behalf of my party, only one solution to all the problems which are coming up one after the other that the naval exercise

should be done away. I and my party do not agree to it. We consider it a meaningless reaction. But at the same time we expect a well-considered policy in this regard from the Government. It will be better if the hon. Prime Minister comes to the House before it is adjourned, otherwise some other Minister should come to the House and clarify the Government's stand on the American pressure tactics. It should also be clarified in a possible manner as to what steps we want to take to meet this challenge so that some solutions may be evolved. I would like to say only this much that this reply is right and we do not want to give an impression that there are some differences on this issue in the House. But the House is not satisfied with it. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Sir Rangarajan Kumarmangalam, did you want to say something?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGLAM): Yes. I will jsut take one minute. As the hon. Minister of State Shriamti Margaret Alva has rightly said we have just got the communcation 10 minutes ago. I think people should appreciate the situation, as you have rightly pointed out. As some of the suggestions have come from hon. Members as to what stand the Government should take about it, I am sure they will agree with us. As Shri Lal K Advani has said, these are nothings which we should really react off the cuff. There is in unanimity of opinion in this House on this issue. I do not think there is any difference of opinion at all. If they feel it appropriate, we could disucss the matter later in your Chamber as to how exactly we should proceed.

MR. SPEAKER: What suggested is how would you like to deal with this kind of a

situation? The House would like to know about it.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUAMRAMANGALAM: We should to deal with it collectively. I think there is unanimous thought. There is no individual thought of it. All of us are united on this issue. We will discuss it.

MR. SPEAKER: We will discuss it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Let there be a meeting in your Chamber. Since the Government is prepared for a meeting, I urge upon you let there be a meeting. Please do not allow this issue to be discussed in a lighthearted manner.*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: We will hold a meeting. I will be very very happy to receive you all there.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Thank you, Sir.*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bpmbay North): I would like to draw the attention of the House to the grave breach of privilage and contempt of the House committed by the Railway Minister hon. Shri Jaffer Sharief. I have already given you a notice under Rule 222.

MR. SPEAKER: I have asked for the comments from the Minister.

SHRI RAM NAIK: I must say that the facts of the case are that on the 9th May, a new suburban railway-line was introduced in Mumbai connecting Mumbai and Navi Mumbai on the *Vashi-Mankhurd* sector. While doing it the Railway Minister has levied a surcharge of Rs. 1.50 per single journey for second class and Rs. 3.75 for first class. For a montly traveller, it costs Rs. 50 per month for second class and Rs. 125 for first class. One lakh commuters will be affected by this

decision. Sir as you are aware, this is a financial increase and for any financial increase, the basic principle of the budgetary discipline is that the sanction of the Parliament must be taken. Now the sanction of the Parliament has not been taken by the Railway Minister.

When he presented the Budget, he had said the budget book is with me - that this new railway line will be completed in the year 1992-93 and after completion it will also be commissioned. And accordingly, it has been commissioned. Now, Sir, when this is commissioned and when the Minister knows that this will be ready, he should have come at the time of the Budget, with the proposal that he wants to levy. sometimes, it is said that it is a surcharge and it has been shown by the Railway Minister as surcharge. However, he has not informed the Parliament. When the function was being held, this was issued as a press release to the pressmen and through press, we now know that the Railway Ministry has increased the fare. And whether it is fare or surcharge, it has been increased. Parliament approval is necessary for such a newly introduced surcharge, for example, there is a surcharge on the sleeper charges. While presenting the Budget, the memorandum explaining the proposals at page 2, para 3.4, says;

"Sleeper surcharge: The second class sleeper surcharge for journeys between 501 Kms. to 1, 000 Kms is proposed to be revised from Rs. 22 to Rs. 25."

That means, even for increasing the surcharge the Minister had come earlier for consent of the Parliament. Now in this particular case, he has not come. Also, it is not increasing the existing surcharge ; it is levying altogether a new charge. So, this is a very serious matter and from that point of view, I hold that he has committed a breach of privilege. He has delein berately by assed the Parliament and he has tried to undermine the authority of the parliament *vis-a-vis*

Executive. and particularly, when the Parliament is in Session, levying of surcharge without the approval of the Parliament is a serious breach of privilege and contempt of the House.

So, Sir, I appeal to you to kindly give me your consent and allow me to move this breach of privilege. And please send this matter to the Privileges Committee. Thank you.

SHRI LAL.K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): It is not merely a sanction. But I do not think that I have received any notification saying that this kind of surcharge has been levied. And this is something remarkable. I have never seen it. There are precedents, even where notifications are laid on the Table of the House in respect of financial matters. There have been strictures from the press though it may not have been regarded as a breach of privilege. But there has been very stern strictures from the Chair if anything of this kind has happened because then financial accountability has been thrown to the winds. It is really a serious matter.

SHRI RAM NAIK; Sir, my senior colleague, Sir Ram Kapse is enlightening the House.

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane); Hon. Speaker, Sir, you must have received my notice of privilege. At page 636 of the book on 'Paratice and Procedures in Parliament', it has been said on the scope of discussion on the Demands for Grants that "whereas during the general discussion the Budget, the House is at liberty to discuss the Budget as a whole or any question of principle involved therein". The words 'principle involved therein' are very important.

If you start traveling from Bombay VT and go upto Mankhurd, you will be charged in one manner. If you go ahead and from Mankhurd if you go to Vashi, a distance of seven kilometres, you will be charged extra.

That charge it is a new policy. They want to collect some Rs. 200 crores and they want to collect that amount by way of surcharge. The Railways want to collect Rs.200 crores by way of surcharge for seven kilometres only, on this line. And they have not come to us.

Here, it clearly mentions that at the time of Demands for Grants - Kaul and Shakhdar at page 636 - that it can be discussed as a matter of principle involved therein. There is a principle involved. A new policy- a new principle - has been coming into force. Never in the history of Railways have they charged differently.

Suburban passengers or commuters are going from one place to another. In Madras, in Mumbai, in Calcutta and in Delhi, they are charged same. But between Mumbai and navi Mumbai, they will be charged differently, and the same persons travelling from Bombay V.T. to Mankhurd were charged. From Mankhurd to Vashi, there is another charge. Then, it will be a surcharge.

There are two way of doing a thing. One is budgetary provisions. There is not a single word as far as the railway budget is concerned. At the same time, as far as the notification is concerned, the Minister has never approached the Parliament that we are thinking of this new policy and that a new principle is being evolved, and you give sanction to it. There are many instances when levies are laid down or there is any surcharge. I can give you Privilege Digest 123, 1980. My leader Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee raised this matter on 9th June 1980. It was about the increase prices of certain petroleum products. And the ruling by the Chair was:

"When Parliament is sitting and important decisions are taken, one thing which I cannot ignore is that to take such decisions without informing the House, is improper."

There are so many decisions.

In 1983, it was raised by Prof. Madhu Dandavate. In Rajya Sabha, in 1982, our leader, Shri Lal K. Advani, had raised the same point. The ruling by the Chairman everywhere is that at the time of budget, you will be getting the chance to discuss the whole issue. So, you will discuss at that time. Where is that now? It is done by way of notification. Today, this is the last day. Even about that, *Kaul and Shakhder are very clear.*

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: It is illegal apart from being breach of privilege.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: it is illegal and discriminatory. It has not been brought to the notice of the Parliament. About subordinate legislation, rule 234 says:

"(1) Where a regulation, rule, sub-rule, bye-law etc. framed in pursuance of the Constitution or of the legislative functions delegated by Parliament to a subordinate authority is laid before the House, the period specified in the Constitution or the relevant Act for which it is required to be laid shall be completed before the House is adjourned *sine die*."

That is 'today'. And they have not approached us. So, I urge upon the Speaker..

MR. SPEAKER: I will get the comments.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNADES (Muzaffarper): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to point out one thing only. Now it is upto the Government to decide. I would only like to draw your attention to the following.

[English]

Now I am reading page 627 - procedure in Financial Matters: Presentation of Budget:

"In respect of every financial year,

the President causes to be laid before both Houses of Parliament an annual financial Statement or the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government of India. The Annual Financial Statement, other wise known as the Budget, is presented in two parts, namely, the Railway Budget pertaining to Railway Finance and the General Budget, which gives an overall picture of the financial position of the Government of India, excluding the Railways."

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue is very obvious. The Financial Statement of the Government consist, of two parts one is Railway Budget and the other is General Budget which give the over all income and Expenditure position of the Government. Therefore, it should be classified in two parts. So these rules related to the accounts, are applicable to the Railway Finances and the Government is not authorised to impose any tax etc. without the prior approval of the House

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: At this, time there is no doubt. Not a single pie can be taxed without the sanction of the Parliament, whether it is a tax or a surcharge. And what is the difference?

SHRI GEORGE FERNADES: I do not know. But it is part of the revenue.

[Translation]

Anyway, the Government may recover it in the form of surcharge or otherwise. But you must take this problem very seriously and it is upto the Government to decide (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will look into it. Mr. Manorajan Bhakta.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): Sir, I raise a point of order. If leave has been granted to move a privilege motion, then Members of the House may also be allowed to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not allowed it.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, Rule 225 is very clear.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not allowed it. I have said that he has given a notice.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED: Under Rule 225, with the consent of the Speaker, the Members shall rise in their place..

MR. SPEAKER: But I have not given the consent. Are you obstructing Mr. Manoranjan Bhakta from speaking?

SHRI E. AHAMED: I am not obstructing Mr. Bhakta. I am just pointing out the matter under Rule 225 here. In that case, we may also be allowed to speak. Rule 225 is very clear and it says;

"The Speaker, if he gives consent under Rule 222 and holds that the matter proposed to be discussed is in order, shall call the member concerned, who shall rise in his place and, while asking for leave to raise the question of privilege, make a short statement relevant thereto."

I would just like to know whether the Speaker has already permitted him or not.

MR. SPEAKER: You are questioning

me on the Floor of the House. Should I allow every Member to question the authority of the Presiding Officer?

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED: I am not challenging, Sir. I would like to know the thing, whether the Speaker has given consent or not. If not, I have nothing to say, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ahamad, why are you taking time? I have already said that he has given a notice and I have called for the comments and then I will decide. Was it necessary to take this much time of other Member

[Translation]

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman & Nicobar Islands): I would like to draw your attention as well as that of the House towards a very important matter. As you are aware, the Budget proposals of various Union-territories are passed by the House in the absence of Legislative Assemblies in majority of them. The Budget proposals of four Union-Territories except for Pondicherry i.e. Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshdeep, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Chandigarh and Daman and Diu, where there is no provision for Legislative Assemblies, are passed along with the Demands of Ministry of Home Affairs. But no discussion could take place on them. So the House did not get an opportunity to hold a discussion whether the funds sanctioned from the consolidated fund of India are properly spent by the Governments of these Union Territories or not whether these are spent in the public interest and what are its priorities?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had once requested you also to give us an opportunity to discuss the daily problems of the areas we represent. Suppose, a post of labourer is to be created in Andaman & Nicobar Islands, the proposal

is sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs. The file lies pending for two to three years in office after which a decision is taken on the matter. Then only the post is filled. But in the case of a violence taking place in any part of the country, the Government takes immediate action and holds talks with concerned parties... (Interruptions) while allotting time, you should also consider our case. I know you have always had a soft corner for the small areas. That is why I request the Government that democratic process should be started in these areas also. If these steps are not taken in time, then the time this not fa when violence' would also erupt in these areas endangering the unity and integrity of the country.

Therefore, through you, I would like to request the Government to make provision for setting up of Legislative Assemblies in these Union-territories, as it has been done in Delhi so that the Administration of these States could be run smoothly.

SHRIMATIRITA VERMA (Danbad): Mr. Speaker Sir, with your kind permission, I would like to draw the attention of the whole House towards the critical condition of Dhanbad's Coal Mines Area Development Authority, as has been published in 11 May, 1992 edition of "Janasatta". Dhanbad supplies coal to the entire country and the Coal Mines Area Development Authority looks after the roads, water supply and community development etc. For this purpose, the BCCL levies Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 on the sale of per tonne of coal and pays the same to the said Authority. After meeting all expenses, the Authority was spending about Rs. 2 crore annually on development activities. But now the BCCL is denying the Authority its rightful dues of cess on the pretext of a verdict date 6 November 1992 of the Ranchi Bench of Patna High Court. This particular order sought to impose a ban on levy of cess but there was no ban on the Coal Mines Area Development Authority to receive

cess or cess on royalty. But the Bharat Cooking Coal Limited interpreted this verdict in its own way and thus put the CMADA in to a great financial crisis. Now on this basis it has stopped payment of cess to the Development Authority at Dhanbad. But it still pays rural employment and development chess, PW cess and authority cess to the Asansol Development Authority. I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Coal as to why such step-motherly treatment is being meted out to Dhanbad based Development Authority while payment of cess is being made unabated to Development Authority located at Asansol.

On the other hand, there can be no stronger words to condemn the indifference being shown by the Government of Bihar. It has not asked the BCCL explain the discrimination it is making between the Dhanbad Development Authority and the Asansol Development Authority. Besides the State Government has not paid the cess it collected from coal traders of Bihar till April 1990. to the Authority The Government of Bihar is so careless that it has not yet decided as to the accounts in which cess on royalty amounting to crores of rupees should be kept. It owes more than Rs. 370 lakh to the BCCL, even now.

Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Minister of coal to issue clear dissections to Bharat Cooking coal Limited to pay the arrear amount to the Authority. It should clearly be told to pay the arrear amount outstanding against it and the time by which it will make the payment. Otherwise, a time will come when the Authority will not have funds to pay salary to its employees. We have no expectations from the Bihar Government, Neither it is pressurizing Bharat cooking Coal Limited for in payment of the arrear amount, nor is it pressuring of the coal company to pay cess to the CHMADA in the same way it is paying to the development authority at Asansol. With these words, I conclude .

[English]

SHRIPRITHVIRAJD. CHAVAN(Karad):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to raise a matter which has even got far more significance than a what we had discussed in the morning. I refer to the GATT Agreement based on the Dunkel Draft. The Minister of Commerce had assured the House that the Government will not sign the GATT Treaty based on the Dunkel Draft without a full debate in the House.

A discussion under Rule 193 was listed last week but could not take place. This House, cutting across the party lines, is concerned about this. The whole motion is concerned about this. Our agriculture, services, our independence about the foreign investment and any other things will be threatened. This Treaty will bind generations to come. The issue is too big to be decided by a few bureaucrats in the commerce Ministry or even by a Cabinet Sub-Committee. I specifically wish to make three points.

The first is, the Government should not sign this GATT Treaty based on the Dunkel; Draft without the express approval by Parliament and without a full debate on the issue. The Government should reopen the issue at Geneva and try to separate the various issues.

Secondly, a Parliamentary Committee should be immediately constituted to go into the whole aspects of the GATT Uruguay round of talks.

Finally a very important point is about the right of the Parliament to ratify various international treaties which the Executive enters into. Usually we are presented, with *stal fait accompli* and we just cannot do anything about it. The House, in its combined wisdom should seriously reconsider the constitutional provision about the Executive's power to enter international treaties and Parliament's right in the ratification of the treaties. (Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER: I have given a notice.

MR. SPEAKER: I know that the House is one with the hon. Members on this

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I must say that you were demanding, the Minister and written to me, we had fixed it but the matters which are on the agenda are not discussed and the matters which are not on the agenda are discussed. That is why you had no time for it.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur): We are doing today.

MR. SPEAKER: Not like this Madam

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Today you have to show favour to the Members who are sitting at your back.

[Translation]

SHRI BHUVNESHVAR PRASAD MEHTA (Hazaribagh): Mr. Speaker, Sir Delhi Administration and the Delhi police have uprooted thousands of hawkers and rickshaw-pullers and rendered them jobless. Lakhs of such people have been affected by their action. People have been forced to starve. As a matter of fact even after more than four decades of independence, crores of educated people are already jobless. Over and above the same, the wrong policies of the Government is adding fuel to the flame. Thousands of pavement hawkers held a demonstration in front to the residence of Lt. Governor and demanded that the police as well as the Administration are not honouring the Supreme Court verdicts. As per the Supreme Court verdict, before uprooting the pavement hawkers steps should be taken to

renabilitate them. I would urge the government to intervene in the matter and resettle these people so that they could earn their livelihood. That is all, I wanted to say.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am raising a question pertaining to human beings. The situation prevailing in Tripura is very serious. On 9th and 10th instant a team of 8 M. Ps. visited those areas of Tripura where according to our information nearly 102 tribal people expired this year due to the outbreak of this epidemic between 24th March and 3rd May. As per the statistics made available to us by the Government, 82 people have expired. Sir, last year, in this very month, the epidemic broke out and according to the information made available to us number of victims is 142 but the Government gives the number as 121. The number of casualties in such a low populated area, is very high in comparison to the number of casualties in any part of India. But it is a matter of regret that adequate arrangements are not being made there. We met the Chief Minister. He said that for the purpose of maintenance an amount of Rs. 500/- will be paid ex gratia under a scheme to be launched in the area after 15th to each of the bereaved families. It is quite shameful that the value of human life has been fixed at just Rs. 500/- in independent India. We have shot a video film and an application has also been sent. One man, Shri Pradeep Dev Verma, resident of Tosa Mohrampur in Village Manikpur has complained that he had to sell his two sons, one Shri Ramesh aged 5 years and another Shri Malik aged 3 years to Shri Pavindra Tripura and Shri Kavindra Tripura of that village at the rate of Rs. 40/- each. Nothing can be more shameful than this in this independent India. How much degradation has come in human values.

We visited the hospital and met the C.M.O. and the District Magistrate. According to the figures furnished by them the number of patients admitted during the last two months is two thousand. The

patients are to be brought from a distance of 30 kms. Sometimes, it so happens that the patients died on their way to hospital and their family members ran away leaving the dead body on the road. Some families fled to Bangladesh, some to Assam and some to Mizoram which is quite adjacent. In this manner, they left the dead bodies which were being eaten by dogs, eagles and vultures. If the value of a human being is reduced to this extent. I think it would be a matter of utter shame for independent India.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards tribal belt. The Central Government is equally responsible for it. I would urge the Central Government to depute a special team to that village of Tripura where a large number of people have died because of this epidemic. Water is supplied through a tanker from a distance of 50 kilometres. At times the tanker arrives and at times it does not. There is no regular supply of water. Thus power force they have to drink dirty water that is available. There is no arrangement for the supply of food grains. The Ration depot is opened only for 2 days. A tribal who comes from a distance of 30 kilometres may or may not be able to purchase ration. He has no purchasing power. With the result, he has no option except to eat wild grass. Consequently, thousands of people are becoming victims of epidemic. The attention of the Central Government should be drawn to this issue and a team should be sent to assess the situation. The Government should make arrangements to provide not only medicine and food to the Advisis and by it should also arrange Mobile squads for distributing ration to Advisis on far flung areas.

The helpless people are compelled to run to neighbouring States to earn their livelihood. Such kind of helplessness should not be there. I urge the Central Government to undertake relief work immediately and arrangements may be made to pay at least Rs. 50,000/- as compensation to the bereaved families.

I conclude with this submission.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, this is a serious matter. All of you have stood up. All of you are endorsing what Shri Mohan Singh has said. Now, let the hon. Minister respond. Then, we will go to the other points.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We take it that you all are of the same view.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : Sir, I do not have any reasons to disbelieve the statement of the hon. Member, who himself has visited the area along with other Members. I have been told that they had an interaction with the Chief Minister who was also there. They apprised the Chief Minister about this particular menancey which has taken place. It is a fact. It did happen last year and it has repeated this year. When it did happen last year I took it up with the hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare Shri M.L. Fotedar. A Central team visited there and identified the cause of this particular disease and also submitted a report. The follow-up action was also taken from the State Governemnt. This year when it happened, I took up with the Prime Minister and the prime Minister has instructed another team to visit. I do not know whether it has gone. It is unfortunate that this repetition itself has crated a panc in the area. I do not want to go into dispute whether the people are going to Bangladesh and other place. It may happen. I have no reasons to disbelieve. I fully agree with the hon. Member that both Central Government and State Government should take appropriate action so that it does not occur again. I assure the hon. Members that I will again

take it up with the State Government as well as the Central Governemnt. I am one with them. I only request that this should not be politicised. (Interruptions) I am not saying it. (Interruptions) Am I saying that you are politicizing it?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: Please do not bring that discussion here. No one is saying that it should be politicized.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: I, therefore, say that this is a human tragedy and the State Government and the Central Government are looking into it from that aspect and I hope suitable action will be taken.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: (Palaghat): Mr. Speaker, I am raising an important human problem. The bidi workers are the most backward and unorganised section of our society. Although, Governemnt has formulated a number of schemes to protect these workers and to ensure job security and other rights, these schemes have not been propely iimplemented so far. In a country where lakhs of people are unemployed, this is a sector where with very meager capital investment, thousands of workers could be given employment. Unless the Government takes immediate steps to implement strictly the Bidi-cigar Act in all States and also to ensure the payment of minimum wages to them, lakhs of Bidi workers will suffer extreme miscry. bdiessdesorkers who have attain the age of 50 years must he bepaid a monthly pension of Rs. 250/- A corporation should be set up for the unorganised Bidi workers. The worker who

superannate do not get full gratuity. There is a heavy reduction in the gratuity amount which is paid to them. Therefore, it has become necessary to amend the Gratuity Act. The Government must also consider the payment of Rs. 150/- as medical allowance to the Bidi workers.

I request the Government to consider these demands immediately, Sir, with your kind permission I wish to raise one more point. That is with regard to the lack of transmission facility for transmitting Malayalam Programmes in the northern districts of Kerala. Today, the people of Palakkad, Kozhikode, Kannur, Vaynad etc. are able to see only the national programme and not the Malayam programme. It was said that channels were not available. But now with the completion of opticals fiber cable and the microwave link channels have become viable.

So, I would request the Government to immediately take steps to provide this facility for the people of Palakkad and other districts of northern Kerala.

SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' (East Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this morning the residents of nearly 25 colonies, such as Moti Bagh, R.K. Puram, Netaji Nagar, Lodi Road, Kidwai Nagar and Laxmibai Nagar, etc. came to me and complained that the kiosks which they had constructed 20-25 years back outside their houses are being demolished. These kiosks were made for the purpose of parking their scooter sectors and keeping their cots in case of rain. But the Estate office people have launched a campaign of demolishing all these kiosks. It is causing a great discontent among Government employees in Delhi. These kiosks were not demolished even during emergency. These are not rooms. The poor Government employees had constructed these kiosks for keeping their belongings, beddings, coats etc. Demolition will not serve any purpose. I would be better to charge rent from the

residents but these should not be demolished at any cost.

SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA (Machhlishahar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on 6th May, 1992 at 4.30 O'clock, a dreadful fire broke out at Pipapur village, block Mangraura, District Pragrah which comes under my constituency Machhlishahan. Out of the 33 houses gutted in this fire, 23 houses belonged to Harijans, 2 houses to 'Kahars' (bearers) and 8 houses to shepherds. All these people are poor and landless. In that fire incident, their entire belongings such as clothes, utensils, ornaments and foodgrains turned into ashes. Their children are taking shelter under trees. Fire engine from District Headquarters could reach there after 8 hours. Till now only Tehsildar could reach on the spot and he has disbursed only Rs. 9000/- among the people, as a relief measure. I visited the spot and it is assessed that the loss due to this fire is about Rs. 6 lakhs. There is no arrangement for drinking water and no conveyance is available from Kandharpur to Pipapur. This village has not been electrified even and it takes 5 hours in conveying a message upto the District Headquarters.

I would urge that an amount of Rs. 10, 000/- should be given as immediate relief to every man of this village so that they could procure something and make arrangements for resettling their children. Their children are left with the only clothes which they are wearing. There, the livestock is dying due to scarcity of fodder. Therefore, immediate arrangement may be made for provision of fodder.

I urge that the Government to provide every possible help to this village from Prime Minister's Relief Fund. It is a problem of Harijans. The construction of their houses may be made out of relief fund of Uttar Pradesh, Government. They are small landless farmers and they do not have support from anybody

MR. SPEAKER: O.K.

AN HON. MEMBER: Cattle are also dying in the village.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you supporting it.

SHRISHIVSHARAN VERMA: Livestock is dying and all the trees are engulfed and a horrible accident has taken place. That is why the government should pay special attention to it.

SHRIDIGVIJAY SINGH (Rajgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the use of narcotics has increased, especially among the youths during the last several years which is really a matter of concern.

In Madhya Pradesh, opium is cultivated in our area and about one lakh quintals of poppy husk is produced. Since the demand for brown sugar and smack in the refined form of opium has increased now, the cost of "dodi chori" which was at one time burnt, has increased from Rs. 10,000/ to Rs. 30,000/- per quintal in Punjab and Rajasthan.

One lakh quintal of opium poppy so produced illegally there. The Madhya Pradesh Government issued license for this but now there is discrimination in the issue of licenses. The license fee for traders has been increased from Rs. one thousand to Rs. 25,000 per year but on the other hand, the sales tax has been reduced from 12% to 5%. For this reason, small traders have left this trade. A few big traders have organized groups and made cartel for smuggling and illegal production of opium poppy.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if these people are spared, in one year they will earn profit of Rs. 100 crore. The smugglers will be benefited. Through you, I would request the hon. Finance Minister, that the smuggling of Poppy husk is ruining thousands of families and therefore there is need to check it through

a legislation which would enable the Centre to issue licenses instead of the State administration.

DR. LAXMINARYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to submit that this is an importune issue and I have reiterated that a policy should be made regarding opium wherein the interests of the farmers are also protected.

MR. SPEAKER: I will call you Please sit down comfortably. Why are you repeatedly taking so much trouble?

DR. LAXMINARYAN PANDEYA: My constituency is the largest producer of opium. The State Government has taken steps within its limitations. Whatever has been done for licensing is a separate issue.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not going on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMOHAN RAWLE (Bombay-South Central): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have repeatedly raised the matter of the closed textile mills in Bombay, in this House. On the one hand, the Government is unable to open those textile mills which have been closed and on the other hand, some other mills are going to close down. Due to the closure of some mills of N.T.C.-the National Textile Corporation- thousands of mills workers would get unemployed. According to an estimate 25,000 mill workers would be rendered unemployed due to this closure. N.T.C. invited tenders to sell the land of a few mills, to certain individuals. Those tenders were to be opened at 9 AM on 20th April, 1992 but the mill workers ghoraoed the office and opposed the move. The tenders could not thus be opened. In this connection, I had asked the

hon. Textiles Minister a question, in this session of the Parliament as to whether they are going to sell that land. He said that this would not be allowed. But even then they are going to sell the land of that mill. Action should be taken against the corrupt officials of N.T.C and inquiry should be done by the C.B.I, as in the case of R.C.F officials. I had raised the matter of the theft in the railways. That is being examined by the C.B.I and the Railway Minister has accepted that there was a theft of railway property worth Rs. two crore. The corrupt practices of General Manging Director, Technical Director (sales,) Purchase Director and Finance Director and the other officials should be probed. They purchase low quality raw material and spare parts of machinery. The machinery goes out of order frequently. Tenders are filled in the name of bogus party and only one party is awarded the tender. They fill the tenders in different names. The contractors and officials are in league with each other. These officials who are in collusion with contractors sell the produced goods at a lower rate. The cloth which is purchased by the army, the police and in hospitals is done through the service agents, whereas there is no need for that. Small machines are sold as scrap and all these machines work well in Bhiwandi and Ahmedabad, outside Bombay. I would request you to hold an inquiry into the loss being suffered by the N.T.C which is to the tune of Rs. 25 lakh every month. Thorough enquiry should be conducted. The Textiles Minister should give an assurance that the Governemnt will not sell this mill and will not let the N.T.C mill to close down. I am grateful to you, for giving me time to speak.

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that Finance Minkster and the Governemnt everyday declare that the sick industrial units would be sent to the BIFR for their rehabilitation as BIFR is the *panacea* for the recovery of the sick units. A large number of cases of such sick units were sent to the BIFR, but you

would be surprised to know that some seats of the BIFR members are lying vacant for long. Two of the existing members are going to retire soon and no measure has been initiated to fill up those posts. As a result, the BIFR cannot hear hundreds of cases due to shortage of Board member personnel. When the BIFR is itself sick, how can it take care of the sick units? If cases remained without hearing for months together, how will those sick units be rehabilitated?

Secondly, Sir it is a body without much powers. Who cares for its decisions? Many of its recommendations are not obeyed by the financial institutions. One such example from my constituency is the case of Kanoria Jute Mills. It remained closed for several years and 4, 500 workers are out of jobs. The rehabilitation case was referred to the BIFR and after a series of sessions, an acceptable package was finalised and the BIFR recommended for re-opening of the Kanoria Jute mills. All the concerned parties including the workers, a new mangement, banks and financial institutions were present and accepted the terms. But, the workers were forced to suffer by accepting a lower wage for a few years. The BIFR went out of its way to accept that package.

It instructed the Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) and the Industrial Reconstruction Board of India (IRBI) to supply funds within one month. The jute mills are re-opened and the workers are trying their best to work hard to make the unit viable. They are talking less wage for the last 14 or 15 months. But the funds are not forthcoming. The workers are in serious situation. If the funds has not been supplied by IRBI, the unit will be closed again. IFCI and IRBI should release funds immediately. It is a serious situation.

The Finance Ministry and the Textile Ministry should take care of it so that the funds are provided on time and the factory is not closed down. I request the Government

to take the initiative.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMIKH (Bharuch): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the attitude of the Gujarat Government towards Adivasis who are born in jungles, pass the whole life in jungles and die in jungles is not proper. The forest department of the Gujarat Government has been committing atrocities on them. A number of Advasi have so far been killed due to these atrocities. Sir a ban has been imposed on the cutting of jungles even then trees worth Rs. 36 crores have been cut down illegally and the Government is unable to arrest anybody till day. Our tribals who go and cut bamboos in forest for their livelihood, are killed. This shows how the Government is adopting an apathetic attitude. When our tribals are killed, they are granted one or two thousand rupees as compensation and if any person meets a sudden death or if he dies after drinking spurious liquor then the Gujarat Government grants him Rs. 20000 to Rs. 25000 as compensation and this amount is delivered at the victims' homes but nobody bothers for our Adivasis. Mr. Speaker Sir, such incidents are increasing every day in Gujarat. There is a drought in Gujarat today. There is acute scarcity of drinking water. Our tribals go even to the dense forests in search of a drop of water and sometimes they drink polluted water full of foul smell. In these circumstances, I appeal to the Government of India that our tribals should be given adequate compensation and the problem of drinking water should immediately be solved.

SHRI HARADHAN ROY (Asansol): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my constituency has a number of Coal Mines, and the level of ground water in that area goes down considerably thus creating an acute problem of drinking water.

The Government of West Bengal have arranged for digging wells in some of the villages and tubewells have also been installed for the purpose of providing drinking water. But even then the water dries up in the wells, and people do not get drinking water. That is why, the West Bengal Government has started the Raniganj Coal Field water supply scheme, but Coal India is creating a lot of problems in implementing this scheme. The water tank can not be made on the ground and there is a provision for laying under ground pipeline, but Coal India says that tanks and pipe lines cannot be made in this area, because this is a subsidence area and for this reason, this provision cannot be implemented here, and they also say that this is artificial coal and even for that reason it cannot be implemented here. Then how can it be made? That is why the proposed expenditure on this project has increased from 5 crore rupees to 20 crore and now it is Rs. 100 crore. This amount should be given to the West Bengal Government by the Centre. I would like to add further in this regard that the Centre should take the steps in this connection and those three steps should be as emergency step, long term step and short term step — so that the West Bengal Government may be able to supply adequate water in this area.

SHRI SUNIL DUTT (Bombay North West): Today is the last day of this session and I congratulate you heartily, that you conducted the session in a proper manner and now only a few hours are left, and I have every hope that you will manage these rest hours also in the same way. I would like to inform the house that the staff of Air Traffic Control Deptt. have been adopting a policy of non cooperation for the last 11 days and as a result of it a number of passengers are facing a lot of difficulties due to delayed movement of flights. These days are holiday session is going on and parents are taking their children for outings.

13.00 hrs.

The flights are always getting delayed. Besides it, our Government is also getting a loss of Rs. 4-5 crores. Because the air traffic control employees do not allow landing in time and the planes keep moving in the air for 15-20 minutes. Sometimes the passengers have to wait for hours together for take off. The passengers go in the planes but the air traffic control people do not give the O.K. to the planes for the take off. The Government should look into the matter. The demand of the employees of the Air traffic control Deptt. is logical and I think that when both of the sides will sit together on the negotiation table, the matter will definitely be decided.

Further, I would like to state that three soldiers of the Indo-Tibetan border police summiters have reached Mount Everest at a height of 29000 feet. They sprinkled the water of the Ganges there. I had a wish that these three soldiers would taken 'Abejumjum' also with them and by mixing with the water of Ganges, they would have sprinkled it at the Mount Everest. Thus a unique example of secularism and national integration would have been set. I congratulate them heartily through you and through the honorable members.

MR. SPEAKER: Along with you, all of us heartily greet that Summitteer.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the pitiabile condition of those workers of Hindustan Machine Tools who have migrated from Jammu and Kashmir, and are residing in the other parts of the country. The leader of the opposition Shri Advani and I repeatedly wrote letters to the Government but in vain and no attention is being paid to their problems. In short, I would like to present three points before you.

[English]

" HMT Watch Factory migrated employees have been demoted by two grades during adjustment in other units of HMT.

Secondly, 350 HMT employees have been paid only 75 % of the salary during migration period.

Thirdly, officers, supervisors, managers, have been given proper grade, pay and other benefits, but working class people in the Company have been shown discrimination."

[Translation]

Earlier, a deputation called on the Deputy Speaker Sahib as well. They are not getting gas connections, their ration cards are not getting prepared, the wife has got a job at one place where as the husband has been posted elsewhere. It is my request that their cases may be considered on humanitarian ground. The situation in Jammu and Kashmir has deteriorated because of the incompetency of the Government. The Government is well aware of the situation that the people have migrated and are still migrating from there but the Government has completely failed to provide them adequate assistance. They are not being given their due rights. It is my request that they should be given their due rights.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hannan Mollah Sahib raised the issue of the B.I.F.R. and I think myself with this issue. I would like to tell the House and also Government about the B.I.F.R. organisation. The Government must know about the affairs of this organisation. I shall narrate my experience about it. Once the matter goes into B.I.F.R. they ask whether Rs. 8 crore or 10 crore can

be arranged. If the amount is arranged the organisation will entertain the unit and if not, it will refuse to entertain. Can anybody say these words? B.I.F.R. is not needed for this. I would like to bring a matter with our notice. Regarding Titagarh paper mill, B.I.F.R.'s decision is not being implemented by I.F.C.I. and I.R.B.I. They are not only refusing to recognise its importance, rather they are going against the arrangement which has been made.

[English]

"After the formation of BIFR, the Register Number is Number One of the Titagarh Paper Mill and after the agreement has been reached the workers accepted the terms, the union accepted the terms, management accepted the terms. Government of West Bengal were supposed to make available to the tune of Rs.5 crore. They have done it. But the IFCI, the Central Financial Institute here, a party to this agreement, are not abiding by the agreement." There is no rule; there is no law and there is no step being taken either on the part of the BIFR or by the Government to see that these are not being done.

[Translation]

I wanted to raise another issue. But I have discussed it with the hon. Minister, therefore, I would not raise it. The irregularities committed in the office of Films Division especially at Bangalore and Calcutta should be investigated by the C.B.I... (Interruptions)
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise the issue relating to the Articles of the Construction. The Construction is being violated and we are not talking about any individual... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Nitish Kumar, you have already discussed it with me earlier, therefore, I am not allowing that point. I am not going to listen to you here... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not try. I have taken a decision. This is final. You do not have to speak. I am not allowing you. I did not allow the other Members to raise it and so I am not allowing you also.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I allow all other issues except this one. Please sit down. sometime I would exercise my authority.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI (Saidpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, since today is the last day of the session, I want to draw the attention of the Government towards an important matter. There is drought in eastern Uttar Pradesh and it is causing great loss. Wells have dried up there. The scarcity of water is so acute that it is beyond one's imagination. There is no water in the wells, the ponds have dried up and the flow of water from tube-wells is very less. The question of availability of water in the rivers does not arise. The situation has worsened there. Leader of the opposition party whose party is in power in the state is present here. The Government should order him to pay attention to at least this problem and moreover, the flood is imminent. During the flood the problem of drought will be solved, but there will be floods again. Till now, the Uttar Pradesh Government has not taken any concrete steps against drought. It did not even think over the imminent floods at hand. On the one hand, there is scarcity of water, on the other hand there is another threat due to floods and the greatest problem in Uttar Pradesh is the oppression by police.

MR. SPEAKER: The question on drinking water has been raised earlier. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:
The oppression of policy in Uttar Pradesh had reached its climax. Discrimination is being meted out to the people there. The Muslims, people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes are being tortured. When an Hon. Minister arrives at Mhou in Gajipur, the family of an M.L.A. is being insulted badly ...*(Interruptions)* The Government should instruct the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to look into the matter so that at least such excesses are brought under control which are an open intrigue of the Uttar Pradesh Government .. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR:
The hon. Member has stated quite false things...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Why are you conducting the Question Hour without any reason? The issue which has already been raised should not be brought on record again?

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR:
Our statement should be recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Without any reason minor issues should not be exaggerated...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURCHARAN SINGH GALIB (Ludhiana): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you know, U.P. is a *tarai* area. Militancy is at its peak there. I want to cite an example. There is a family of pandit Gurbachan Lal. Since the people of Shri Gurbachan Lal killed Gen. Subesh Singh, the militants became hostile to him and wanted to harm him. But the militants abducted the brother and the son of Pandit Gurcharan Lal. There is a very rich Cheema family which has paper mills. In lieu of this act, they abducted Baldev Singh Cheema. They went to the police station and the administration also and enquired as to what was their faults because militants harass them and they have abducted his

son. They requested to return and release their son but the administration replied that it did not know who had kidnapped their son. When they asked as to what they do if the militants killed their sons, the administration replied that in that case they can take the dead-body of their son. The same thing happened. The following day, Shri Baldev Singh Cheema's son was killed although they repeatedly asked the D.J.G. and P.C. and the police administration to save their son because they had no fault. But nobody did anything. Especially they told that the Sikhs will meet the same fate if they live here. The Government of Uttar Pradesh should be warned that such situation is not created. Because all the landlords are Sikhs in particular and they are themselves being harassed continually by militants. The militants kill them and their people I request the Government to request the U.P. Government to make an enquiry of this case.

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI (Nainital): This case is related to my constituency. So, I want to say something about it..

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the Question Hour. It is not necessary for you to answer here.

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: It is a conflict between two groups. It is their mutual enmity. This is a very old conflict...

MR. SPEAKER: I have already told you that it should not continue like that. Please sit down. I am speaking. You should understand it.

SHRI SNATOSH GANGWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: We will together and discuss it. Nothing can be done here. I would inform them.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS (Karimganj): Sir, Telegraph and Telephone systems in rural areas of Assam are not at all working satisfactorily particularly, in Barak valley. Small telephone exchanges serve only local needs but trunk calls are virtually impossible. In several cases telephones have been provided with local panchayats, but these remain totally useless for all practical purposes. Same is the case with telegraph which is also as useless as telephones in rural post offices, specially in barak valley. One telegram takes at least five days to reach its destination because it is delivered just like an ordinary letter.

So, I urge upon the Communication Ministry to look into the matter urgently.

SHRI SUKHENDU KHAN (Vishnupur): Sir, I want to raise the following matter of urgent public importance in this House.

There is a place known as Joyrambati which is adjacent to Sihar Gram Panchayat of Kotulpur Block under District Bankura. Joyrambati is the holy birth place of "Sree Sree Ma Sarada Devi."

A good number of tourists visit this place from various corners of the country. Even foreign tourists also visit this Holy place throughout the whole year. Keeping in view the importance of this place as a tourists attraction, the people of the areas are facing a lot of difficulties when any criminal case takes place in the area and the inhabitants of this Gram Panchayat area are to go to Kotulpur Police Station to inform the authorities which is at a distance of 13 Kms., from Joyrambati.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to kindly provide the telephone facilities immediately so that the people of the area could contact the Police authorities in case

of any criminal offence taking place there. It may also be added that Deshra -Koaipara post office which is only 4 Kms from Joyrambati is equipped with this facility and there would not be any difficulty for Telecom Department to provide this facility there. Thank you.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKAT-ESWARLU (Tenali): Sir, this is a matter of urgent public importance. Minimum basic platform facilities are lacking at Modukuru railway station in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh in South Central Railway Division. There is no railway platform at all at this station. Passengers, particularly women, children and old persons, are finding it very difficult to board the trains in the limited halting time. There were instances, when several passengers fell down both while boarding and alighting the trains, got injured and even lost life.

Several times the issue was represented to the railway authorities by the passenger public but to no avail. I too had brought this matter to the notice of hon. Minister of State for Railways and the Divisional Railway Manager, Vijayawada for considering the issue of raising the platforms at Modukuru railway station, but with no response. I urge upon the Government to kindly look into this urgent public inconvenience and arrange raising the platform immediately.

SHRI K. THULASIAH VANDAYAR (Thanjavur): Sir, in Tanjore, we have Baddy, Banana and Coconut Research Centre for the past 35 years. Tanjore is the largest paddy- growing centre in the South with nearly 14 lakhs of acres. With all this, we do not have an agricultural university in Tanjore which is long due. The Government must set up an agricultural university in Tanjore for the people's benevolence in Tanjore. With indigenous technology and native thinking, we can keep our country free from scientific

American Constabulary.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have to raise a very important issue. The Assembly Segment Karimpur of the Nadi district adjoins my constituency and as also the border of Bangla Desh. A new problem has come up in this border area. There is a river mathabhada on the Western bank of the river. But there is an Indian village Jamalpur beside the Indo- Bangla border and on the Western bank of the river there is village of Bangla Desh near the border called Charmeghna. The people of Charmeghna village who have migrated to Jamalpur believe that Charmeghna belong to Bangla Desh but they do not know that Jamalpur is a part of India. Thus the people of both the villages are attached to each other in such a way that all the people of Charmeghna cross over to India for marketing and trade, because they are under an impression that the village is a part of India. At present, that area is under tension because the people of our country living there had demanded the construction of a road there. Now that this road has been constructed, people feel that it is a part of Bangladesh. Further, they feel that despite the presence of the road, it will be a part of Bangladesh and it won't have any link with India.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that Jamalpur village is linked to Bangladesh as it is located on the eastern side mathabhada river and there is no direct route for the people of the village to reach this country. Therefore, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that it would be very difficult and even impossible for him to construct this road near Charmeghna, which is in Bangladesh. Therefore, I urge the Central and State Governments to discuss this matter and then I would be in a position to give some concrete suggestions. At the

moment, I would not like to give any suggestion because many inferences could be drawn from it.

[English]

SHRI G.M.C. BALAYOGI (Amalapuram): Sir, I am raising an important issue of public importance. The project report for modernisation of Godavari Delta system was prepared for Rs 350 crores and submitted to the Central Water Commission, New Delhi by Government vide letter No. 1377-Irr. 111-1/81-19 dated 28.8.1985. Subsequently, the Central Water Commission in their letter No. 2/37/84 -PPO/1524 dated 2.11.1988 have communicated certain observations on the estimates and the same were communicated in Government Memo No. 1852/Irr-11/1/87-10 dated 24.11.1988 with instructions to prepare and send a detailed report modernisation of Godvari Delta system with updated cost duly attending to the CWC remarks.

The General abstract of the estimate for Rs. 200 crores for works and Rs. 226 corers including direct and indirect charges with a benefit cost ratio of 10.99: 1 at five per cent interest and 6.898:1 at ten per cent interest, duly attending to the remarks of the Central Water Commission, were submitted to Government vide this office letter No. GDS/ Modernisation/ I dated 21.7.1990 and the Government in turn have submitted the same to the Central Water Commission in letter No. 2050/Irr. II /89-9 dated 23.7.1990.

The detailed plans and estimates for the above project were subsequently submitted to the Government vide this office letter No. CE/GDS/TS-1/AE-12/200 dated 26.10.1990. The Government in turn have submitted the same to the Central Water Commission and reply is awaited.

Regarding water utilisation, it proposes to utilise six TMC water by recycling from

the drains. Further, there will be savings of 6 TMC of water by lining selective reaches. After modernisation, there will be additional ayacut of 20,000 acres. Further the crop area which is at present 15.35 lakh acres is expected to increase to 23.65 lakh acres. So, I urge upon the honourable Central Water Resources Minister, through you, to kindly look into the matter and take necessary steps for the speedy disposal of the case and necessary funds should be released immediately.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDEW RAM (Palamau): Mr. Speaker, Sir, although drinking water problem exists all over the country, the problem in the Palamau district of Bihar is very acute. It is hilly region and as such there is scarcity of drinking water even in urban areas. Government has not made any provision for repairing faulty tubewells. I urge the Government to solve the drinking water problem in Palamau on a priority basis.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the drought situation in Western Rajasthan is very serious. Sir, the condition in certain areas is so grave that potable water is not available in wells, tubewells or any other source. Similarly, the Prime Minister had made an announcement in Barmer regarding the Public Distribution System. After that, paddy supply has been reduced from 10 kilograms to 1.5-3 kilograms. Sir, it is indeed a grave injustice that the toiling villagers are provided with only 1.5 kilograms of paddy in a month. I would like the Union Government to make adequate supply of paddy to the Rajasthan Government so that it can make available at least 5 kilograms, if not 10 kilograms, paddy to the people. The amount allocated to the State Government for fodder and other material to deal with the current drought situation should be given in the form of grant. The State Government is working on a workable solution to this problem,

but in the absence of resources in a desert area, which has always been facing acute shortage of food and drinking water, the Central Government should pay special attention on to the State. Therefore, through you, I request the Union Agriculture Minister to make proper arrangements for the supply of paddy. So that people could be provided minimum 35 kilograms of paddy every month.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Prime Minister had announced that every possible assistance would be provided, but I urge that at least potable water should be made available.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support him as I had myself been to that place on the 9th and 10th of last month. The drought condition is very serious. The people of that area say that whoever provides water to the area is as good as God for them. That's why I support whatever the hon. Member has said.

Alongwith this, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards a very important issue, for which I have been giving notices continuously for the last ten days - i.e., when our party was in power, we had constituted an expert committee to resolve the Bodo problem. Now, that Committee has submitted its report to the Ministry of Home Affairs. It is our request that the report submitted by the Committee to the Home Ministry on March 31, be placed on the Table of the House. I want to submit only this.

[English]

SHRI A. INDRA KARAN REDDY (Adilabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in my constituency, Adilabad, more than two lakh labourers are working in the coal belt area. Previously, local bodies were getting more than Rs. one crore every year as coal cess from the collieries. That amount goes to Gram Panchayats, Mandal and Zilla Parishad in the ratio of 18:22:60 respectively. These

amounts are being utilised, in the coal belt areas for sinking of borewells for drinking water, school buildings for education of children, roads for communication, drainage and electricity.

For the last two years, our local bodies are not getting the coal cess from Singareni Colliery not from the State Government and nor from the Government of India. There is no drinking water facility in the area as there is no tap connection. Most of the labourers belong to SCs and STs and are suffering a lot, because safe drinking water is not being provided, and they are afflicted with all sorts of diseases. It is a human problem. The labourers are already frustrated and are agitating and an explosive situation is being created.

I urge upon the hon. Coal Minister, through you that the Government should come forward and provide, every year, minimum Rs. 3 crore for the singareni coal belt areas for drinking water, road communication, drainage and electricity. I request the hon. coal Minister to look into the matter personally and issue necessary instructions for releasing sufficient funds for the Gram Panchayat, Mandals and Zilla Parishad for providing the basic civic amenities to the labourers working in the coal belt area and who are mostly tribals, scheduled caste people. Before the situation gets further deteriorated, the hon. Coal Minister should intervene and provide sufficient funds for the local bodies, as the labourers are already agitating and have threatened not to allow coal to move from the coal belt area.

[Translation]

SHRI LALIT ORAON (Lohardaga): Mr. Speaker, Sir, since 1966, the Army has been conducting shooting exercises in the Bisalpur subdivision of Bihar, as a result of which 15-20 villages have been severely affected.

People belonging to primitive tribes or Assures inhabit these villages. Ever since these exercises commenced in 1966, the Government has been paying them Rs. 1.50 per adult and 75 paise per minor as compensation. You know very well that the labour wages have considerably gone up, but these people continue to be paid the same amount i.e. 75 paise for minors and Rs. 1.50 for adults.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, those Asurs are in the original inhabitants of that area. Leaving all their work behind, they move out in the morning, only to return in the evenings. Even in this age of sky-high prices these tribals are provided only Rs. 1.50 or 75 paise on the name of wages or compensation, which is totally inadequate. Through you, I request the government to pay attention towards this problem and make arrangements to increase the compensation amount being given to these people.

SHRI TEJ MARAYAN SINGH (Buxar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, recently, on 9th and 10th, some of us and left front went to Tripura on behalf of the national Front and also visited the site where about 142 people have died so far on account of thirst and starvation. Therefore, supporting the contention of Shri Mohan Singh, I would like to say that I feel that the Government has so far not done anything, which was required of it. We held talks with a large of doctors. The Chief Medical officer told us that the sole reason behind the death of so many people was the non-availability of drinking water and food.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell you that it is the same locality in which the people are not able to eat rice and wheat. They are unable to get rice and wheat. Those people, eat wild potatoes over there. They do not have money to buy rice. This is the situation prevailing over there. That is why I urge upon the Government of India to make medicines available in that area.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, even drinking water is not available in that area. So the Government should make arrangements for drinking water. Apart from this arrangement, they should be given old age pensions also. Together with this, I would also like to request that the program 'me food for work' should be started there, so that the people in that area should not die of starvation. I understand that this is the only area in India, where people die of hunger. That is why it is my request that the Indian Government should immediately make such an arrangement by which people should not die of hunger with these words, I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRIS. MALLIKARJUNIAH (Tumkur): There is acute problem of drinking water in the districts of Tumkur, Kolar, Bangalore (Rural), Bidar and Bellary, in Karnataka. I request the Central Government to come forward to solve the problem.

Electricity supply is also equally very bad and some of the projects for generating electricity have been pending with the Central Government. Those projects may kindly be sanctioned and expedited.

Thirdly, for drip irrigation we have demanded Rs. 6 crores but only Rs. 5 lakhs has been released. Since there is no rain there is also widespread famine and the people are suffering. I request that the amount sought for drip irrigation may be released immediately.

For flood relief some amount was promised. But that amount has not been released in full. I request that the full amount may be released.

Lastly, as the hon. Minister for Telecommunications is here I would like to mention that he was kind enough to agree to instal a C-DOT telephone exchange at

Tumkur. But the work on it is proceeding slowly. I request him to kindly speed up the matter.

Finally, about 290 Census workers are on a hunger strike in Karnataka as they were going to be retrenched. I request that they may be allowed to continue in their jobs.

SHRI RUP CHAND MARMU (JHARGRAM): Sir, the Jhargram Dahigury road crossing the Howrah- Bombay rail line on the South Eastern Railway at a place near Jhargram Railway Station needs a fly-over immediately because hundreds and hundreds of motor vehicles, such as trucks, buses, cars three wheelers, auto-rickshaws, etc. and bicycles and carts ply over the junction every day. Besides that thousands of people walk over the place day and night. But there being no fly-over the railway crossing has become very hazardous for the rural people who are mostly Adivasis. Every year eight to ten people on an average face the tragic end of their lives. They are run over by the trains. Many cattle also became victims because of the running trains every year.

Under these circumstances, I would urge upon the Central Government to look in to the matter urgently and expedite the construction of a fly-over at the aforesaid junction.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. speaker, through you I like to draw the attention of the honorable Agriculture Minister that the Agriculture Ministry, set up Agro Science Centres in Various districts of the country through the Council of Agriculture Research, but today the situation of these Agro Science Centres has so worsened that they are not able to make available information about researches and new technology to agriculturalists. A

thorough study should be made. About their policies and programmes. I understand that in the absence of a my policy, such sorry State of affairs is going on. So I would like to request the Government that a uniform policy should be formed for setting up Agro Science Centres in all the States of the country. At all the places where these centers are needed, they should be set there without any discrimination and if there is any defect in their functioning at any place they should be rectified.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to point out that the Jawahar Lal Nehru Agriculture University of Madhya Pradesh has recommended to set up Agriculture Research Centre in some of the regions of M.P. and I wish that these centres should also be set up in Javra, Ratlam and Mandsaur districts of M.P. and their functioning should be carefully observed under a district policy.

[English]

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN (Barpeta):
Sir, associating with what the hon. Member, Shri Mohan Singh and Shri Tej Narayan Singh have said regarding the epidemic and starvation deaths in the tribal areas of Tripura, I want to draw the attention of the Central Government to the drought through out the country and flood situation in Assam. In Tinsukhia district in Assam, thousands of people are affected due to this recent flood. In the face of the impending flood in coming days, the people of my Constituency are concerned regarding the erosion of rivers Beki, Manas and Aai in addition to the river Brahmaputra. Every year, there is lot of erosion by these rivers in addition on to river Brahmaputra. thousands of acres of land are eaten up by this erosion. There is no adequate measure to prevent the erosion and save the cultivable land of the peasantry in my Constituency. Therefore, there is resentment and a sense of deprivation among the people of my Constituency for

non implementation of the anti-erosion, anti-flood measures. While requesting the Central Government to come to the aid of the epidemic and starvation affected tribal people of Tripura and relief to the drought affected people through out the country. I request the Government to come to help the victims of the flood in my State. I also request to take prompt and adequate measures to prevent the erosion of land by the rivers Beki, Manas and Aai.

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed these submissions for two-and-a-half hours. Now, Papers to be Laid.

13.36 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notifications Under Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985 etc.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRIRANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM):

Sir, on behalf of Shri Arjun Singh: I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy each of the following Notification (Hindi and English Versions) under sub-section (2) of section 40 of the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985:-

- (i) Regulations for the meetings of the Board of Management of the Indira Gandhi National Open University published in Notification No. G.S.R. 42 in Gezette of India dated the 19th January 1991 together with a

corrigendum to English version thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 550 dated the 28th September 1991.

- (ii) G.S.R. 146 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th March 1991 making certain amendments to Statute 23 of the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985 together with a corrigendum to Hindi version thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 551 dated the 28th September 1991.
- (iii) G.S.R. 147 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th March 1991 making certain amendments to clause (2) of Statute 13 of the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985 together with a corrigendum to English version thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 552 dated the 28th September 1991.
- (iv) G.S.R. 148 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th March 1991 making certain amendments to sub-clause (ii) of clause (3) of the Ordinance of the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act 1985.
- (v) G.S.R. 692 published in Gazette of India dated the 14th December 1991 making Statute 28 of the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985.
- (vi) G.S.R. 476 published in Gazette of India dated the 24th August 1991 making certain amendments to clause (1) of Statute 10A of the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985.
- (vii) G.S.R. 528 published in Gazette of India dated the 14th September

1991 making Ordinance under Statute 13 (2) of the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985.

(viii) G.S.R. 608 published in Gazette of India dated the 19th October, 1991 making Ordinance on Career Advancement of Teachers of the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985.

(ix) G.S.R. 609 published in Gazette of India dated the 19th October 1991 making certain amendments to sub-clause (iv) of Clause (5) of Statute 1 of the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985. [Placed in Library *see* No. LT-2010/92]

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report of the University of Delhi for the year 1990-91 within stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting year. [Placed Library *See* No. LT2011/92]

(3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Accounts and Audit Report of the University of Delhi for the year 1990-91 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting year. [Placed in Library *See* No. LT2012/92]

(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, for the year 1989-90 together with Audit Report thereon.

(5) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above. [Placed in Library *See* No. LT2013/92]

(6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi

and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Calicut, for the year 1989-90.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College Calicut, 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 Regional Engineering College, Calicut, for the year 1989-90.

(7) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above. [Placed in Library See No. LT2014/92]

(8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Motilal Nehru Regional Engineering College, Allahabad, for the year 1989-90.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Motilal Nehru Regional Engineering College, Allahabad, 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 Motilal Nehru Regional Engineering College, Allahabad, for the year 1989-90.

(9) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above. [Placed in Library See No. 2015/92]

(10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board

of Apprenticeship Training (Western Region) Bombay, for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (Western Region) Bombay, for the year 1990-91.

(11) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above. [Placed in Library See No. LT2016/92]

(12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Foundry and Forge Technology Ranchi, for the year 1989-90.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Foundry and Forge Technology, Ranchi 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 Institute of Foundry and Forge Technology, Ranchi for the year 1989-90.

(13) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above. [Placed in Library See No. LT 2017/92]

(14) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the maintained Institutions of University of Delhi for the year 1988-83 together with Audit Report thereon.

(15) A statement (Hindi and

English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (14) above. [Placed in Library See No. LT2018/92]

(16) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council of Science Museums, Calcutta, for the year 1989-90.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council of Science Museums, Calcutta, 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 of Science Museums, Calcutta, for the year 1989-90.

(17) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (16) above. [Placed in Library See No. LT2019/92]

(18) A statement (Hindi and English versions) (i) correcting the reply given on the 9th September 1991 to Unstarred Question No. 6237 by Shri P.P. Kaliaperumal regarding amount spent. [Placed in Library See No. LT2020/92] for subsidised publication of books and (ii) giving reasons for delay in correcting the reply.

(19) a copy of the Pondicherry University General Provident Fund-cum Pension cum-Gratuity Scheme (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India the 20th July, 1991 under sub-section (2) of section 44 of the Pondicherry University Act, 1985 [Placed in Library See No. LT2021/92]

(20) A copy of the University

Grants Commission (Recruitment) amendment Rules, 1990 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 617 in Gazette of India dated the 29th September, 1990 under section 28 of the University Grants Commission M.P. Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2022/92]

(21) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the University of Hyderabad for the year 1990-91.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the University of Hyderabad for the year 1990-91.

(22) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (21) above. [Placed in Library See No. LT-2023/92]

(23) (i) A copy of the Annual report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, New Delhi, for the year 1989-90.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, New Delhi, for the 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 Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, New Delhi, for the year 1989-90.

(24) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (23) above. [Placed in Library See No. LT.2024/92]

Air Service (Amendment) Rules, 1990 and statement for delay in laying these papers, Memorandum of understanding between Bharat Electronics Ltd, and Department of Defence Production and supplies.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRIRANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Order on behalf of SHRI SHARAD PAWAR I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Air Force (Amendment) Rules, 1990 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.R.O.5(E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th August, 1991 under section 191A of the Air Force Act, 1950.
- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned (1) above.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT.2025/92]
- (3) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding for the year 1991-92 between the Bharat Electronics Limited and the Department of Defence Production and supplies, Ministry of Defence (Hindi and English versions)
[Placed in Library, See No. LT.2026/92]
- (4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) (i) correcting the reply given on the 24th April, 1992 to Unstarred Question No. 7949 by Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal Regarding crash of IAF planes in Punjab; and (ii) giving reasons for

delay in correcting the reply.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2027/92]

Review on the Working of and Annual Report of National Building Construction Corporation Limited for 1990-91

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRIRANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Order On behalf of SHARIMATI SHEILA KAUL I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (1) Review by the Government on the working of the National Building Construction Corporation Limited for the year 1990-91.
- (2) Annual Report of the National Building Construction Corporation Limited for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
[Placed Library, See No. LT2028/92]

Memorandum of understanding between maganese ore (India) Limited and Ministry of Steel, between Fero Scrap Nigam Limited and Ministry of Steel etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRIRANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): On behalf of Shri Santosh Mohan Dev I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi

and English versions):-

- (1) Memorandum of Understanding for the year 1992-93 between the Manganese Ore (India) Limited and the Ministry of Steel.
[Placed in Library See No.LT2029/92]
- (2) Memorandum of Understanding for the year 1992-93 between the Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited and the Ministry of Steel.
[Placed in Library, See No.LT2030/92]
- (3) Memorandum of Undertaking for the year 1992-93 between the Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Steel.
[Placed in Library See No. LT2031/92]
- (4) M-emorandum of Undertaking for the year 1992-93 between the Sponge Iron India Limited and the Ministry of Steel.
[Placed in Library. See No.LT2032/92]
- (5) Memorandum of Understanding for the year 1992-93 between the national Mineral Development Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Steel.
[Placed in Library. See No.LT2033/92]
- (6) Memorandum of Understanding for the year 1992-93 between the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited and the Ministry of Steel.
[Placed in Library. See No.LT2034/92]
- (7) Memorandum of Understanding for the year 1992-93 between the metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (India) Limited and the Ministry of Steel.
[Placed in Library. See No.LT2035/92]

- (8) Memorandum of Understanding for the year 1992-93 between the Steel Authority Limited and the Ministry of Steel.
[Placed in Library. See No.LT2036/92]

Notification under water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRIRANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): On behalf of Shri Kamal Nath, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under section 61 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974:-

- (1) S.O.813 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd December, 1991 regarding supersession of the Central Pollution Control Board WHETHER THE UYJHNB7 for a period of one month and directing that Shri A.K.Bhattacharya, Project Director, Ganga Project Directorate shall exercise all the powers, performed and discharged by the Central Pollution Control Board.
- (2) S.O. 814(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd December, 1991 regarding constitution of the Central Pollution Control Board.
[Placed in Library. See No.LT2037/92]

Memorandum of Understanding for 1992-93 between Bharat Aluminium Company Limited and Ministry of Mines etc.

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

MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRIRANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): On behalf of Shri Balram Singh Yadav, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions)-

- (1) Memorandum of Understanding for the year 1992-93 between the Bharat Aluminium Company Limited and the Ministry of Mines. [Placed in Library. See No. LT2038/92]
- (2) Memorandum of Understanding for the year 1992-93 between the Hindustan Copper Limited and the Ministry of Mines. [Placed in Library See No. LT2039/92]
- (3) Memorandum of Understanding for the year 1992-93 between the Hindustan Zinc Limited and the Ministry of Mines, Government of India. [Placed in Library See LT No2040/92]

Notification under Finance Act, 1979

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRIRANGARAJAN

KUMARAMANGALAM): On behalf of Shri Rameshwar Thakur, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 396(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd April, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to Sir John Boum, Comptroller and Auditor General of the United Kingdom and three members of the party who visited India from the 12th April, 1992 to the 21st April, 1992, from the payment of foreign travel tax under section 41 of the Finance Act, 1979. [Placed in Library. See No. LT2041/92]

Statement Showing Action taken by Government in Various Assurances, Promises and Undertakings by the Minister during Various Sessions of Lok Sabha.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRIRANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following statements (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by the Government on various assurances and promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during the various sessions of Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Lok Sabha:-

- (1) Statement No. XXIX - II Part of Eighth Session, 1987. [Placed in Library. See No. LT2041A/92]
- (2) Statement No. XXVIII - Tenth Session, 1988 [Placed in Library. See No. LT2042A/92]
- (3) Statement No. XXIII - Eleventh Session, 1988. [Placed in Library. See No. LT2043/92]
- (4) Statement No. XX - Thirteenth Session, 1989 [Placed in Library. See No. LT2044/92]
- (5) Statement No. XVII - Fourteenth Session, 1989. [Placed in Library. See No. LT2045/92]

Eighth
Lok
Sabha

- (6) Statement No. XIII - First Session, 1989
[Placed in Library. See No.LT2046/92]
- (7) Statement No. XIV - Second Session 1990
[Placed in Library. See No. LT2047/92]
- (8) Statement No. X - Third Session, 1990
[Placed in Library. See No.LT2048/92]
- (9) Statement No. VIII - Sixth Session. 1990
[Placed in Library. See No.LT 2049/92]
- (10) Statement No. VII -Seventh Session, 1991
[Placed in Library. See No. LT2050/92]

Ninth
Lok
Sabha

- (11) Statement No.VI -First Sessions, 1991(Vol.I
and Vol.II) [Placed in Library. See No.LT 2051/92]
- (12) Statement No.III - Second Session, 1991
[Placed in Library. See No. LT2052/92]
- (13) Statement No. I - Third Session, 1992.
[Placed in Library. See No.LT2053/92]

Tenth
Lok
Sabha

Memorandum of Understanding for 1991-92 between Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Limited and Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRIRANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): On behalf Dr. Chinta Mohan, I beg to lay the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions)-

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding for the year 1991-92 between the Pyrites, phosphates and Chemicals Limited and the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers, Government of India [Placed Library See No. LT 2054/92]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding for the 1992-93 between the Hindustan Insecticides Limited and the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. [Placed in Library. See No LT 2055/92]

- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding for the year 1992-93 between the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited and the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals. [Placed on Library. See No. LT2056/92]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology, Madras, for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts. [Placed in Library See No. LT 2057/92]
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and

English versions) by the Government on the working of the Central Institute of Plastic Engineering and Technology, Madras, for the year 1990-91 [Placed in Library See No. 2058/92]

Reports of Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ending 31.3.91 (No 6 of 1992), (No. 7 of 1992), (No. 8 of 1992) etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRIRANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): On behalf of Shri Dalbir Singh:- I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under article 151(1) of the Constitution:-

- (i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended the 31st March, 1991 (No. 6 of 1992)— Union Government (Civil). [Placed in library. See No LT 2059/92]
- (ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended the 31st March, 1991 (No. 7 of 1992)—Union Government (Post and Telecommunications). [Placed in Library. See No. LT2060/92]
- (iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended the 31st March, 1991 (No. 9 of 1992)— Union Government (Defence Services - Air Force and Navy).[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2061/92]

(iv) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended the 31st March, 1991 (No. 10 of 1992)— Union Government (Railways)[Placed in Library See No. LT2062/92]

(v) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended the 31st March, 1991 (No. 11 of 1992) Union Government (Other autonomous Bodies). [Placed in Library See No. LT.2063/92]

(vi) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended the 31st March, 1991 (No. 8 of 1992) Union Government Defence Services (Army and Ordinance Factories). [Placed in Library See No. LT 2064/92]

(vii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended the 31st March, 1991 (No. 13 of 1992) Union Government - Defence Services - Recruitment and Training of other Ranks. [Placed in Library See No. LT. 2065/92]

(viii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended the 31st March, 1991 (No. 14 of 1992) Union Government - Defence Services - Army Base Workshops. [Placed in Library See No LT 20 66/92]

(2) A copy of the Appropriation Accounts, Railways for the year 1990-91, Part-1 Review (Hindi and English versions). [Placed in Library. See No. LT206792]

(3) A copy of the Appropriation Accounts, Railways for the year 1990-91 Part-II Detailed appropriation Accounts (Hindi

and English versions.) [Placed in Library See No. LT 2068/92]

13.39 hrs

PETITIONS

(4) A copy of the Block Accounts (including Capital Statements comprising the Loan Accounts), Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Accounts, Railways for the year 1990-91 (Hindi and English versions). [Placed in Library See No LT2069/92]

(I) **Inclusion of Khatve Community of Bihar in the Schedule to the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 Pertaining to the State of Bihar**

[*Translation*]

13.38 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[*English*]

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary General of Rajya Sabha:—

SHRI LALIT ORAON (Lohardage): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present a petition signed by Shri Kameshwar Chaupal, 8, Virchand Patel Marg, Patna (Bihar) regarding the inclusion of the Khatve Community of Bihar in the Schedule of Constitutional (Scheduled Castes) order 1950 pertaining to Bihar State.

"In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return here with the Finance Bill, 1992, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 6th May, 1992 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

(II) **Rehabilitation of Migrants from Bangladesh now residing in Begali Colony, Hastinapur, Merrut, Uttar Pradesh.**

[*English*]

13.38 1/2 hrs

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTING OF THE HOUSE

Minutes

[*English*]

SHRI PROBIN DEKA (Mangaldoi): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the sitting of the Committee on absence of Members from the Sittings of the House held on the 5th May, 1992.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman & Nicobar Islands): (Sir, I beg to present a petition signed by Shri Maralendu Malik and other migrants from Bangladesh, now residents of Begali Colony, Hastinapur, District, Merrut, Uttar Pradesh, regarding their rehabilitation.

13.40 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Group Dialling facility in Rural Areas

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILLOT): Sir, I wish to keep the House informed of two important measures that the Government is taking relating to

provisions of Group Dialling Facility in rural areas and consequential rationalisation of tariff for local calls and Trunk calls (both manual and subscriber dialled).

2. Members are aware that Government have taken steps to accelerate provisions of telecommunications facility in the rural areas. The number of exchanges in rural areas today stands at more than 15,000 against about 8,000 in the year 1982. The programme of the Government to connect all the Gram Panchayats numbering approximately 2,20,000 by 31st March, 1995 is also likely to create more demand for telecommunications facility in the rural areas.

3. These developments have resulted in a consequential demand from the rural community for providing them group dialling facility. The rural subscribers also started demanding STD service. Provisions of STD in all rural exchanges will require implementation over a period of time. As a first step, the Government have decided to introduce group-dialling facility in the rural areas. This also calls for rationalisation of charging methods for calls within the group dialling areas as also the long distance area.

4. One of the technical requirements for linking all the exchanges in the country to the National STD is the concept of short distance charging areas (SDCA) which gives a unique identity for numbering and charging with reference to other short distance charging areas. This formation of SDCA will enable rapid expansion of STD to rural areas.

5. The present charging plan for determining call charges (both for manual and subscriber dialled) requires the measurement of actual distance from each exchange to a large number of telephone exchange located in a large area. This not only places technical constraints in terms of extending STD to rural subscribers but also

becomes difficult to administer in view of the enormous increase in the telecom network and a large number of telephone exchanges which are getting commissioned every year.

6 It is, therefore, proposed that for measurement of distances the country is divided into 321 Long Distance.

Charging Areas (LDCA) which are co-terminus with then Secondary Switching Areas that from the Administrative Unit:

(i) The L.D.C.As. cover generally one or two Revenue Districts.

(ii) Each LDCA is again divided into a number of short Distance Charging Areas (SDCA) generally covering one or more Tehsils as the case may be. The area of each Short Distance Charging Area is arranged to be between 500 to 2,000 Square kilometres. With some exceptions especially in unpopulated areas of the North East, there will be a total of 2,570 SDCAs.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a technical subject and I would like to elaborate so that the hon. Members could understand.

Revised Charging Plan

7. At present, the rural subscribers have to mainly depend upon the manual trunk service for talking to neighbouring exchanges. They have also to pay trunk call charges for talking to even the neighbouring exchange which increase with distance and are costlier. With the provision of group-dialling facility, it shall now become possible for them to directly dial subscribers in the same SDCA without going through the operator. The charges for direct dialling facility within the SDCA shall also be concessional at the rate of one call unit of every 3 minutes (Rs.1/-) irrespective of the distance whether it is in to 20 Kilometers slab or more.

[Sh. Rajaesh Pilot]

7.2 Although this proposal will entail substantial loss to the Department, it is expected that with increase in telecommunications network, the same would be compensated in future. The manual trunk call charges however are proposed to be revised from Rs. 2/- to Rs. 5/- for one call unit of 3 minutes duration for the distance slab of 0 -20 kilometers which will apply for calls uniformly within or outside SDCA.

8. In respect of calls made beyond the short distance charging area, a particular exchange around the centre of the area, would be identified as the Short Distance Charging Centre (SDCC) for each SDCA and similarly a Long Distance Charging Centre (LDCC) for each LDCA.. The charges for calls made beyond the SDCA would be governed as per the distance measured:

- (a) between SDCC (Short Distance Charging Centre) to SDCC in respect of SDCAs located in the same or adjacent LDCA.
- (b) between LDCC (Long Distance Charging Centre) to LDCC in all other cases.

9. The calls within the same SDCA will be available on a level other than level 'O' (which is the code for National Subscriber Dialling) so that the STD barred subscribers will be able to make these direct dialled calls.

10. *Calls to Peripheral Towns:*

Along with revised charging plan it is also proposed to introduce a scheme by which subscribers located in two telephone systems which are adjacent to each other and have a common border are able to directly dial their calls at low tariff. This will be especially beneficial to small satellite towns around the periphery of big towns and it is

expected that the low tariff will enable the dispersal of population of big towns to the adjoining small places. These calls irrespective of distance will also be metered at one call unit for every 3 minutes. The STD barred subscribers will also be able to use this service.

Especially for Gurgaon, Sir, Shri Chandra Shekharji will be happy to know that it will be now a direct local call; the rate will be, of course, three minutes, but it won't be STD from Gurgaon to Delhi. Similarly, Sir, all the peripheral towns around the big towns will have a dialling system instead of STD to these places. Like this, Faridabad and Gaziabad will also be put on the same lines.

SHRISRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): What about Orrissa.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: It is all over the country. I just gave an example of Delhi and around— Shri Chandra Shekharji was smiling, so I gave this example. Otherwise, all over the country the same system is followed.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman & Nicobar Islands): Anything for the islands? (*Interruptions*).

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: *Multi-metering of local calls:* The need for introduction of pulsed metering even for local calls especially in large telephone systems has been engaging the attention of the Government for some time. Such a system exists in at least 30 countries in the world. Members may recall the discussions that have taken place in both the House during the Question Hour on this proposal. A large number of representations have also been received from Members, public, Subscriber's Associations and Chamber of Commerce etc. The Consultative Committee of

Parliament for the Ministry of Communications also considered the proposal and recommended pulse-metering of one call unit for 5 minutes' duration. Accordingly, it has been decided that the local calls in all systems of more than 30,000 lines capacity will be metered @ one call unit for 5 minutes duration. Presently, it is technically feasible to introduce this arrangement only in electronic exchanges.

The need for introducing time limit for local calls has been felt to decongest the network so that more calls can get completed. Though most of the subscribers are known to be restricting their calls to less than 3 minutes or so, there are commercial subscribers who have FAX machines and computers that use the local lines for very long duration to transfer data. The Government feels justified to charge such subscribers more than the normal subscribers who do not use the line for long durations. It is expected that in general, subscribers will limit their calls to 5 minutes duration that is being prescribed and this will result in better call completion and improving the efficiency of the network.

All the above schemes require considerable technical preparations to be made before implementation. It is proposed that the same will be implemented by each Telecom. Circle in the country as and when they complete the technical arrangement, and in any case, not later than 31.8.92.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): I would like to raise my personal problem in the presence of the hon. Minister. Sir, for the period of five months from 11th November 1991 to April, 1992 I have received a telephone bill of Rs. 2,22,000/- particularly in the circumstances when my telephone is always locked and I use the telephone

strangely. Even then I have been billed for 2,22,000/-.

THE STATE MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Ram Vilas speaks so much in the Parliament, so it can be imaged how much he might be speaking on the telephone. That is why the time has been reduced to five minutes, otherwise the metre keeps running on.

[*English*]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Sir, I am on a point of order. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: What is your point of order, please?

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Sir, yesterday you remember, Achariaji and I had called on you and we wanted a discussion on awarding contract to ABB for purchase of electric locomotives. (*Interruptions*). Now, the honourable Shri Kumaramangalamji said that immediately after the Minister's reply on the discussion of the Minorities Commission Bill today, thus discussion under Rule 193 will be brought. Sir, you are aware that in the List of Business paper several other Bills have been included prior to its discussion and I fear very much whether the discussion will at all be held.

MR. SPEAKER: This is exactly the point I have been making.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please hear me. Whenever we have the matters on the Agenda, they are supposed to be very important and you don't deal with them, and the matters which are not on the Agenda we discuss here. You know it very well. What do we do them?

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO

VADDE: It appears the Government is very sure to scuttle it.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. Not that.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO

VADDE: It is postponed for three times. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am sure the Minister came to me two or three times and asked for it.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO

VADDE: What is the use, Sir? But it is not being discussed.

MR. SPEAKER: This is exactly what all the Members should...

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura):

Some time should be fixed for this discussion. *(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: This is exactly either you go by the guidance given by the Presiding Officer or you yourself decide.

SHRI SHOBANADREESWARA RAO

VADDE: We accepted your suggestion on that day when the leaders of the parties were called to your room. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura):

It was decided in your room. It should be taken up today. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is really unnecessary. You wanted the discussion. It was fixed for discussion; it has been on the agenda for three days for discussion, but we have been discussing matters which are not on the agenda.

SHRI SHOBANADREESWARA RAO

VADDE: When is it going to be discussed?

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we take up matters under rule 377. Shri Birbal.

12.51 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need for financial Assistance to the Government of Rajasthan for providing relief to the Drought Prone Areas.**

[Translation]

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar): Mr. Speaker, most of the districts in Rajasthan, especially in dry farming areas of Ganganagar, Bikanar, Chura, Jaisalmar and Barmer in Western Rajasthan are faced with an emergent problem of acute shortage of fodder for cattle and drinking water in villages due to lack of rain this year is being available. At present fodder for the cattle at very high prices and that too in inadequate quantity. The purchasing power of the villagers is also woefully poor. There are no avenues of employment of available in villages. The problem of drinking water has also arisen in rural areas.

The Government has always been providing relief to those regions of Rajasthan which are deficient in rain. I, therefore, urge the Government India too take timely action to supply fodder for the animals and drinking water and provide immediate employment for the present and take proper preventive measures for the future also.

(ii) Need to Provide financial Assistance to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for Improving the Facilities at King George Hospital, Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

SHRIRAMAKRISHNA KONATHALA (Anakapalli): Sir, there is an immediate need for the improvement of medical facilities at King George Hospital (K.G.H.) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, which is one of the oldest referral hospitals in the State, established in the year 1923, attached to the Andhra Medical College, the second oldest in the State.

As is well-known that Visakhapatnam is one of the fastest growing and developing industrial cities in India, having eastern naval command headquarters, Vizag Port, Hindustan Ship Building Yard, Visakha Steel Plant, Hindustan Zinc Smelter Unit, Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels, N.S.T.L., Andhra University and many other institutions. Apart from the above background, K.G.H. is the only hospital for north Andhra and it is centrally located between Hyderabad (A.P. Capital) and Bhubaneswar (Orissa Capital) It caters the medical facilities too the people of coastal Andhra and the adjoining Orissa and Madhya Pradesh.

K.G.H. has all the minimum facilities for the on-going specialities and specialities like Cardiology, Neurology, Nephrology, Gastro Entrology, Urology, Endocrinology, Radiology etc, and Cardio-thorasic surgery, Neuro-surgery, Nephro-uro surgery, Gynic, ENT Ophthalmic surgery etc. All the above faculties are functioning with fully qualified and efficient personnel but with out dated equipment and instruments in meagre quantities.

So, I request the Central Government to provide financial assistance to the tune of Rs 10 crores to the State Government for

procuring equipments and improving facilities at K.G.H. and A.M.C.

(iii) Need to Fill up Vacancies in the North Eastern Regional Centre of National Institute of small Extension Training Guwahati

SHRI PROBIN DEKA (Mangaldoi): Sir, the North Eastern Regional Centre of National Institute of Small Industry Extension Training (NISJET) was set up at Guwahati in 1979. This is the only centre of NISJET in the whole country. The main objective of setting up the centre was to cater to the need of growing training, consultancy and research facilities to all the seven states of North Eastern Region. The Government of India showed special concern for Industrial development in the region. It is a matter of regret that since the inception of the Institute, several posts such as those of Vice-Principal and Director as also some posts in other categories are laying vacant. As a result, the Institute has failed to achieve its desired goal. Therefore, I urge on the Central Government to take necessary steps to fill up the vacant posts immediately.

(iv) Need to ensure that cold drinks containing B.V.O are not sold throughout the country

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in most of the cold drinks that are sold throughout the country, the banned borominated vegetable oil (B.V.O.) is being used openly which has proved to be harmful for human beings, and it has been proved that it can cause dreadful diseases like paralysis.

The production of such cold drinks falls into the category of crime. The fact that the it is being used in cold drinks, came to light when a food inspector in Delhi took samples

[Sh. Dau Dayal Joshi]

of cold drink, After analysis of the sample, the B.V.O. was detected in that cold drink.

This is the result of a raid on one depot, bit on the whole of India, this is being mixed and sold openly.

Some more raids have been conducted and more or less the same situation exists in respect of some other cold drinks. No effective action is being taken in the matter and the above soft drinks are being used in large quantity in this summer season. I therefore, urge upon the Central Government to bring an effective legislation immediately and till then a special drive should be launched to prevent the use of the lethal elements in the cold drinks otherwise, in future the whole of India will have to face its harmful consequences.

**(v) Need to declare the post of
ophthalmic Assistance as
Gazetted**

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the direction issued by the Central Government, Ophthalmic Assistants have been employed under the National Blindness Control programme in the district centres as well as in the Primary Health Centres all over the country. The aforesaid assistants do all the eye tests. All of them are two years diploma holders and in addition to that they are required to do one year's higher course. But they are not treated as gazetted officers and are not given the authority to issue certificates; whereas such assistance in other countries can exercise the power to issue certificates and have been provided the same powers as other medical practioners.

Therefore my submission to the Central

Government is that this post should be declared as a gazette post and the incumbents may please to given the authority to issue certificates; besides the designation of Ophthalmic Assistant should be redesignated as Ophthalmic Officer and the higher education of optomatory (Doctor of Optomatory) should be imparted within the country itself so that the blind ness control programme can be implemented in an effective manner.

**(vi) Need to Grant Licence for Setting
up Sugar Mills at Tariyani in
Sitamarhi District and Patahi in
East Champaran District Bihar**

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Sheohar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in my constituency sheohar (Bihar) Belsand, Tariyani Sheohar and Piprahi in Sitamarchi district and Dhuka, Ghodasahan, Pattahi and Chiraiya division in East Champaran district are mainly sugarcane producing areas. The climate and soil of these areas is also favourable for producing this crop. As a result sugarcane is produced at a large scale. However, due to the lack of sugar mills sugarcane can not be utilized properly, and thus product. This has generated a feeling of disinterest to grow this crop among the farmers. There has been a long standing demand of the farmers and the local residents of these areas for setting up a sugar mill there. The Government of Bihar has already submitted proposal to this effect to the Central Government.

Therefore, my submission to the Central Government is that one sugar mill each at Tariyani in Sitamarhi district and Patahi in East Champaran district should be set up without any further delay, so that the development of the region may take place.

(vii) Need to Take Steps for Solving Boundary Dispute Between Bihar and Uttar Pradesh

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, partition of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh took place through Trivedi Award; pillars were also erected there to mark the boundary line. However the boundary dispute between the two states still going on. About 1,000 (one thousand) acres of land of Isarpur and Son Varsha Gram of Shardpur region has been lying uncultivated for years together, which has been the cause of blood shed every year.

Therefore I would like the Central Government to take steps for solving Bhojpur Balia boundary dispute between Bihar and Uttar Pradesh at the earliest so that no more bloodshed takes places and the farmers can cultivate their lands.

(viii) Need to Provide Necessary Assistance for Modernising the Water Supply System In Dhankanal Orissa

[English]

SHRI P.K. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal):
Sir, historic Dhenkanal, district headquarter town in Orissa, has developed into a sprawling urban municipality in the last decade and a half. Surrounded in the foothills of the Garjat hill ranges of Orissa on NH 42 now boasts of a population of 49,000. It is 100 KM from the State capital of Bhubaneswar attracting many large and medium-scale industries, educational, cultural and sociological institutions apart from administrative officers and buildings. This is also serving as statellite city to Bhubaneswar and Cuttack, the commercial capital of Orissa.

Drinking water and piped water in the modern town is pathetic and appalling. The State Government, the Municipality, have

time and again been pressing the World Bank assistance to augment modernise the archaic water supply system. The Central Government is urged to take steps to finalise expeditiously the water supply system to prevent a serious situation.

14.00 hrs.

(ix) Need for CBI Inquiry in the Incident of Atrocities on Harijans at Sunakara Village Aligarh District Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRIRAM VILLAS PASWAN (Roser):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, about 22 families of scheduled castes live in Sunkara village under Gonda Police station of Aligarh district in Uttar Pradesh. Majority of them are landless labourers. About 7-8 persons are employed as constables in Uttar Pradesh Police and one persons is employed as constables in Central Reserve Police Force. On 19.3.92 people of upper caste of the village attached the House of Dalits and trunk their houses. Their women were dishonoured. The injured include the CRPF jawan, his wife and all other members of his family. Nobody was allowed to get out of his house. But when these victims went to the police station to lodge an FIR, the station-incharges rather registered a report against them. I personally paid a visit to Harthras. Those downtrodden people of the village are still in custody. It is a serious matter.

Therefore, I urge the Central Government to order a CBI inquiry in to the whole incident and take strict action immediately against the accused persons and the officials found guilty in order to protect the life and property of the people.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at.

14.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then Adjourned for Lunch
Till Fifteen of the Clock*

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch
at Five minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM (Katihar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, I have given my name seeking your permission to speak on the Minorities Bill.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I just want to speak for two minutes, about the tragedy which took place in my constituency in Orissa. On account of this liquor tragedy in Cuttack, more than 300 people have die. I just came in the morning so, I could not give the notice to mention this matter. But I was there on the spot. That is why, I want to speak for two minutes about what has really happened. I was told that yesterday also, this issue was raised. Though it has been officially reported that 260 persons were dead, it is now more than 300. And more than 500 people are being treated in the hospitals. This is a very said incident. Though the State Government has instituted an ordinary enquiry, I feel that there should be a judicial enquiry on this affair.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands): Why do you not demand that the Government should resign?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: So, Shri Jena, you want that an enquiry should be conducted.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not want to make it a political issue. More than 300 people have

died and there are about 500 people in the hospitals. People are keep on coming to the hospitals for treatment. And anybody who is responsible for this kind of a thing should be booked immediately.

Secondly, there should be a judicial probe on the whole episode because the Director General of Police, he wrote a letter to the Collector, six months back that he has information about this illicit liquor trading. And the Collector, the administration and the police, they did not take any action and subsequently this has happened. That is why, a judicial probe should be conducted.

Thirdly, there should be a total prohibition. I only requested Shri Advaniji in 1978 when Shri Morarji Desai was the Prime Minister, for this. In the National Prohibition Council, there was a recommendation that there should be a total prohibition and the prohibition should start from Orissa and the target was fixed that by 1980, there should be total prohibition and the revenue loss would be compensated by the Central Government. I will now request the Welfare Minister, since Orissa State is the poorest State and we 40 per cent of the population belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, to compensate the Orissa Government for the total Prohibition. Whatever may be the revenue loss, the Government of India should compensate.

I demand a total prohibition in Orissa and I also urge upon the Government of India at compensate whatever may be the revenue loss to the Government of Orissa.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is not the time. Let us go back to the regular debate.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Sir, I agree with the part. But on the second part....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You do one thing. We shall have a discussion on this as an independent subject.

SHRISRIBALLAVPANIGRAHI: Sir, Shri Jena is a very influential member of the Janata Dal, which is the ruling party in Orissa. I would like to know whether he has also spoken or placed this demand before the State Government. An ordinary enquiry would be merely an eye-wash. *(Interruptions)*

15.00 hrs.

[English]

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR
MINORITIES BILL:- *CONTD.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us not convert this into a Zero Hour.

Shri Dennis to continue his speech. Let us not go deep into the matter.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Panigrahiji, upto 1979-90, this liquor trading was reduced to 50 per cent.. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us not involve in a discussion. It is not the subject before is. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Whatever you wanted to tell, you have definitely done so. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we shall take up the debate.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I took this permission from you only to submit because it had happened in

my parliamentary constituency. That is why I requested you that it should be heard and not that it should be made a political issue.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Anyhow you have ventilated your grievances. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have brought it to the notice of the Government.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I request the hon. Members to have their seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us not demand a discussion. Where is the subject before us for discussion?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is not the subject -matter.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us not deviate from the rules.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, Member from Sambalpur understands the problems. This kind of thing happened in Delhi also. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No cross-talk please.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: More than 300 people died in Delhi itself. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us come to the normal conditions.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us carry on the debate.

(Interruptions)

SHRISRIKANTA JENA: Will you please agree for a total prohibition? *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is an independent subject.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N. DENNIS (Nagercoil): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while supporting the Bill, I wish to make a few points. The proposal for constitution of a national commission for minorities with statutory status is a step in the right direction. It reflects the secular intentions of the Government. The Bill creates a sense of security among the minorities. It also enables to monitor the working of the safeguards provided in the Constitution for the minorities.

I would like to make some suggestions in the clauses and sub-clauses of the Bill. As per clause 3(2), two out of seven Members can be from non-minority communities. I would like to suggest that it can be one. The Commission is for protecting the interests of minorities. A large number of sections comprises minorities. They would like to get accommodate in the Minorities Commission. Moreover, inclusion of more non-minority member in the Minorities Commission would lead difference of opinion thereby that confrontation and it would affect the smooth and effective working of the Commission. Again, in Clause (2), it is seen that the Government would nominate persons of eminence of ability and integrity. The terms used are very wide and general. the nominee should be a person commanding respect and confidence of the minorities.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Dennis, hon. Minister would like to say something now.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRIRANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, it was decided yesterday, in one way, that the Minister would be replying today and we would have this Bill over quickly. There are a number of other matters including discussion on ABB which some Members wanted to discuss. There is a general feeling that today, as far as possible, let us not try and extend the time of the House. In all circumstances, I request that the reply of the Minister could be fixed at 4.15 PM and those who were waiting in queue to speak may be permitted to speak. The Minister may be called to reply at 4.15 PM, if the House agrees. Otherwise, all other business would get upset. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM (Katihar): Then, why do you fix the time for reply?

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: The allotted time was four hours. We have crossed that time well over.

SHRILAL K. ADVANI: The House should also be apprised as to which of these Bills are to be taken up because the list of business that I have seen includes Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill, Army (Amendment) Bill, Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Bill, Air Corporations (Transfer of Undertakings and Repeat) Bill and added to them is the Short Duration Discussion on M/s ABB. I am sure that anyone can see that this kind of business listed for one day cannot be completed. You just cannot do it. So, it would be proper and fair to the House if it is apprised in advance. You have proposed that the answer to the National Commission for Minorities Bill can be at 4.15 PM. After that, we can go straight to the Short Duration Discussion and leave the rest...

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: It will be after the reply of the Minister Clause-by-Clause consideration, etc.

SHRI LAL. K. ADVANI: I am saying that after the Bill is disposed of, then at the most, we can take up the discussion on electric locomotives. No other legislative business should be there, This would be my submission.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARA-MANGALAM: With due respect to the Leader of the Opposition, there is only one small Bill in addition to the National Minorities Commission Bill which we have been interested to pass, that is, the next item. It is Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill. It is a very simple Bill and will take only a few minutes. Regarding the test of it, I would agree with the Leader of the Opposition that we can have them in the next Session. These are the two matters. Then, we can go to the discussion on M/s ABB. But there is one problem. The more amount of time we take on Minorities Bill, the less chance of M/s ABB discussion to become fruitful. I think I should bring it to the notice of all the hon. Members.

SHRI N. DENNIS: A person who is commanding confidence and respect among the minorities should be included in the Commission and the persons who are not interested in the commission and the persons who are not interested in the welfare of the minorities, should not be included in the Commission, There is no specific guidance or norms provided in the Bill for inclusion of persons in the Commission., There should be prescription of specific norms for the nomination of persons in the Commission.

15.20 hrs.

[RAO RAM SINGH *in the Chair*]

Regarding Clause 3(f) viz, removal of

Members, the hon. Minister has given an amendment. The amendment is for "public interest" substitute "interests of minorities or the public interest". Public interest should not be interpreted to the disadvantage of minorities. A Member who belongs to a minority community, in the transaction of his obligations as a Member of the Minority Commission may get the displeasure of non-minority communities. In that way, that should not be taken as a disqualification for his continuance as a Member of the Minority Commission.

Regarding Clause 9(1) - Functions of the Commission - I would say, it is laudable and timely. The implementation of their functions would help in solving many problems faced by the minorities so far. But, there is some sort of a difficulty in implementing Clause 9 (1) viz. "The Commission shall perform all or any of the following functions". The Commission should perform all the functions and not any one of the functions or one or two functions. The transaction would be full only if all the functions are performed by the Commission. So, the words "all or any of the following" should be deleted in order to facilitate or enable the Commission to perform all the functions stated in Clause 9 (1).

In Clause 9(b), it is stated that: "It would monitor the working of the safeguards provided in the Constitution and in laws enacted by Parliament and the State Legislatures".

In the Constitution, a number of Articles are provided for the protection and safeguard of minorities, viz. Articles 14, 15, 16, 25, 26, 29, 30 and also for linguistic minorities Article 350 C (1 and 2). Though these provisions for their safeguards are provided in the Constitution, often these provisions are violated and flouted. There are frequent interference in the rights of the minorities. To cite instances in Article 30(1) of the

Constitution the minorities are given the right to establish and administer educational institutions. But, in the establishment of educational institutions, there are hurdles created by the State Governments. Often they are not giving recognition to establish educational institutions and administering. Moreover the State Governments are interfering in the administration of the educational institutions established by the minorities. In such circumstances, the minority institutions are seeking remedies through the courts to redress their grievances. On several occasions, the Courts have passed the orders redressing their grievances. Recently, in one of the cases viz. Saint Stephen's College, a decision given under Article 30(1) of the Constitution has reduced the power of minorities and there is erosion in the interpretation of Articles 29(2) and 30(1) while clubbing them together.

The newly formed Commission should take steps to safeguard the rights of the minorities as provided in Article 30(1) of the Constitution.

Moreover, in Clause 10 of this Bill the quantum of grant to be provided for meeting the financial expenses of the Commission is provided. But the specific amount has not been mentioned. Adequate amount has to be given for the effective functioning of this Commission.

Clause 8 of the Bill Speaks about convening of the meetings of the Commission but the minimum number of meetings to be conducted by the Commission is not mentioned. That means the Commission can postpone the convening of meetings for a very long time and that would affect the functioning of the Commission.

Another point I would like to mention is that the 15-Point Programme has to be implemented effectively. It has not so far been implemented effectively and

appropriate directions have to be given to the State Government and also the concerned Ministries for the effective implementation of the programme.

About communal harmony it is necessary that sensitive areas should be identified and the Government has to take steps to prevent the occurrence of riots in such areas.

Regarding reservation of jobs adequate job opportunities should be given to the minorities proportionate to their population either by way of reservation by any appropriate methods. Also, a person from a minority community has to be included in the recruiting Committee to deal with this.

Article 350 B of the Constitution speaks the linguistic minorities. They are there in every State but they find it very difficult to pursue their studies in their mother tongue as schools and other facilities are not available to them. Even sections of Classes the schools where linguistic minorities live in spite of respected representations. They thus face lot of inconvenience and difficulties. After passing the examination in their mother tongue, they are not getting employment opportunities in their own State. Adequate measures have to be taken to safeguard their right to study in mother tongue and to get employment opportunities.

A time limit may be fixed for them to acquire knowledge of the State Language so that the linguistic minorities do not find any difficulty in getting employment opportunities.

Lastly, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister another important problem, which he knows. Recently Scheduled Caste converts to Buddhism have been included in the list of Scheduled Castes. Likewise the Scheduled Caste persons who have embraced Christianity should also be included in the list of Scheduled Castes. Several representations have been made to

the hon. Minister, to the Prime Minister and also to the Government on this matter. This is nothing but denial of opportunities under Article 15 and 25 of the constitution where in dealing with freedom of religion is guaranteed.. The hon. Minister may kindly look into this and ensure that the necessary steps to be taken to include the Scheduled Caste Christians too in the list of Scheduled Caste.

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT (Varanasi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose this Bill. I have two important points which I would like to place before the House. Giving statutory status to minority commission would just mean preventing the problem of majority and minority forever. You claim that it is necessary because for more than the last 42 years, since we got independence, minorities have not been given protection. The question is, which party has been ruling at centre from the day we got independence till today—either it was congress or the parties supported by congress party. Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Lal Bahadur Shastri, Shri Rajiv Gandhi and our present Prime Minister too all are the members of Congress Party; and the other Prime Ministers like Shri Morarji Desai, Shri Chandra Shekar. Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh—they also belonged basically to congress culture. Since independence till today the Congress Governments have been adopting a policy which can be termed as appeasement policy. We are as much against minorities as against majoritism, we do not want even a single right to be given only to majority communities and this depriving the majority communities from that should be meant for all the citizens irrespective of communities. In this context I would like to quote an example of Shri. V.V. John, the educationalist and the member of minority commission. It must be given attention.

[English]

"We would be less than just to the idea of secularism if we view it as a concession by the religious majority in the State to the minorities".

"It is possible to establish one's secular credentials by denouncing the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Singh while making deals with communal parties and seeking the political support of religious demagogues"

[Translation]

What is the cause that today, even after many years of independence the minorities do not find themselves secure. The Government only wants to create a vote bank while pretending to safeguard the interests of the minorities.

The most interesting thing is that the authority to decide which are the minority-communities is with the Central Government. The word 'community' has been used which does not necessarily mean religious communities.

[English]

Bengalis are a community, Gujaratis are a community, Brahmins are a committee, Kshatriyas are a community. It is stated here.

"minority", for the purposes of this Act, means a community notified as such by the Central Government"

Which community? Brahmins are a community, Gujaratis are a community. You can name anybody as community, and the result will be that more and more groups of citizens will strive to get the minority position.

[Sh. Shreesh Chandra Dikshit]

[Translation]

What would be its result? Should we bring about unity and integration in the country or should we act in such a way that our country is disintegrated? The Government should provide minority rights too every community that calls itself a separate community. But it will have its disastrous consequences. If one looks into the freedom struggle. One will find that the ultimate result was the division of India into two parts. It had begun in this very manner. First of all, proportional representation in the matter of services was demanded. Later on a demand was made to provide proportional land on the basis of their population. If a special status is granted to minorities in the matter of services, in the legislature or such other matters there are chances that these minorities may never try to integrate themselves in the national main stream, after getting special status. They will never try to come to the main stream. Why should they try to do so? Nobody would like to harm one's community by joining the national stream and extending his support to the majority community. The result would be that this problem of majority and minority would continue to persist and instead of moving towards solving the problem of majority and minority after 42 years of independence, we will make it permanent for ever by enacting a law. The commission which you are going to constitute....

[English]

It will be only a handmaid of the Central Government and it will provide an opportunity to the Central Government to whip any allegedly recalcitrant State Government.

[Translation]

Because all the powers will rest with the

Central Government. It will appoint the members. It will fix their pay and decide all terms and conditions of their appointment. It would also have the powers to remove them. You just go through it. It has been mentioned therein -

[English]

"The Central Government shall remove a person from the office of Chairperson or a member referred to in sub-section (2) if that person —

x x x

(f) in the opinion of the Central Government, has so abused the position of Chairpersons or member as to render that person's continuance in office detrimental to the public interest".

[Translation]

All these reasons have been given in which make this Commission totally a handmaid of the Central Government and it will function according to the wish of the Government. One can just think of a Commission whose Members are appointed by the Government and who could be removed by the Government. The service conditions of Members as also their pay would be fixed by the Government. The Commission would become the handmaid of the Government whichever comes to power at the centre. That is why we are totally opposed to this Bill. I as well as my party has never advocated for providing any special status to the minorities or majority....

(Interruptions) Sir, it is not possible. You have given so much time to those people who were supporting the Bill, now I would also like to place my point of view. I would like to submit to you... (Interruptions) They did not speak against me, but they spoke against the Bill. We should be given time to speak against the Bill. Because maximum people

have spoken in support of the Bill. We too want to express our view point... During discussion, it has been mentioned that every few people belonging to minority community have been recruited in the cadres of I.A.S., I. P.S. and other Central Services. What does it mean? Do you mean that all the Public Service Commissions, Recruiting bodies, Union Public Service Commission, Provisional Service Commissions, Subordinate service Commissions, recruit the people in the army, Defence Forces or in the police on communal lines? If the members of minority community could not be recruited are their representation is inadequate, do you want to blame Union Public Service Commission, Provincial Service Commission and Recruiting Bodies for that? You should know it that if the members of minority Communities have not been recruited or are not recruited, it means that they are not capable and qualified. Those who are capable, they will certainly be selected. Mr. Shahabuddin was himself selected. A number of intelligent people have been recruited., To hold the Commissions responsible for their inadequate representation in the cadres of I.A.S., I.P.S. and Central Services and Provisional Services, is not justified. I am not ready to accept this view.

[English]

There should neither be a majority community, nor a minority community. There are no minority community rights and there are no majority community rights, there are only human rights and that is precisely what we want.

We simply want that every citizen in the country should have equal status.

I would like to say one thing more. Many big people visit foreign countries. You might have found in several countries in the world that the majority community enjoys more rights than those of minority communities in

those countries. Except South Africa, in all the other countries of the world majority communities enjoy more rights than the minority communities. In the advanced countries the fundamental differences are almost nil, whatever the differences are, they are insignificant. For instance, in England none other than the persons belonging to Protestant Christianity can become the king and similarly in America too the President can only be a person belonging to Christianity. Leaving aside these few insignificant things, there is no other country where minority communities enjoy rights which the majority communities do not-whether it is the land, employment, human rights or any other field.. It is only in India that they have been given special protection for about 42 years. When we find that by following this policy for 42 years. When we find that by following this policy for 42 years, the position has further worsened, then we must think as to whether it would be wise to strengthen the policy which is sure to be proved harmful to us, Therefore, my submission is that the bill resented here is not in the interest of the country.

Sir, I would also like to point out that yesterday, when you were in the Chair, the Hon. Members who spoke in favour of this Bill raised Ram Janam Bhoomi Babri Masjid issue and the other members heard them patiently. Therefore, I also have full right to express my views on this issue.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dixit, if you are implying any partiality on the part of the Chair, then, it is not correct.

[Translation]

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: My submission is that Sir, you were in the Chair and you and yourself have heard the Members raising this issue. I am just making

[Sh. Shreesh Chandra Dikshit]

a request. I cannot dare to level any charge on the Chair. If at all the Hon'ble Chair has gathered such an impression from my speech, I seek apologise for that, I did not really mean it.

Two points are stressed upon time and again - that the Ram Janam Bhoomi - Babri Masjid dispute can be settled either through negotiations or through court. In regard to the negotiations, I would like to submit that when Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh was the Prime Minister, Government had given an assurance in writing to solve this problem within four months. The Prime Minister Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, in regard to this dispute had made an appeal to Vishwa Hindu Parishad and various other parties connected with it that Government should be given time to consult the all the parties.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): I am on a point of order. Something is referred from a document. The document which he has referred to is not made clear. I think, it may not be proper to admit the contents of the document and allow him to read the document as such. He has referred to something which was passed on to VHP.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will examine that document, if it is all right, it is all right. If the document is not all right, then we will decide about it.

[Translation]

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: To discuss the matter with all the political parties, they needed some time; because it is an issue which is related to the sentiments of the masses and we all together can help to solve this problem. In the end Shri

Vishwanath Pratap Singh expressed hope to find the solution to the problem within four months. At this assurance of the Hon. Prime Minister, we postponed the construction work of the temple which was to be started in February. On Oct 30, 1989 the construction work was started with ' car—seva ' by the volunteers and the hon. Minister knows that it had resulted in blood shed at large scale.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would request you to kindly stick to the subjects.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: If all of you speak at the same time, I cannot hear.

SHRI BHUVAN CHANDRA (Garhwal): Sir, this sort of objection was raised by me yesterday. I said, the people on the other side should talk on the Minorities Commission Bill only. But the Chair has turned down my objection and said this matter is relevant and it can be referred to. Now, Shri Dixit is speaking on the same subject as it was spoken yesterday.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Look, I cannot say anything in regard to the precedent you are quoting. However, I will find out the exact position and let you know.

[English]

I would only request you now, please do not use precedent to start discussing the subjects which are beyond the scope of this Bill.

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: I am only speaking on the subject and I may be allowed to continue. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

When Shri Chandra Shekar became the Prime Minister of the country, he constituted a committee; talks were held with both the sides. The then Minister of State in the Ministry of Home affairs Shri Subodh Kant Sahay, the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Shri, Mulayam Singh Yadav, the Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Chief Minister of Maharashtra Shri Pawar and others participated in the talks. It was decided that both the sides should put forth their views and then the Government would take a final decision And in the end.... (Interruptions)

[English]

This is the paper on which the persons who are sitting on the Opposition side have side have said: We need at least six weeks time to produce relevant evidence and to visit Ayodhya.

[Translation]

After that, they stopped taking part in the meetings so we had no one to have a dialogue in this regard. How, you say that we would sort out the matter through negotiations. When Shri Vishwanath Pratap was the Prime Minister, he gave an assurance in writing to solve the problem in four months, but soon after that his Government was out of power and no decision could be taken. When Shri Chandra Shekar came in to power, he invited for negotiations, again we accepted the proposal but he was also out of power very soon. We are still ready to solve this problem through negotiations but the Government prefers court to talks. So far as the court is concerned, they consider the incident to have taken place on December 22-23, 1949. Sunni Central Wakf Board lodged their claim in December, 1961.

[English]

except 18th December 1961 i.e., 11 years, 11 months and 25 days after that.

MR CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dikshit, please wind up.

There are a number of other speakers. The hon. Minister has to reply.

[Translation]

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: If the mosque had unauthorisedly been occupied then why did these people remain silent for 11 years, 11 months and 25 days. We requested the Supreme Court, High Court and also the special High Court Bench to decide the matter at the earliest, even by taking day to day evidences, In 1987 a special bench of High Court was appointed to decide this matter. About four years have passed since then, but the matter has not made even a little progress, What will be the consequences? But in regard to the Bill you have introduced I can produce a number of evidences however, I have to obey your order to conclude soon I would try to conclude as soon as possible., Whatever we have done, was in accordance with the law., we haven't taken any step in violation of the law. We took this matter to High Court and Supreme Court. I have the judgments given by these two courts with me and I can produce them to prove that we had not done anything in violation of the law.

[English]

MR, CHAIRMAN: Please wind up. You have already taken more than 20 minutes. The hon. Minister has to reply at 16.15 hrs

[Translation]

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT: My submission is that this may please be found out as to how many minutes these people have spoken.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are asking me to find out how many minutes somebody else spoken. I am sorry I am in no position to find

out now. It is decided that the hon. Minister will reply at 16.15 hrs. There are eight speakers. I can only divide the time equally between them.

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT:
Please give me only two more minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Frank Anthony, please give Mr. Dikshit another two minutes only.

[Translation]

SHRI SHREESH CHANDRA DIKSHIT:
We think that the proposed Bill is not in the interest of the national. It will aggravate the problems relating to minorities and religion. It will create hurdles in the way of integrity. More and more people will declare themselves belonging to the minority. It will lead to fragmentation instead of integration in the country. The law, which is being enacted, will be considered as a black law. It will be considered very bad in the history of the country. Today we regret the day on which we effected partition. The same will happen to it and we will regret as to why did we pass such a Bill. In the coming days people will not forgive us for it. With these words, I strongly oppose this proposed Bill since I consider it to be anti-national. I consider it against the national integration, therefore I oppose this Bill.

[English]

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY (Nominated Anglo-Indian): Mr. Chairman, may I say with great respect to the hon. Minister in charge of this Bill that I find it a largely meaningless Bill?

I had the privilege of arguing at least 30 minority cases winning most on 29 and losing ironically the last one to my Premier school in Delhi. Fortunately now, it has been referred to five judges. I was asked to

comment on some two judgments and I said in terms it is a peace of judicial legislation which is utterly irrelevant and baseless, Six persons are being appointed or due to be appointed under this Bill and under Clause 14, they are all public servants. To me that means that not a single Member of this House who would like to be a Member would be prepared to serve on this meaningless body. What I feel is this. The Supreme Court has already passed judgments and the one particular judgment that I have in mind is as to how a minority is assessed, They say that a minority is assessed by its position in a particular State. It may be a majority elsewhere, But it is a minority in a particular State and then it has the right postulated in this Constitution. I myself had argued the case for the Arya Samaj College in Punjab. I happened to win that case, On the fine day the Rya Samaj Hindus had become a minority in Punjab. What I find here is that you have a body of six persons, I not one of whom can be meaningful Member of this House. What they say, to my mind, carries no mandatory connotation at all. Whatever they say, it can only be some kind of a request at best which can be ignored. I am quite certain that if they make a request to certain States, then they will not read it at all and they will send it to the nearest waste-paper basket. The word 'statutory' has been very widely used. What is the implication of the word 'statutory'? Can you possibly erode by one word, one letter the fundamental Rights already guaranteed to the minorities? I happened to be an elected Member of the Constituent Assembly. I had a little to do with the various decisions that concerns the minorities. For instance, there is Article 16 (1) which says:

" There shall be equality of opportunity for all citizens.... That article recognise all citizens. It covers the minorities. There shall be equality of opportunity in the matter of employment in the State. Article 16(2) so another Fundamental Right which says that there shall be no discrimination of sex, caste

etc. Today, we have imposed on us the curse of casteism. For a particular Government, for 15 years, it was an agonising period. They increased the number of castes. There was a particular Caste Body and it numbered the castes as 3474. But this particular Government, over this agonising period of 15 months, increased the number of over 4000. Can this six persons body, however eminent they may be outside this House, attempt to erode by one letter the content of Article 61? What does Article 31 say? It gives some right to the minorities. I am mostly talking of the linguistic minorities, it refers to the religious minorities also. So, the minorities have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice. In the case that I had argued with regard to Kerala in the Supreme Court with regard to the Anglo-Indian Schools, I was the only person to win the case. Why did I win the case? Because, the six Judges have said that the Anglo-Indian Schools in Kerala do not get my aid, ex-gratia. (*Interruptions*) So, as I was saying, I was the only person to win that case. There were other distinguished Judges. The Chief Justice late became the vice-president he argued on behalf of the Hindi Schools.

16.00 hrs.

The six Judges held that they do not get any aid ex-gratia, and if a minority school is running reasonably well, then no Government can say one word to them in the administration of their schools. And that was reported in 1975 SCR. Now, almost everyday, we have divergent judgments by two Judges and that is a tragedy. What will happen?

I used to go to Chandigarh and to Punjab High Court. And they had some very brilliant Sikh Judges and some of them, for some reason, have trusted me more than their own people. And when I came back, I was a Member of the National Integration Committee and I was joining with late Rajiv

Gandhi. Ji said I was looking very tired. I said I argued three full cases in one day, and I went on to win all the three. I do not know whether I should say this. He said, "Why do you not recommend somebody worthwhile?" I said, I had never done it and it is against my nature to recommend people, and I am sorry that I did not do it. Later on, the position became such in the Supreme Court. I say this with great respect - that except for one judge - the chief justice - the other Judges, eminent in their own fields like Income-Tax laws or in some other law, did not know anything about the judgments on Criminal Law, or about the rent cases, admissions, or life sentences. There used to be 40 cases in one day, 40 cases Special Leaves. I used to do five or seven Special Leaves in one day.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are running short of time. May I respectfully request you to stick to the subject in hand which is about the Minorities Bill.

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY: What can they do now? For instance, with regard to a State that gives all the benefits meant for the backward classes to the most wealthy, economically the most prosperous persons. This is what they are doing. In some States, they have given 78 per cent of reservations to the most powerful, the so-called backward classes. This is what has happened. And this is what is going to happen with this Bill. This Bill is going to encourage the destruction of secularism. Now, you got over 4,000 castes. What will happen? They will say, you take the majority. Let the President of India whether he is worth to or not, however unworthy he may be, as the person belongs to a particular caste and the caste he belongs runs into ten millions, he must be made as Presents of India. What mandatory powers have you got under this Bill? That is what I want to know. What can you say to a State to show that it carries out your direction - statutory or whatever they may be said to be? What can

[Sh. Frank Anthony]

you say to the Centre except make a very respectful request. What I am trying to say is this what I would like to ask that this matter be referred for further consideration., What is going to happen is this. It will be used for building up vote banks by people who have increased their numbers by millions. Between 1950-60, the number of Scheduled Castes increased by a thousand castes in order to get these benefits., So I am pleading with my friend. I asked him whether he is going to be the Minister In-charge? He said no. Then, I am going to plead with him to hold this up a little and consider it further.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Sir, I am thankful to you for the time. I am aware of the time constraint. , I will be very brief.

This particular Bill has been brought forward to give statutory validity to the Minorities Commission that was set up in January, 1978. To that extent, I am sure, it will give self-confidence and more sense of belonging to the minority communities.

I am not going into the details of the Bill because that has been extensively discussed here. But I would like to highlight one or two points. In the past few years, much has been said about the mixing up of religion and politics. It is said that it is only because of religion and politics that all the trouble is there. But I do not subscribe to that view. It is not exactly the mixing up of religion with politics but it is the mixing up of religious fundamentalism and communalism with politics. And for political ends, we misuse religion which is love, all embracing.

But instead of that, we preach hatred and enmity., In this context, I would like to quote very short quotations from two books.

First, I quote from a book "The message of Jesus Christ " written by Gandhiji:

" The rich and radiant personality of Jesus cast a fascinating spell over him. " The gentle figure of Christ ", so patient, so kind, so loving, so full of forgiveness that he taught his followers not to retaliate when abused or struck, but to turn other cheek - it was a beautiful example, I thought, of the perfect man " .

This is exactly the message of Christ given to the whole mankind. But unfortunately we know, at no point of time, even those who are supposed to follow the teachings of Christ, adhere to it, Instead of love, there is hatred.

I also quote from another book " Anna Ramayan ", written by Shri Sadguru Devai Anand Namah. I quote this because you know what has been happening in the country during the last three years. I do not want to mention any disputed issues here like Ramjanam Bhoomi or Sabri Masjid. But I will say that here is a book written by a famous saint. And I quote from page 106 of this book:

" Tumh Te Adhik Gurahi Jiy Jani, Sakal bhav sevahi Sanmmani, Kaam Krodh MadMaan Na MMoha, Lobh Na Kshoob Na Raag Na Droha, Jinh Ke Kapat Na Dambh Na Maya, Tinh Ke Hridaya Basahu Raghuraya."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Charles, in which language are you speaking?

SHRI A. CHARLES: Sir, I know only a little Hindi.

Now I quote the elucidation in English:

" Looking upon the Holy Master as greater, Serving with devotion and due honor.

Eradicating lust, anger, attachment, arrogance,

Without greed, hypocrisy, deceit and malice.

In such a pure heart free from illusion,

Abide Thou O Lord Rama, of Divine Vision.

This is exactly the abode of Lord Rama. We on this side uphold every religion.

It still goes on and I quote:

"On reaching Rishi Balmk's Ashram, Bhagwan Ram enquired of the Muni as to where He should live.... "

Those who looked upon their preceptor as greater than yourself and wait upon him with due honour and devotion, who have no lust, anger, arrogance, pride or infatuation, are without greed, excitement, attraction or aversion and who are free from fraud, hypocrisy and deceit-it is in their heart that you should abide, O chief of Raghus. That is the gracious abode for you".

This is where exactly I say that Shri Ram should live. In all humility I ask the hon. Members, whether if Shri Ram is to appear again, will he go to that disputed land which is full of enemy, full of hatred and full of fight? I leave this with you, Sir. So, this is the problem in the last few years. We are using religious fundamentalism and all sorts of communalism for political ends. Now, one hon. Member said here that there should not be any minority right or majority right, there should be only human rights. With all the strength at my command, I support that. But I would like to draw the attention of this august House, through you, to the grossest discrimination that has been shown to a small section of the minorities, namely, the

Scheduled Castes converted into Christians, Now, the senior most hon. Member, Shri Frank Anthony referred to Article 16 (2) of our Constitution which says:

" No citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race caste, sex, descent, place of birth residence or any of them be ineligible for, or discriminated against in respect of, any employment or office under the State ".

What is the present condition of the Scheduled Castes Christians? They are discriminated only because they have converted themselves into Christians. The moment he re-converts into Hinduism, all benefits are given to him. Sir, I am a student of law but I am not practicing it. I say that this is the grossest injustice and it violates Article 16(2) of our Constitution. We, in this great august House, are having a close mind. When the Janata Dal Government was there, the then Minister, Shri Maswan was piloting the Bill where concessions were given to the neo-Buddhists. I personally meet him and I pleaded with him that this is the only time available and this injustice can be removed unanimously. And he said, " Mr Charles, we are opening the door. Let us pass the Bill and I am sure that before long, injustice will be rectified". Then I said, " Do not say that we are opening the door. The door is already open. All that you have to do is just add one word " scheduled Castes, converted to Christianity/neo-Buddhists." At that time itself the whole thing would have been over. I told him that before long the door will be closed, then it will be very difficult to open it again. I am saying this to our hon. Members who now say that there need not be minority or majority rights but there should be only human rights. Let us remove this discrimination unanimously as a very negligible section of the community has been suffering.

While concluding, I would say that I

[Sh. A. Charles]

belong to a minority community and I only say that I had never had any minority complex in my life. I am proud to say that this is one of the rests of the countries where the minorities have a sense of belonging and the rights of the minorities are protected and the hopes and aspirations of the minorities are always protected. I would like to bring to the notice of this august House that during the last four decades of our Republic, there had been two persons from the minority community of Muslim holding the high office of Rashtrapati.

Sir, the Sikh community does not even constitute two per cent. But one from their community had held the highest office of this great country.

Sir, I come from Trivandrum, the Capital City of Kerala, It is highly educated constituency. Eighty per cent of my constituency people are caste Hindus; people with a rich culture. This is the third time that a minority Christian has been elected from those constituency I feel proud of my country. Mr. Shahabuddin has been trying to claim whether he is a Muslim Indian or Indian Muslim. I never had any doubt about my identity. I am an Indian when I speak of my nation. I am a Christian in respect of religion and that is my private life. Every drop of my blood is an Indian.

So, I am glad to say that the minorities are in the mainstream and I only plead with the majority community that they should not create dissensions.

What about Article 370? By giving a special status, you have given a sense of confidence to the minority community.

With these few words. I support the Bill

because, it will give confidence for the minorities to feel that they are the children of this great country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. gentlemen, now, the time is 4.15 p.m. The reply was to begin at 4.15 p.m. But, I find that there are still four or five Members who are very keen to speak on this Bill.

So, I suggest, if the House agrees, to extend the time by another half an hour and then the reply of the hon. Minister may start. Is that all right.

Several hon. Members: Yes

[Translation]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it would have been far better if our friends of B.J.P. had support this Bill. So this Bill is a slap on the face of the Congress Government today. They have been ruling for the past 40-45 years and now they have to bring this Bill, There are only checkpoints of the safeguards given in the Constitution. There is no question of reservation in this Bill and I wanted to discuss a great deal about it but time is very short.

Hon. Member Dikshitiji has just now cited an example while participating in the discussion that the able Muslim are not found in the higher judiciary services then how they will be recruited, My submission is that it is a slap on the face of the Congress I am quoting from the Report of the Minority Commission. It was constituted during the tenure of the Janta Government. This is Dr. Gopal Singh report. The Janata Government wanted to do a lot for them. I am reading out the administrative recruitment figures:

Year	No. of Total recruitment	No. of Muslims
1971	87	1
1972	42	1
1973	124	3
1974	141	1
1975	129	2
1976	138	5
1977	158	10
1978	134	10
1979	117	3
1980	124	1

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is this in the Central Government recruitment

SHRI SAYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN:
Yes in administrative service.

[Translation]

I am laying more emphasis on the figures of the year 197 - 78, when the Janata Government was there. The member of recruitment increased from 1-2 to 10. During both the years of the Janata Government 10 Muslims were recruited each year. May I ask from Shri Advani and Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who were in the Janata Party Government, as to whether they had recruited 10 Muslims each year to appease them or were there able persons in the Muslim community? Such things are not good. Is the recruitment policy being implemented keeping in mind the communal view? Its root lies somewhere

else. Nepotism is rampant in the country. The educated persons have migrated from here after partition. Even in the Hindi Community one will not be recruited unless he enjoys patronage from high - ups. The case of Muslim community is altogether different. The question is not of the reservation, though the list prepared for the minority community includes Christians, Buddhists, Sikhs, Parsis and Muslims, Sikhs are getting little benefit from schedule Caste and schedule Tribe quota. Neo-Buddhists are also deriving benefits from the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes quota. The Central Government is to see whether proper function is going on in the safeguards or not and whether double standard are not being adopted at any place.

Raising the issue of Ram-Janam Bhoomi and Babri Masjid is useless., That is a wrong approach. If you go through the reports of the committee the enrolment in primary standard is satisfactory. If you permit me I

[Sh. Sayed Masudal Hossain]

can give figures as I have complete figures with me. The drop-out at the primary standard in respect of average minority community at the all India level is almost the same. The pass percentage up to class 10th is also the same. The pass percentage in respect of minority community benigns to fall from the level of Higher secondary, B.A., B.Sc. Engineering and Medical. It is clear from it that they are unable to afford the costly education, it should be pondered over. The worst is the situation with regard to bank loans., I would like to make a request to my friends of B.J.P. and Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya that they should see that where there are 50 percent weavers, the bank loan is being provided to only 3-4 percent of the people of Muslim community. Some arrangements should be made to check it.

This will is not grating any special status to anyone. Had it aimed at granting any special status. I would not have opposed it. I think we shall have to think against about the status guaranteed under Article 15, 16, 19, 25, 26, 229, 30 of the Constitution., Yesterday Shri Advaniji had said that if there is the Minority Commission, there should be the Human Rights Commission as well. I do not agree to it since the jurisdiction of the Human Rights. Commission will become vast and as such its implementation will also be extremely wide. The human Rights Commissions in other countries will also poke their nose in it as the Amnesty International is doing in Kashmir and Punjab. It will tarnish the image of the nation. I mean to say that if the Human Rights Commission is set up the situation will further deteriorate.

I have given several amendments to the Bill moved by Kesri ji. He must think over those amendments and giving answer he must mere it clear while replying as to how many amendments he has accepted and how many rejected along with reasons for

the rejection. There is no time to read the amendments. The Members of all the parties should pass it unanimously.; Our friends of the B.J.P. may also support it in order to put a slap on the face of the Congress Government.

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED(Manjeri): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for calling me.

I rise to support this Bill and also congratulate the hon.Minister and the Government of Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao having brought this legislation for the consideration and passing in this House.

This is the year that we are all remembering the late lamented leader, Shri Rajiv Gandhi-his first death anniversary. This is the greatest tribute to Shri Rajiv Gandhi who was the first politicians or the leader who promised according the statutory recognition to the Minority Commission and his lieutenants like Shri Kesriji has brought this legislation. I am doubly happy because I was one who raised those point on the floor of the House to accord those statutory recognition to the Minority Commission. I was very much surprised that it has been opposed by the Opposition and also not really surprised because the BJP will definitely oppose. But, there is already a Commission since 1976 and we are only according statutory recognition. This Commission has submitted 13 reports. But, so far, no report has been submitted before this House. The senior Members like Shri Indrajit Gupta and other hon.Memberrrs has no occasion to discuss what the report was? According to the statutory recognition, Parliament will have a right to discuss the contents of the report because in India there are minorities. It is also a fact that minorities have a large number of problems. It is also a fact that under the democracy, we have to try to solve this problem. Therefore, there is not ground,

no justification for any national political party to oppose the constitution of a National Commission for the national minority. Therefore, I, say, the very Bill which has been brought before this House is a real reflection of the spirit of the national movement, the freedom struggle. The ideas and values of our freedom movement recognise the demands of the plural as well as special safeguards to the minorities or the weaker sections.

Sir, the ideals are the very result of what Mahatma Gandhi had inculcated in our freedom movement. May I, Sir, in this regard quote what Mahatma Gandhi had said in the Second Round Table Conference? On 13th November 1931 Gandhiji had said during the discussion in the Round Table Conference;

"And the mention of Muslim brings me to the baffling problem of the minorities. Believe me, that problem exists and I repeat what I used to say in India. I have not forgotten those words — that without the problem of minorities being resolved, there is no Swaraj, there is no freedom for India".

Therefore, Sir, these problems are to be solved and the Muslims as a minority here constituting 11.35 per cent. There are also other minorities; according to the census of 1981 2.4 per cent are Christians, 1.98 per cent are Sikhs, 0.79 per cent are Buddhists and 0.48 per cent are Jains. The total will come to about 16 to 17 per cent. So, this Bill is only for a population of 16 to 17 per cent. So, what is going to happen? I was against to hear the speech of Shri Dikshit when he said that the passing of this Bill will create another Partition of the country. I do not understand what he means. I am very much sorry to say this, Sir. What are the provisions of our Constitution? Jawaharlal Nehru's view about the Constitution is that the supremacy of the

Constitution is the most important thing. Jawaharlal Nehru made it abundantly clear in the Objectives Policy Resolution of the Constitution. Sir, may I just say that it was exactly on the 13th December 1946 Jawaharlal Nehru said in the Constituent assembly on Objectives Resolution as follows:-

'Adequate safeguards shall be provided for minorities, backward and tribal areas and depressed and other backward classes'.

That is the crux of the point here, Sir. May I say, there are several rights enshrined in the Constitution for the minority? I do not know what was meant by Shri Dikshit when he said there are no special rights. May I tell him that there is a right to equality before law as provided under Article 14 of the Constitution, non-discrimination on the ground of religion, race, caste, sex and the place of birth, equality of opportunity in the matter of public employment under Article 16, right to freely profess practice and propagate any religion including rights of the religious dimensions to manage their religious affairs under Articles 25 and 26? What do these Articles say? These are the rights enshrined in the Constitution and these rights have been upheld by our courts, both the High Courts and the Supreme Court. In those connection I may just bring to the notice of this House what the observation of the apex court, is. There is a memorable Judgment by Chief Justice Das. May I just quote it, Sir? In one of the Fundamental Rights cases which came before the Supreme Court involving the minorities' rights, he observed:

"We the people of India have given unto ourselves the Constitution which is not for any particular community or section, but for all. Its provisions are intended to protect all, minority as well as majority

[Sh. E. Ahamed]

communities. There can be no manner of doubt that our Constitution has guaranteed certain cherished rights of the minorities concerning their language, culture and religion. These concessions must have been made to them for good and valid reasons.... So long as the Constitution stands as it is and is not altered, it is we conceive, the duty of this court to uphold the Fundamental Rights and thereby honour our sacred obligation to the minority communities who are of our own ".

These are the observations made by Justice Das in his memorable judgment, as the former Chief Justice of India, dealing with a case involving minorities. Therefore, I was very much surprised when some of my hon. friends have been quoting Sardar Patel to say that these rights have not been given. What was the observation made by Sardar Patel during the debate in the Constituent Assembly? He said:

" So, the future of a minority, any minority is to trust the majority. If the majority misbehaves, it will suffer".

What Sardar Patel said was, if the majority misbehaves, the minority will suffer. So, what my hon. friend Mr. Hussain has just pointed out is an indicator. What is the representation of the Muslims in the services? Mr. Dixit was saying that if they are not competent, how can they be taken? He was referring to the Muslims. Yes, it is true. But, may I ask one question? Why have only one section of the people in this country been made incompetent in this matter? The administration has no answer to it. We have, for the last 40 years, been dependent on the Government and also on the goodwill of the

majority. But what have we got for the last 40 years? What is the representation of Muslims in the Government? What is our socio-economic condition in this country? What was the wrong or error committed by our people? And only because they happen to be a religious minority, they have to suffer in this country. Mr. Dixit knows much better as to what happened to the minorities in Varanasi only because they happened to be belonging to a particular religion. I do not want to go into the details.

Therefore, we must realise the problem before this country. So far as the Muslims are concerned, I may say that Muslims are the citizens of this country. Muslims must first be patriotic to their mother land. The patriotism, so far as the Muslims are concerned, is the article of faith for them. They cannot be true Muslims, if they are not patriotic to their country. So, the talk about minority and dividing of the country is wrong. Why has the BJP constituted a Minority Cell. So, you also accept that there is also problem for the minorities. If there is no problem for the minorities, then, why should the BJP constitute a Minority Cell? Is it only an eye-wash? It may be also. The only time they have supported the ' minority' was when they supported the ' minority Government ' of Shri V.P. Singh.

So, by all means, we are supporting this Bill, Everybody has to supporting this Bill, and by supporting this Bill, we will only be discharging a national duty so far as an Indian is concerned. It will be wrong to think that the existence of the different sects, religious communities, castes and tribes is a potential threat to the integration of our traditional society. It is only in the national interest that these different groups should be provided a meaningful participation in the democratic politics of this country. This will strengthen our unity and integrity,

Sir, with regard to the Bill, we have given

some amendments and I am very happy that the hon. Minister has accepted one amendment and has brought an official amendment. I am very grateful to the hon. Minister for that. As a member of the Muslim community, I would like to say that we all must live in harmony and peace. I may quote Allama Iqbal as he sang in his famous couplet " Saare Jahan Se Achcha ". He said:

" Majhab Nahi Sikhta, Apas Mein
Bair Karna,
Hindi Hai, Hum Vatan Hai,
Hindustan Hamara.

As the citizens of this country, let us all live in peace, happiness and amity.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM (Kathihar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I won't take much time. Yesterday, I heard the speech of my old friend, Shri Advani with rapt attention. However, I am sorry that at the moment both Shri Advani and Shri Vajpayee are not present in the House to take note of my viewpoint. Shri Vajpayee knows well and probably Shri Advani also knows that during the freedom struggle the issue of minorities and the majority was raised on a number of occasions under the stewardship of Mahatma Gandhi, not only from the Congress platform, but also from the platforms of Muslim League and Mahasabha, it is wrong on the part of Shri Advani to say that the question of majority and minority is the creation of the Britishers and their regime in the country. I quote clearly remember that during the Congress session this issue was discussed and a committee was set up under the chairmanship of Pandit Motilal Nehru who had given this famous communal award. The award was widely debated. After the said Communal Award a minorities conference was held in 1929 at Lucknow under the chairmanship of Maulana Hazrat Mohani, I attended the Conference as a Scholar. The issue of rights

of minorities was specially discussed. The discussion was focused on the point, whether elections should be conducted jointly or separately.

Just now my friend, Shri Ahmed quoted the words of Mahatma Gandhi who had given an assurance in the Round Table Conference that when India becomes free rights of minorities would be fully safeguarded. This was the difference between the Muslims who fought the freedom struggle under Congress flag and those who were making a demand for partition. Both the Muslim League and the Mahasabha wanted to divide the Hindus and Muslims on communal basis. However lakhs of Muslims who were called National Muslims and who remained with the Congress under the flag of Jammāt-e-Ulma held the view that at that juncture they should fight against the Britishers and make India free. After attaining freedom, all the leaders including Mahatma Gandhi, Pt. Nehru and Shri C.R. Das had made a promise that rights of minorities would be fully safeguarded in free India. Mr. Chairman, Sir, the constitution came into force in 1950. I would not like to go into the discussions and views expressed in the Constituent Assembly about the minorities and the majority. However, the Constitution is before us. A number of facilities have been provided to religious, linguistic and other minorities in the Constitution. Various guarantees and assurances have also been given to them. On the basis of religions they have been given an assurance to practise and propagate their religion in any manner they liked and to protect their places of worship. If the religious freedom of the minorities is obstructed, their places of worship are acquired and they are prevented from offering prayers in these places, it will tantamount to an attack on their Constitutional rights. They must be provided adequate security for this. If the minorities are not permitted to receive primary education in their mother tongue, it is just depriving them

[Sh. Mohammadyunus Saleem]

of the guarantees and rights granted by Article 350 of the Constitution. If this happens, then whom should they approach for redressal of their grievances? Who in the country is there to listen to their tales of woe? We approached the Congress for redressal of our grievances. Government changed, and our voice proved to be a cry in the words.

In 1978, when the Minorities Commission was set up I was a Member of the Rajya Sabha and also a Member of the Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry of Home Affairs. At that time Chaudhary Charan Singh used to be the Minister of Home affairs. I was the first person to raise a voice in the meeting of the Consultative Committee that the Government had deceived the Muslims by offering them a toy in the form of the Minorities Commission. What is the importance of this minority commission, till you give out statutory status.

I remember that Chaudhary Charan Singh said twice or thrice in the consultative committee that all efforts are being made for this and very soon it is going to be given legal status. I had a dialogue with Shri Shanti Bhushan, who was the law minister at that time, because I myself had been the Deputy Law Minister prior to that. I talked to Peri Shastri, the secretary at that time, who later became the Chairman of the Election Commission. He said that we have the instructions that the Draft should be prepared and it should be presented as soon as possible and passed. I am saying all these things because it is not right to say that today statutory status is being given and it is a new thing. This is being demanded from the day the Commission has been set-up.

Many governments and political parties have time and again affirmed that they shall give legal status to it. Atal Bihar Vajpayee

and Lal Krishna Advani both were the cabinet joint ministers in the Government which had set-up a minority commission. All these people had taken the joint responsibility to grant legal status to it. Has the situation changed today? Has the injustice done towards the minorities been checked now? Is the voice of the minorities being heard? Just now, my learned friend was mentioning that minorities do not get representation in administrative services, You talk about administrative service, this is your ** how many peons are there. How many people are being appointed just enquire**. how many people of minority communities have been taken. Is any competitive examination conducted? Are the people of the minorities so incompetent, so incapable, so worthless that they cannot compete in any competitive examination? Can they not even become peons, constables or soldiers in the army? They cannot even be given loans, they cannot be employed as laboures in the public sector, they are not even allowed to work in mills. The minorities are being deprived of their constitutional rights.

I have raised this issue many times that Urdu is the mother-tongue of many people. For this purpose the report of the Gujaral committee and after that the Jaffery committee has been presented But till today this report has been kept secret. I have raised this question in the consultative committee and in the Parliament, but my voice always went unheeded. I congratulate Kesri sahib and I am grateful to the Prime Minister who had given an assurance during the discussion on the motion of thanks on the President's address that a bill shall be brought for the purpose of giving statutory status to the minority commission in this session and Kesri Sahib worked hard to present the bill., I welcome him and I am grateful to him and congratulate him. The Hindu-Muslim debate is present in the constitutional The Hindu community was mentioned.. (Interruptions)..

**Expunged as ordered by the Chairs

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Mohammed Yunus Saleem, I would like to inform you one thing.

SHRI MOHAMMED YUNUS SALEEM: I am concluding, Sir,

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not talking of your concluding the speech. I may inform you that there should be no remarks about the Secretariat of the Speaker and the Lok Sabha in the Lok Sabha. So I would request you very respectfully that any remarks...

SHRI MOHAMMED YUNUS SALEEM: I have not made any remarks I have just looked at things and said.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Whatever remarks were made about the Office of the Secretariat, will be expunged.

SHRI MOHAMMED YUNUS SALEEM: I do not press it., I simply cited an example saying that this is the situation in this country.

[Translation]

I was stating that this law has been brought in parliament and Articles 25 and 26 of the constitution guarantee certain rights to the minorities and state that reference to Hindus shall be constructed as including a reference to Sikhs, Jains and Buddhists. It has been said that in the constitution, there is no mention of the Hindu religion. This is there in Article 26 of the constitution, in article 29 and 30, the security of the religion of the minorities has been safeguarded and they have been given the right to run educational institutions of their choice and the power to protect their rights. I hope that by giving the legal status the minority commission it will have the power of redressal of complaints

regarding encroachment of rights of minorities and right to appeal. Now I would like to say two things to Kesri Sahib. He is an old and experienced Congressman and he has learnt from the Congress platform and the principles of the Congress that there should be no discrimination between one man and the other on the basis of caste, sex or faith. At present, a copy of your bill is with me, and together with this two more laws have been accepted in this house. A commission has been set-up for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and a national commission has been set up for the women. I shall draw your attention to the clauses which you have incorporated in that and will concluded it. I am reading out clause " F ' of paragraph ' A ' of section 9 of this law in which you have given their rights that-

[English]

" conduct studies, research and analysis in the issue relating to socio-economic and education development of minorities."

[Translation]

In this you have only mentioned conduct, studies and research, but in the commission which you have set-up for women and for scheduled castes, you have mentioned that

[English]

" to participate and advice on the planning purpose of socio-economic development of women

[Translation]

In the same way in the enactment in which a law has been made for scheduled castes it has been said that:-

[Sh. Mohammed Yunus Saleem]

[English]

" to investigate and monitor all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the Constitution or under any other law for the time being enforced or under any of the Government and to evaluate the working of such safeguards. "

[Translation]

I would like to draw your attention to the parts that

[English]

" to participate and advice on planning process of socio-economic development of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. "

[Translation]

As far as socio-economic development is concerned, you have provided for the participation of women in planning. As far as scheduled castes and tribes are concerned, they are participating in socio-economic development. But for unknown reasons, you have only kept law. I am requesting you to be kind enough to consider this and in the national Woman commission act, it should be provided here also. This should not be made meaning-less. The very purpose of this should not be defeated for which you have after so might efforts,, with so much care, showing so much sympathy with the minorities, made this law. The empire purpose of this should be fulfilled.

Ultimately, I have something to say. You have stated that there shall be 7 members in this Commission, and 2 of them shall belong

to the non-minorities. The implication of this is that in this commission minorities shall remain as minorities. In the constitution, the Sikhs and the Buddhists have been included in the Hindus i.e. in the majority community. If any Sikh, Buddhist or any Jain comes as minority,

[English]

he will constitute a majority and not a minority.

[Translation]

If you keep two more non-minorities in this, then there shall be a minority of minorities in the commission its purpose shall not be fulfilled. Most politely I shall urge you to give attention to this.

I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

17.00 hrs.

[English]

KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO (Sundargarh):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I congratulate the Government for introducing this historic Bill giving constitutional status to the Minorities Commission. The secular character of our Indian democracy, for the first time, is being debated and the disruptive and divisive forces have thrown an open challenge to the very unity and integrity of India. The minorities, be it racial, linguistic or religious, who are the supporting pillars of our democracy, feel insecure, being humiliated and their constitutional rights encroached upon by subversive forces. Simply because one gets majority in the legislature, one should not try to justify his action of encroaching upon the constitutional rights of the minorities. And when it is going to happen, there has to be an independent constitutional body with certain powers to point out the misdoing and to

recommend measures to safeguard their constitutional rights.

Till today, the work of the Minorities Commission has been of a survey-making and recommending authority. Its recommendations have no compelling force to the legislature to be bound to consider such recommendations. The administration has not been made answerable for its acts of omission and commission leading to encroachment upon minority rights. In the recent past, many communal violence incidents have taken place in many parts of the country. And what was the role of the Minorities Commission? Is it just to survey and report? How many administrators have been made answerable or have been punished?

Sir, the Commission must have enormous administrative as well as judicial powers to try and punish the persons responsible for such communal violence. In order to deal with firmly and timely, a riot force may be created and be placed under the disposal of the Minorities Commission. I take the privilege to place before this august House that teachers of over 200 mission-managed schools in Orissa have been denied retirement and provident funds benefits only because they serve in the minority educational institutions. These benefits are given to all the teachers of government and privately-managed educational institutions. And there is no authority to enforce it. When the mission-managed educational institutions are regarded to be the best everywhere, why is there such a discrimination against them? My submission here is that the Commission's findings and recommendations, even if falling within the purview of the State Government because of their gravity-which very often shake the secular fabric of our country - be placed before this august body for discussion. The newly constituted Minorities Commission with constitutional status, would certainly be able to do away all apprehensions and

disappointments that have cropped up in the minds of the minorities owing to various reasons.

About the composition of the Minorities Commission, my submission is that men of eminence and of highest integrity from different racial, linguistic and religious minority communities be represented in the Commission. The communal violence prone zones are to be identified, and where minorities feel more insecure and neglected, the Commission's branches be allowed to function.

Very often, we observe that these Commissions do not have manpower to make them more effective and approachable. The Commissions must go to the very door of the people to study their problems and for on the spot solution. This will Create confidence among the minorities, a sense of security leading to fellow feelings and unity and integrity of the nation.

I support the Bill and I thank you very much for allowing me to say a few words on this Bill.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer):
Hon. Mr. Chairman, Sir, with regard to the National Commission for Minorities Bill, which has been introduced here, I would like to say that hardly has the nation forgotten the trauma of partition, that Shri Kesri has come up with a National Commission for Minorities Bill, which carries within its womb, the seeds of another partition and I vehemently oppose it.

Sir, the Bharatiya Janata Party wants the welfare of all sections of our society without any kind of inequal or discriminatory treatment but the party also believes that the land stretching from Kashmir to Kanyakumari and Gujarat to Nagaland constitutes one nation. The country has already been divided on casteist, linguistic and religious lines and

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

now a permanent cleavage is sought to be created in the name of majority and minorities and I strickently oppose this kind of an attitude.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have been listening to the thoughts expressed by the hon. Members since yesterday and they have spared no effort to tarnish the image of the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh, Vishwa Hindu Parishad, and the Bharatiya Janata Party and they have levelled several allegations. Nobody has responded to the argument put forward by Shri Advani with reference to the observations made by the former Chairman of the Minorities Commission. Shri Justice Beg and the grounds on which he had opposed the Minorities Commission, despite being a Muslim himself. Sir, secondly, nobody has responded to the substantial arguments against the Minorities Commission made by a renowned jurist like Shri D.D. Basu in his works. Rights now, one of the hon. Members mentioned

'Mazhab Nahin Sikhata,

Apas Mein Bair Rakhna,

Hindi Hain Hum, Watan Hain, Hindustan Hamara".

It's a noble concept and is sweet to the ears, but what psychological make-up made Dr. Iqbal say later on -

"Muslim Hain Hum, Watan Hain Sara Jahan Hamara".

Dr. Iqbal who once penned eloquent lines on national integration later on said 'Muslim Hain Hum Watan Hain, Sara Jahan Hamara'. What kind of attitude was it 'Sir, these people expect the majority community, not to discriminate against these brethern

belonging to minority communities, but have they ever called upon the minorities to do some introspection? Sir, during cricket matches between India and Pakistan, some of our citizens decorate their houses with lights in the event of Pakistan's victory and India's defeat. What kind of attitude is that 'It will have to be changed. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Rawat, Kindly restrict your speech to the subject in hand. It has got nothing to do with the hockey match between India and Pakistan.

[*Translation*]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Such attitude will have to be changed. Only then will the people of this country be united and become part and parcel of the national mainstream and culture. Only a fraternal feeling towards each other can be an antidote to separatist tendencies. Is it in the larger interest of the minorities that divisions are sought to be created between them and the majority community, in the name of Minorities Commission? Of the 12 reports submitted to the Union Government by the Minorities commission so far, four of them have not been placed on the Table of the House and made public. I would like to know from Kesriji, their whereabouts as also the action taken by the Government on the basis of these twelve reports. The Government should come out with a white paper giving details of the action taken by the successive Congress Governments on the basis of the reports submitted by the Minorities Commission, so that the eyes of the Minorities are opened to the fact that they are being misled, for the sake of votes. The condition of this country is going from bad to worse.

Sir, the Union Government doesn't possess the courage to arrest those people who by their inflammatory speeches arouse

the passions of lakhs of people who congregate at the Jama Masjid, every Friday and talk about boycotting the celebrations of the Republic Day but it has no qualms in putting behind the bars, saintly and revered people like the Shankaracharya, who talk highly of our religion and culture, who say 'Vande Mataram' and work for national integration and upholding the tricolour.

Sir, so long as the Hindus are there, this country will remain secular, for they are tolerant and liberal. If Hindus and Muslims love each other and live like brothers, it will put an end to all internecine quarrels. (Interruptions) Sir, they are feeling so uncomfortable. I would like to say something in this regard. This country has given birth to so many saintly people, whom our people revere. The Hindu society looks upon Kabir, Raskhan and Rahim with the same respect, with which it looks upon Surdas, Tulsidas and Meerabai.

Sir, even today, Hindus in large numbers pay obeisance at Dargahs and Mazars. All political leaders, in the name of secularism, proudly after prayers at the places of worship of all communities. I would like to know as to how many people belonging to the minority communities reciprocate it, respect the religious sentiments of their Hindu brethren and go to temples? Sir, this a fact and it cannot be ignored. (Interruptions)

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT (Ponnani): Mr. Chairman, Sir, what is being said? Do we have to go to temples and offer prayers? What is being said? (Interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): When you were speaking, they gave a patient hearing. Now you too should have the courage to listen to what is being said. Have courage. (Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (Shri Rajesh Pilot): This is very embarrassing. It should not go on record. Is this the way to speak in Parliament?

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say that we should make all possible efforts to bring the minorities into the national mainstream. If this is done, it will go a long way towards national integration. Here, we should not be identified as Hindus or Muslims, but as human beings, as Indians. If at all, you have to set up a commission, constitute a Human Rights Commission, so that we treat each other as human beings. The need of the hour is to create a feeling of oneness and equality among the masses.

Through you, I would like to submit here that we all have many things to learn from the Muslims of Indonesia. That country has the largest Muslim population in the world, yet they respect the sentiments of people belonging to other religions. Even they name their children after these ancestors like Sukuno, Suharto etc. (Interruptions) and they are proud of it. The Indonesian Muslims proudly watch Ramayana plays, but unfortunately some of the people living in this country are not fully loyal to their motherland. They lack allegiance towards these motherland. (Interruptions)

I would like to add here that this Bill has been brought merely to appear the minorities and this endangers the unity of the country. This Bill poses a threat to the integrity of this country. This Bill poses a threat to the integrity of this country and it has within it the potential to break this country into pieces. Therefore, I vehemently oppose this Bill.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Prof. Rawat, please sit down. I will request you to

kindly show some discipline in the House. I would also request you to kindly stick to the subject which is under discussion and not let your emotions run away with you and try to cover the subject. I have already requested you and I am again requesting you to kindly wind up. Anyway, I will give two more minutes and you please stick to the subject.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Sir, that is why, through you, I would like to request the Government to bring forward a Bill on Human Rights Commission in place of the present Bill on Minorities Commission in place of the present Bill on Minorities Commission..... (interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Chairman Sir, you said that you have not yet called his name. When you have not called his name, whatever the hon. Member said should not go on record, because he spoke without your permission. The second thing is that when he sat down you called him to speak again. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have given ex post facto sanction for that.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: He made a complete speech and now he has wound up (Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to make a demand from the Government that in place of the Minorities Commission Bill they should bring forward a Human Rights Commission Bill in the interest of the unity of the country. A white paper should be published on the action the Government has taken on the basis of 12 reports of the Minorities Commission. The second demand that I would like to make is that the Government

should refrain from its appeasement policy forever so that peace and calm is established in the country.

Sir, secularism means giving equal respect to all religions. The implication of secularism is not only the appeasement of one community and rejection of the majority community. It is not ignoring the majority and it cannot be tolerated. Sir, right to equality has been granted in our Constitution. That is why I say that all the citizens of the country are equal. As such, the Government should set up a Human Rights Commission.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support this Bill. At the same time I express my thanks to my hon. friend Shri Sita Ram Kesri that the work which had been left incomplete since 1978, was completed in his regime. I hope that the hon. Minister shall keep doing good work in this way in future also. Although there are some drawbacks in the Bill, I support it. This Bill was legally very necessary for the unity and integrity of the country. If this kind of a Bill had not come, then the people of the minority communities in this country would have felt that they are insecure and especially in these days they feel more insecure because these days the threat of communalism is looming large on them and to speak the truth, the role which secular forces should play is not being played by them properly. I feel that the psyche of the people of the country is not like that which may enable them face the communal forces.

In the Lok Sabha many such issues are raised. Last year also an uproar was created in the Lok Sabha on this issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Tej Narayan Singh ji, you had asked for 2 minutes time. Now you may please wind up.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Last year, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh had brought

forward a Bill to Provide to reservation 85% people. At that time there had been resentment. And even today, when this Bill has been presented by the Congress Government, though some of us support it, some others allege that this will lead to disintegration of the country. I would like to say exactly the reverse that if reservation is not provided and this Bill is not passed, the country will disintegrate. People who oppose this Bill want to disintegrate the country. They do not want that the country should remain united (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Tej Narayan Singh ji, hence forward your speech will not go on record. That is why you may please sit down. I say that whatever you speak, nothing will go on record.

An experienced person like you should not exceed the limits of discipline. At your request, I had called your name. When I called your name, you were not present. When you requested for the second time, I gave you 2 minutes time and now you are going on speaking. That is why you should sit down.

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): Sir, first of all Advaniji levelled two allegations. Firstly he said that the Bill which has been brought forward here for purpose of giving statutory status to the Minorities Commission and also for giving it legal status is aimed at securing the votes of the minorities. He gave an example for that. I would like to say very clearly that this has also been included in our manifesto. (Interruptions)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fathepur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to tell the hon. Minister that no statutory powers are being given through the Bill. If he brings a constitutional amendment Bill for giving statutory powers, we shall fully support him. If he really wants to do something for them,

he should bring forward a constitutional amendment Bill. If he brings forward a Bill on the same line he brought a Bill for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, we will support him.

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Mr. Chairman Sir, the question of constitutional powers or legal status shall come up later and if the need is felt for it, then even that will be brought.

17.20 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Sir, Advaniji said two things. First of all he said that in bringing forward this Bill we have been motivated by the consideration of winning over the minorities. He cited an example. As I have already said, we have made a commitment for this in our manifesto. We are bringing this forward in pursuance of the same.

Secondly, he made a mention of Beg Sahib and gave his example. First of all I would like to state very clearly that I have not presented this Bill for the purpose of mobilizing votes. No matter, we get votes or not we have included this in our manifesto. Various parties included certain issues in their manifesto and they talk in terms of fulfilling those promises. Bhartiya Janta Party has also got its own manifesto. Now, it is different that they have not made any announcement for the minorities. I presented this Bill here to fulfill the promise made in my party's manifesto and that is why I take pride in it and I can claim with pride that I shall fulfil these promises.

Secondly, as far as the example of Beg Sahib is concerned, I understand that he has not read it completely or it has not been explained to me or I am less educated than him, because I never feel proud of the fact that I am an intellectual or a learned or

[Sh. Sita Ram Kesri]

knowledgeable person. In 1929, I came here on foot. I was not even aware that I would come here. That is why I would like to state that Beg Sahib has said many things in it. He has also made certain suggestions. He made a proposal for SC./S.T. sub committee. He also proposed for setting up a sub committee for human rights. So, I would like to submit that all these things are there in it. Now I shall come to the basic issues.

All of you expressed your views, I have no grouse against anyone. The incidents which take place in this country should be analyzed intellectually. I do not want that it should be thought about me that I am making any allegation. I would like to ask how and why this situation was created. First of all, I would like to say that in 1978 they had also set up this commission and they had also moved a Resolution for constitutional amendment, but the Bill fell as required number of members were not present. That is why as far as the setting up of this commission is concerned they are also responsible for it. It is correct that they had a political purpose behind it. Since this is based on political realities and logic, they should also be given a chance to come to power and serve the country. I have no such feelings against anybody. I think they do not think about the country, but their line of thinking is different. For example, you organised a Ram Rath Yatra. I am just explaining the point. You can construct temple anywhere you like. That is a separate issue. But have you ever thought of the apprehension that the Ram Rath had in the mind of 10 crore Muslim families in the country when it was taken out from Somnath temple. I am just citing an example. There are two ways of getting votes. The first is, by requesting the voters and the another is by intimidating them. *(interruptions)*

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): There may be occasions when such speeches may be justified. But, if this is the standard of

the reply when we are deliberating on the Minority Commission Bill, what will be its consequences. During the course of the Rath Yatra many Muslims met me. After hearing me, they said that their impression was totally different but after my speech their apprehensions had been dispelled. What I want to say is that at the moment we are not discussing that issue. You may not take into account the logic I have put forward in regard to Minorities Commission. But the logic put forward by Shri D.D. Basu, Justice Beg and Shri B. Shivram has a direct bearing on the subject. It will be enough if their points are replied.....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Advaniji made a number of submissions. He quoted the views expressed by different intellectuals. I request him to take into account the verdicts of different High Courts. All intellectuals do not give the same opinion. He cited one example in reply to which I can cite another example. In the present circumstances I would like to make a submission. I have no such feeling at all. He is at liberty to comprehend it in his own way. What I say is based on practicality. I am not talking in the air. There is nothing idealistic about it, I am saying a practical thing. I am saying what I saw. *(Interruptions)* I am giving the reasons why the minorities should be protected. When he was arrested in Bihar the Hindus and the Muslims got united. Evil designs of vested interests to create a rift between them were foiled. Shri Advani also indulged in intimidation. He did not create love.....*(Interruptions)*.....Such a situation would not have arisen had he not indulged in intimidation. *(Interruptions)* Had Shri V.P. Singh and Mulayam Singh got united, their party would have also faced the same fate what it had in Bihar.....*(Interruptions)* Truth is very terrible. Only sentiments will not do. You can, at best, win only one election with the help of sentiments. But, look at the truth, now people are changing their cadres. I would also like to tell you as to how various

communities in the society are getting united (*interruptions*) The Minorities, Harijans, Adivasis and backward classes are coming closer and nobody could prevent them from getting united. Did you hear what he said? I do not say that we do not commit mistakes. We also commit mistakes. The list of jobs he has suggested for these people is a matter of distress. Which ever party may come to power it will be very distressing for it. These people cannot get united by this process. That is why, my hon. friends, I am making this submission to you. (*Interruptions*) Please listen. Sir, through you, I would like to say as to what happened 1200 years, 2500 years, 100 years or 60 years ago in this country, The reservation is not a new phenomenon. It is a big issue before us. It seems that our friends have abandoned the idea of reservation. Please do not abandon the question of social justice. The interests of the country lie in social unity, amity, religious goodwill and religious feelings (*interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Since you have become a minister, you have abandoned it.

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: It makes no difference if I am Minister or a lay man. The real question is not of anybody's status in the House. The real question is the need to look into the present circumstances of the country. The fear psychosis should be removed from the country. You know it well why the Minority Commission Bill has been brought. Today my confidence has strengthened. The minorities are in danger and they were deprived of their rightful dues. Therefore, we have brought this Bill. Whatever may be the reason but I have been seeing this lapse for last 50 years. I saw it with my own eyes. I did not read about it. I have seen the genocide of 1947 with my own eyes. I know we differ ideologically. Two ideologies always clash. It will always be there. Communal riots will continue to take place as long as the Muslims exercise their franchise under

duress. Therefore, we all should think how to maintain an atmosphere of amity.

I don't want to go into the details. I do not want to deliver a special speech. I have already said why such a situation has developed in the country. You also got Muslims votes in 1989 by striking an alliance with Shri V.P. Singh. (*Interruptions*) Your party did not get strength from us. Your party got support due too its association with non-Congress parties. There have been wide differences on political, social, intellectual, economic issues between our parties and it will continue to be there in future also. Our relations have never been harmonious at any point of time. Your party joined hands with non-Congress parties. You can join hands with them but not with us. Perhaps Shri Vishwanath Singh knows it well. He has understood you. I believe that he will not contest the next elections as your ally. (*Interruptions*) Politics is everchanging. Ours is politics of reality. If non-Congressism arises again you cannot join hands with us. There are great differences between us because it is a battle of ideologies. We say proudly that we have brought Minority Commission Bill. We have all along been doing this and will continue to do so in future also. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra): We want that Bill on Commissions should be brought but taking commissions should be stopped.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Which commission will they bring, Bofors' or A.B.B.?

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Sir, I recollect the speech delivered by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee in the Rajya Sabha. I was delighted to listen to his speech. In his speech Atal Ji said in the Rajya Sabha that the rath was not a Ram rath (*interruptions*) I heard his speech intently (*interruptions*) when I came to know (*Interruptions*) Please listen. What I am saying is already there in the record. Don't take

[Sh. Sitaram Kesri]

them lightly. I would like to say clearly that such a situation was created in the country when minorities all over the country were living under fear. Had they not been living in a state of fear, there would have been no difficulty in the construction of the temple. Your starting was wrong. You had an ill-will. You had no love for Ram. Otherwise, there was no reason for you to take out a Rath from Somnath temple and travel throughout the country. You would have constructed the temple direct. We do not know who came 500 years back, who was Babar, whether he was a dacoit, a human being, a God or an angel. It is unfortunate that Indian culture and the Hindu culture is being blamed for avenging. We are avenging upon his children, and his progeny. You know who was born before you....(Interruptions)

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad): It all started just after the lock had been opened. The Rath yatra was a later incident. You had got the lock opened and thereby incited the people.

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: I would appeal to all to create an atmosphere of harmony. Forge it, if you think that such a large number can be alienated by creating an atmosphere of terror. You are in the wrong if you think it is like that. I want to cite an example. During the first general elections in 1952 the people of Bihar told Dr. Shri Krishan Singh that 99 percent Muslims had cast their vote. Shri Krishan Babu replied that the elections were not fair. When the people asked him why it was so he said that the vote is not of an independent mind and the voter was afraid. That is why I am asking you not to go in for the frightened vote.....(interruptions) It is unfortunate if the voter is frightened.

AN HON. MEMBER: You are creating this fear.

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: You are creating fear. I am saying it again.....(Interruptions) situations have been created wherein the society is disintegrating. There is awareness in the society today. Look at the backward classes and scheduled castes. This wave is spreading. This wave is dividing the society into two parts vertically. Therefore, I would like to submit that there should be social understanding and a compromise with the society. People should understand each other and have tolerance to the sentiments and religion of others. Specially, it becomes the duty of the majority group that they should be generous towards the minorities and they should be ready to help the minorities to the maximum. But it is not like this today....(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER: Will you allow partition of the country....(interruptions)

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Do you know what partition of the country means. Nobody has been in favour of partition of the country. (interruptions) Listen to what I have to say.....(Interruptions)

SHRI DAUDAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Those who claimed that the country will not be divided, only they sought the partition. (Interruptions) Who created Bhindrawalan you. Ghisingh was also your creation (Interruptions) It is the Congress Party which is blamed for the partition of the country..(interruptions)

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Had not Congress fought, this Parliament would not have been there, freedom would not have been there and the country would not have become independent. Had not Gandhiji and Nehruji been there freedom struggle would not have been fought. Gandhi, who opposed partition, was killed. (interruptions) Why only he was killed and others were not killed.....(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): You have made the person who wanted to install the statue of the murderer of Gandhi, a Minister in Maharashtra....(Interruptions)....

[Translation]

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Sir, I abide by your orders.. I have not disobeyed them....(Interruptions).....

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Who has been made a Minister? That is secondary issue. History....(interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You address the Chair then they will not say anything to you.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: The man who wanted to install the statue of Nathuram Godse belongs to your party and he is a Minister in Maharashtra. You have made him a Minister....(interruptions)

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: My submission is that I have not mentioned the name of Godse. I had submitted that Gandhiji was against partition and still he was killed. Then they spoke and I asked them not to press me to open my mouth as there are many others things. But I want to say this much that.....(Interruptions)....

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Do not press me to open my mouth.....(interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: He is a Minister in Maharashtra....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: I do not want to open my mouth. That case is over now.

MR. SPEAKER: My request to you is, do not go by what they are asking you. You go by your own line please. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roseria): You open your mouth (interruptions)

[Translation]

[English]

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Do not press me to open my mouth. I do not want to open my mouth.

MR. SPEAKER: We have got other business also. I think, we have discussed it. We have some more business also on the agenda.

I have to make one request to the Minister that he is to address the Chair.

Secondly, please bear in mind the time and the pending Bills before the House.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, you please ask him also to speak on the Minorities Commission.

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Sir, the proposal of the Minorities Commission was mooted by the Bhartiya Janata Party during the Janta Party regime. Not only this, a Constitution Amendment was also brought forward but it was defeated due to the lack of required number of Members supporting it. But unfortunately today, I fail to understand which circumstances compelled them to oppose it. I had hoped that they would support it but instead of supporting it they are opposing it. I have no complaints about it. Every party has its views but my only submission to you is that the awareness is coming in the society particularly among the Muslims of this country who remained here after 1947 partition. Lakhs and corers of Muslims who did not want Pakistan are being treated as second class citizens. This is the reason today that.....(Interruptions)

SHRILAL K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I knew there were people all over the world who defamed India by saying that minorities were being treated as second class citizens in this country even though the condition in their respective countries was well known to the world but today a Minister of this country is giving this statement *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Sir, I have not said so.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: All the citizens are equal. Nobody is of the first rank and nobody is of the second rank irrespective of the religion to which they may belong.

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: I want that the neglected sections of society should also be treated at par with other people. *(Interruptions)* The treatment which has been given to them in of second class citizens. I have not said that. I have always supported these people. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Look, you should not do like that.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): We extend our greetings to him for his historical speech.

MR. SPEAKER: Kesri ji, you have brought a very good Bill. How will this Bill benefit the minorities and what type of facilities and assistance would they get, please come to that. Forget about the things of the past.

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Sir, they are not ready to support the programmes. *(Interruptions)* They are not ready to listen to the truth, they are not ready to accept the reality. Why has such a situation been created wherein they are not ready to accept the Bill Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would simply like to say

through you that the Bill moved by me for giving a statutory status to the Minorities Commission should be supported by all. I would also like to add that our society will disintegrate in the absence of a common good will if there is not cohesiveness among the people and if the onslaught on one another's religion continued. It will not be in the interest of our nation. It is hoped that this should not continue. I therefore, warn earnestly time and again that there should not be any ill-will in any section of any society. Unless there is a good will, there is a mutual, understanding, cordial relations and harmony and unless the younger brother gets love from the elder one, how is it possible for a society and a country to remain united. *(Interruptions)*

I would request my those colleagues, who have moved some amendments, to withdraw them. In this connection, I remember a story of a marriage. The parents of the bride gave each and everything including horse, elephants etc. as dowry. When the marriage party on returned journey stayed during the night on the way, the bridegroom's party complained that the parents of the bride did not give a stake. So all these these things are incorporated in this Bill and I think nothing has been left out of this Bill. *(Interruptions)*

I would like to request again my colleagues who have moved certain Amendments that they should withdraw them. I would like to mention that there is a difference between the Commission of Inquiry and the Minorities Commission. Inquiry Commission confines itself only to the inquiry of a certain issue, such as enquiry into a murder case or probe into some irregularities. The Minorities Commission can, however, enquiry into all sorts of cases, summon anyone for inquiry and it has all the rights of a Civil Court.

As regards your plea that the body of the

Minorities Commission should exist for three years, we have no objection about it. So far as the question of 5 to 6 members is concerned, there are already 5 members and one of the two members belongs to Minority community.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roser): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are enacting a new law. You have just formed a Women Commission which does not include this provision and as a result of which no woman was taken from the minority community. My straight demand is, therefore, that you should have six members instead of five. There will be six members from the minority communities and one from any other class.

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: I have already stated that one of the two members will be taken from the minority communities; so it comes to six. What objection you have in it?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: But it is not mentioned in the Bill.

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: I assure this.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: You should better adopt this Amendment than give assurance. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: So far as the question of public interest is concerned, it has been mentioned that the interest of minorities should be considered. The Amendment does also include that. The two things have been made clear. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Why do not you take the minority interest and the public interest as one. When there is a Minorities Commission, why don't you include the interest of the Minorities.

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: There is no difference between the two.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: No, there is a difference between these two.

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: You should please accept it without going into dispute. (*Interruptions*) With these words I would like to request the hon. Members that they should pass the Bill unanimously instead of pressing their Amendments.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment No. 2 moved by Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat to the Motion for consideration to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 2 was put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to constitute a National Commission for Minorities and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted

MR. SPEAKER: The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill

Clause 2

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Sir, I beg to move:

Page 2, line 3, — *add at the end* —

"in respect of the Union as a whole and in respect of one or more States or Union territories."

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU (Periyakulam): Sir, I am not moving my Amendment.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): Sir, in the light of the Minister's reply, I am not moving my Amendment.

SHRI GIRDHAI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Absent.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment No. 4, moved by Shri Syed Shahabuddin to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 4 was put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 2, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 2 was added to the Bill

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Sir, I am not moving my Amendment.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU RAMASAMY: Sir, I am not moving my Amendment.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad): Sir, I beg to move:

Page 2, line 10, —

for "six" substitute "five" (32)

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 2, line 13,—

for "five" substitute "six" (46)

MR. SPEAKER: Amendment Nos. 46 and 61 are identical. Therefore, Amendment No. 61 need not be moved.

I shall now put Amendment No. 32, moved by Shri Syed Masudal Hossain to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 32 was put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment No. 46, moved by Shri E. Ahmed, to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 46 was put and negatived

18.00 hrs

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted

Clause 3 was added to the Bill

Clause 4

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 2, lines 15 to 17, -

for "for such period, not exceeding three years, as may be specified by the Central Government in this behalf"

substitute "for a period of three years and shall have the same status as the Chairperson and a Member of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes respectively."

Page 2, —

after line 17, insert —

"Provided that the Central Government may extend the tenure of the chairperson or a Member for such period, not exceeding one year at a time, as it may decide:

Provided further that the total tenure

of the Chairperson or a Member shall not exceed six years."

substitute "a term of three years from the date he assumes office." (76)

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU RAMASAMY: Sir, I am not moving my amendment Nos. 25, 26 and 27.

Page 2, line 34, -

for "public interest"

MR. SPEAKER: As amendment Nos. 34 and 35 are identical to amendment Nos. 6 and 7, these need not be moved.

substitute "interests of minorities or the public interest". (77)

(Shri Sitaram Kesri)

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN: Sir, I beg to move:

MR. SPEAKER: Now I am putting amendment No. 6 and 7, moved by Shri Syed Shahbuddin, to the vote of the House.

Page 2, line 34, —

Amendments Nos. 6 and 7 were put and negatived

for "public interest" *substitute* -
"interest of minorities" (35)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ahamed, are you moving amendment No. 47.

MR. SPEAKER: Now I am putting amendment No. 35 moved by Shri Syed Masudal Hossain, to the vote of the House.

SHR E. AHAMED: No. Sir; I am not moving.

Amendment No. 35 was put and negatived

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Sir, I beg to move:

MR. SPEAKER: I am putting amendment No. 56, moved by Shri Mohan Singh to the vote of the House.

Page 2, lines 15 to 17, -

Amendment No. 56 was put and negatived

for " for such period, not exceeding three years as may be specified by the Central Government in this behalf."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 4, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

substitute "for a period of two years and may be removed from his office by a motion passed by both Houses of the Parliament." (56)

The motion was adopted

Clause 4, as amended, was added to the Bill

Amendments made

MR. SPEAKER: There are no amendments, to clauses 5 to 8.

Page 2, lines 15 to 17, —

The question is:

for "such period, not exceeding three years, as may be specified by the Central Governemnt in this behalf."

"that clauses 5 to 8 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clauses 5 to 8 were added to the Bill

Page 3, line 35, -

Clause 9

after "minorities" insert -

SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN: Sir, I beg to move:

"and for promotion of their welfare and progress" (14)

Page 3, line 29, -

Page 3, line 37, -

after "evaluate" insert "and advise upon"
(8)

for "look" substitute "enquire" (15)

Page 3, line 29, —

Page 3, line 38, -

after "of the" insert -

after "matters" insert -

"educational and socio-economic" (9)

"for redressal" (16)

Page 3, line 31, -

Page 3, line 39, -

for "monitor" substitute-

add at the end -

"investigate, monitor and evaluate all matters relating to" (10)

"as well as study the general issues involved". (17)

Page 3, line 34, -

Page 4, line 5, -

"Periodical or special reports to the Central Government or a State Government or a Union territory administration as the case may be, on any matter pertaining to minorities and, in particular, on the difficulties confronted by them, and in such reports, make" (11)

"and serve as a national clearing house for information in respect of the condition of the minorities." (18)

Page 3, line 34, -

Page 4, -

after "implementation" insert _

for lines 8 to 10, substitute -

"and enforcement" (12)

"(h) advise the Central and State Governments and the Union territory Administration in all matters of policy relating to minorities; and" (19)

Page 3, line 35, -

Page 4, line 12, -

for "safeguards" substitute -

add at the end -

"the orders and measures" (13)

"or a State Government or a Union territory Administration." (20)

page 4, line 28, -

omit "sub-clauses (1), (a) and (d) of" (21)

[Translation]

We have put a fundamental question before the hon. Minister in this regard that remained unreplied as to why there is a difference between the functions of the Commission of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and the earlier functions of the Minority Commission set up through a resolution. We do not doubt their intention, but we want that the functions of this commission should be same as that of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission. There should be no reduction in its status that it has now and that it enjoyed earlier. This question remained unreplied.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: It should be done, we are here to extend our help. The power that has been given to the Scheduled Castes Commission should be granted through an amendment to the Constitution. We will cooperate in it.

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Sir, the Special Component Plan is an exhaustive plan for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. There is no scope for any provision, it will be considered in due course.

[English]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad): I beg to move:

"Page 3, line 29, -

for "evaluate" substitute-

"Participate in and advise on the planning process for the educational and socio-economic development of the minorities and evaluate

continuously" (36)

"Page 3, line 30,-

add at the end-

"and, for this purpose, receive from the Central and State Governments and the Administrations of the Union Territories reports on such matters, in such form and at such intervals as it may prescribe from time to time." (37)

"Page 3, line 31,-

for "monitor" substitute "investigate and monitor all matters relating to" (38)

"Page 3, line 33,-

add at the end-

"and under any order of the Government and to evaluate the working of such safeguards" (39)

"Page 3, line 34,-

after "make" insert-

"periodical or special reports to the Central Government or the State Government, as the case may be, on any matter pertaining to minorities and, in particular, difficulties confronted by them, and in such reports, make" (40)

"Page 3, line 39,-

add at the end-

"and also cause studies to be undertaken into problems arising out of any discrimination against minorities and recommend to the appropriate authorities measures for their removal" (43)

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): I beg to move:

"Page 3, line 29,-

for "evaluate" substitute "assess and advise upon" (48)

"Page 3, line 31,-

after "monitor" insert-

"and evaluate" (49)

"Page 3, line 36,-

add at the end-

"or any public undertaking or quasi-government institution" (50)

"Page 4, line 2-

for "measures" substitute-

"steps" (52)

"Page 4, line 3,-

add at the end-

"and suggest welfare measures for protection of interest of minorities." (53)

"Page 4, line 12,-

add at the end-

"or any State Government." (54)

With respect to Amendment No. 50, I would like to say a few words. This is with respect to the right of the Commission to get information from the public undertakings and quasi-Government bodies. That is most important. It is because if the Commission is not given the right to have the necessary

information from the public undertakings and the quasi-government bodies, then it will not be able to function effectively. So, I move this amendment.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): I beg to move

Page 4-

(j) make attempt to bring all minority communities in the mainstream of the nation to eliminate secessionism and discrimination and to inculcate the feelings of equality and nationalism among them;

(k) eliminate difference between majority and minority communities; and

(l) promote patriotism and unity (60)

after line 12, insert-

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sulaiman Sait, are you moving your amendment?

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT (Ponnani): I beg to move:

"Page 3,-

for lines 29 and 30, substitute-

"(a) evaluate and advise upon the progress of the educational and socio-economic development of minorities under the Union and States" (64)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Prem Kumar Dhupal, are you moving?

[Translation]

PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL
(Hamirpur): I beg to move:

Page 4 -

after line 10 *insert-*

“(hh) To create awareness among the minorities in favour of the Directive Principles of the State Policy as enshrined in the Constitution including the need for a uniform civil code.” (74)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to speak because in the Directive Principles enshrined in Article 44 it is mentioned that -

[English]

“The State shall endeavour to secure for the citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India.”

[Translation]

My amendment is on this. I submitted that in addition to all the entrusted functions thsi may also be entrusted to the Minorities Commission:

[English]

“To create awareness among the minorities in favour of the Directive Principles of the State policy as enshrined in the Constitution including the need for a uniform civil code.”

[Translation]

Mr. Spaker, Sir, I am quoting here Shri P.B. Gajendra-gadkar, the former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court who said that:

[English]

“The enactment of a common civil code can, in one sense be described as the corner stone of the fabric of modern, secular society, contemplated by the Directive Principles.”

Therefore, I request the Government to accept my amendment. This is as per the Directive Principles and I hope they should accept it.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Lodha, are you moving your amendment?

[Translation]

SHRIGUMANMALLODHA (Pali): I beg to move:

Page 4, -

after line 10, *insert -*

“(h) create awareness among the minorities about the Directive Principles of the Constitution, more particularly about article 44 in respect of a uniform civil code. (75)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Kesri in his speech said that common civil code for all the citizens of India should be evolved so that all the citizens live like brothers without any differences. I favour adoption of Common Civil Code under Article 44 because he said that Pt. Nehru and other Constitution makers included the Directive Principles in it and were also in favour of the codification of equality of civil rights for the citizens of India and of their inclusion in the Civil Code. If this is adopted then the unsavoury, unfortunate and tragic incidents like Shah Banu case, which brought bad name to the country and the blot of none too good conditions will stand

[Sh. Gumanmal Lodha]

remedied. That is why my submission is, as per his wishes about brotherhood, this amendment may be adopted.

[English]

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: Sir, I oppose this amendment of Mr. Lodha. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Sir, there should separate voting on Amendment No. 21 Sir, Amendment No. 21 is very important. That restricts the very function of the Commission and that adds to the essence of the Commission.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want that your Amendment No. 21 be put separately?

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendments No. 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20 to Clause 9 moved by Shri SYED Shahabuddin to the vote of the House.

Amendments No. 8 to 20 were put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment no. 21 to Clause 9 moved by Shri Syed Shahabuddin to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 21 was put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendments No. 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, and 43 to Clause 9 moved by Shri Syed Masudal Hossain to the vote of the House.

Amendments No. 36 to 40 and 43 were put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendments No. 48, 49, 50, 52, 53 and 54 to Clause 9 moved by Shri E. Ahmad to the vote of the House.

Amendments No 48 to 50 and 52 to 54 were put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment No. 60 to Clause 9 moved by Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 60 was put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment No. 64 to Clause 9 moved by Shri Ebrahim Sulaiman Sait to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 64 was put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment No. 74 to Clause 9 moved by Prof. Prem Dhupal to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 74 was put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment No. 75 to Clause 9 moved by Shri Guman Mal Lodha to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 75 was put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 9 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted

Clause 9 was added to the Bill

MR. SPEAKER: There are no amendments of Clauses 10 to 11

Shahabuddin, Shri Mohan Singh, Shri Rasa Singh Rawat and Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya.

The question is:

[Translation]

"That Clauses 10 and 11 stand part of the Bill"

MR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the notice of my amendment which I have given.....

The motion was adopted

MR. SPEAKER: I am coming to your amendment which is identical.

Clauses 10 and 11 were added to the Bill

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ramaswamy, are you moving your Amendment to Clause 12?

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: I would like to know the objection of the Government when the hon. Members of all the parties including the ruling party are in favour of extension of this to Jammu and Kashmir also. When the hon. Members of all the parties are in agreement then the Government should adopt my amendment without any opposition.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU
RAMASWAMY: I am not moving.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 12 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my submission is also the same that the Bill should be extended to Jammu and Kashmir also.

Clause 12 was added to the Bill

MR. SPEAKER: There are no amendments to Clauses 13 to 16.

Clause 1 - Short Title, extent and commencement

The question is:

[English]

"that Clauses 13 to 16 stand part of the Bill"

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDHIN (Kishanganj): I beg to move —

The motion was adopted

Page 1, lines 7 and 8, —

Clauses 13 to 16 were added to the Bill

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ramaswamy, are you moving your Amendment No. 31 to Schedule?

omit "except the State of Jammu and Kashmir" (3)

SHRI R. RAMASWAMY: No, I am not moving.

MR. SPEAKER: Amendments Nos. 55, 58 and 73 are identical. So, they need not be moved.

MR. SPEAKER: Now we come to Clause 1. There are amendments by Shri Syed

MR. SPEAKER: I now put amendment No. 3 to Clause 1 to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 3 was put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 1 was added to the Bill

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula and the Long title stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted

The Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill

[Translation]

SHRI SITARAM KESHRI: Sir, I beg to move:-

"That the Bill as amended, be passed".

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed".

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the hon. Minister was replying, Shri Nitish Kumar remarked that the House is listening to a historic speech today. History both awakens hope and also causes depression, and I am sorry to say that today's hisotric speech has caused a deep despair.

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: We enjoyed it.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Forget about

enjoyment. Those who are out to enjoy will feel amused in every situation. However, I feel it would have been better had all aspects been discussed here. Even the hon. Members of this side supporting the Bill gave many a suggestion and I publicly admit and support the stand of Shri Shahbuddin made clear in his speech that we should not think of just one particular community while using the words majority and minority in India. There are may States in the country at least four or five are such where Hindus constitute a minority. In other States, people of one community or other constitute the minority. One of the important arguments put forward by Justice Beg when the Minority Commission was constituted was that treating only four or five communities viz., the Muslims, the Christians, the Parsis and the Sikhs etc. as Minorities and leaving out Hindus - who are otherwise in majority - out of the purview of the commission was unjustified. That was a weighty argument and he did not mince any words about it. Today when the Hindus in Kashmir are in a miserable plight and the Minorities Commission is unmindful of their problem I would suggest to the Commission be replaced by a Human Rights Commission.

I can understand Shri Shahbuddin's point that there should not be any change in the name of the Commission, but if the hon. Minister had accepted the practical suggestion, which I had given, a given and assurance that the Commission would take cognizance of discriminatory treatment or injustice meted out to members belonging to all communities in India, the idea of Human Rights Commission would have come true.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very disappointed with his adamant approach and his speech has further confirmed my suspicion that it is nothing, but naked politics of vote. I am so worried after listening him that I am reminded of Shri D.D. Basu, whom I referred yesterday as well. The noted Jurist has observed that lately some very dangerous demands are

being made. One of them is the seeking of statutory status for the Minorities Commission and another is the demand for reservation for minorities.

After listening to the speech made by the hon. Minister today, I have apprehension that the politics of vote may pressurise them to go in for reservations for minorities.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, all the Members spoke of the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, Shri Syed Shahabuddin Shri Pandey and other hon. Members suggested that under clause 1 this Bill should be made applicable throughout the country, barring the State of Jammu and Kashmir but the Government did not even have courage to say that it would be applicable to Jammu and Kashmir as well. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, Sir, we don't want to be associated with the passage of this Bill and therefore we are leaving the House in protest.

16.23 hrs.

THEREAFTER, SHRI LAL K. ADVANI
AND SOME OTHER HON. MEMBERS
LEFT THE HOUSE

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN
(Kishanganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to recite a couplet, for the benefit of Shri Sitaram Kesri.

*"Kye De Maazi Game Imroz Ummiden
Farda*

*Kitne Saaye Mere Humrah Chala Karte
Hain."*

[English]

The remembrance of the things past, the sorrows and frustrations of today and the hopes and aspirations of tomorrow, how many shadows always accompany me on my march towards the future.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry to say that by adopting an obdurate attitude, the Minister, unfortunately, has reduced or is trying to reduce this Minority Commission to a shadow where he should have given us a substance.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): Sir, May I take this opportunity to congratulate the hon. Minister for having brought a Bill like this?

As a matter of fact, 13 reports have been submitted by the Commission which were not placed before the House. After passing of this Bill into an Act hereafter the Commission will be able to submit a report to the Government and the Government's mandatory duty is to place it before this august House. This is one thing that the Minorities are getting after a lapse of two decades. Some people had given promises to the people of this country that they will keep the statutory status of the Minorities Commission. But when they came to power they had forgotten it. This is the time when we have to congratulate the hon. Minister. This is the time we have to pay a tribute to the Congress Government. I am very happy because this is a milestone in the protection of the minorities. I hope this will send a good message to the minorities that there is a Government which will protect the rights and privileges of the minorities. Thank you.

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY (Nominated Anglo-Indian): Sir, in my speech I have requested the hon. Minister for supplying me certain details. I request that the same may kindly be given to me (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH:
Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Sitaram Kesri had rightly opined that the people who have been denied participation in the society are today awakening and they will have to be given their due place, if the country is to be

[Sh. Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

strengthened. Therefore, it is very important that we bring those sections to the mainstream. It won't divide or weaken the country. Rather, it would only strengthen the country. We fully support the sentiments expressed by him as he has recognised the harsh realities of our society and given vent to it. I don't want to get into a lengthy discussion so far as the question of minorities is concerned. We have had enough discussion, but nevertheless I would like to add here that we should inculcate a sense of security in them. The roof may not collapse, but the fear of the same is enough to turn us pale. He reflected his understanding of the facts in their right perspective when he said that it is very important to remove the fears which have developed as a result of a sense of alienation.

We had great expectations, as Shri Ahamed who is our friend and sympathizer, and who understands these things very well, correctly observed. There cannot be two opinions on the course adopted by the Government. There were some compulsions regarding its constitution and all of us had demanded that it would have helped. It was the National Front Government, which amended the Constitution and provided Constitutional status to the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. This is just an enactment and this Commission also needs to be given a constitutional status. We urge you to bring a similar amendment to provide statutory status to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission and from our side we assure you of our support.

It is not enough just to take care of the sentiments of the minorities, but the commission will have to pay attention to other things as well. So far as their educational level is concerned, they are the most backward. Here it is often said that the

Government is following a policy of appeasement towards the minorities. The fact is that not even one percent of them is in the class-I services.

If we look at the Banks, the loan disbursement to the minorities is just 4%. Is this appeasement? Your observation is correct that if this alienation continues, it will create cleavages and the need of the hour is to remove it.

I urge you to amend the Constitution and provide statutory status to the Minorities Commission, in the next session. Our party will whole heartedly support it.

Minorities face many economic problems including unemployment and we can't keep them under the carpet for long. We will have to put them in the agenda and discuss them in the House. Thirdly, the report of the Minorities Commission should be presented in a regular way before the House. I had requested the Government several days back about it but it has not been presented so far. There should be a discussion on it. There is a need to attend to its economic issues. Several things are not involved in the minorities. This is one step and they will also move towards the next step.

[English]

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIAN (Shillong): I do congratulate the Welfare Minister for bringing this very important Bill conferring statutory powers on the Minorities Commission. However, I want to draw the attention of the Minister to a related question of Scheduled Castes who are denied all the facilities of Scheduled Castes once they are converted to Christianity. There are more than two million Scheduled Castes converted to Christianity all over India and they are denied all the special facilities thereby they are losing their rights and privileges of reservations.

Now, Sir, as the Minister is also equally aware, about 200 M.Ps. of this House have singed a Memorandum and submitted it to the Prime Minister. In this connection I appeal to the hon. Minister that in the next Session of Parliament a Bill giving statutory order to the Scheduled Castes converted to Christianity be brought so that they enjoy the facilities and rights and privileges as Scheduled Castes.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): Sir, while thanking the hon. Member, Member, I would like to say only this that the question of Jammu and Kashmir has not been taken up due to several reasons. It has been kept aside due to the circumstances through which Jammu and Kashmir is passing today. In the coming days it will be considered when the situation improves.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The question is :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted

18.32 hrs

PARLIAMENT (PREVENTION OF
DISQUALIFICATION) AMENDMENT
BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE
AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. VIJAYA
BHASKARA REDDY): Sir, I beg to move.

" That the Bill further to amend
the parliament (prevention of
Disqualification) Act, 1956, be

taken into consideration."

The hon. Member would recall that the Joint Committee of offices of profit presented their second Report to this House on the 9th April, 1992. In that Report the Committee had examined the composition, character, function etc. of four Commissions including the Planning Commission constituted by the Government of India and the emoluments and allowances payable to their chairpersons, vice-chairpersons, members even with a view to consider whether the holders of offices under those Commissions would incur disqualification under Article 102 of the Constitution.

The Commission noted that the term of office of the Deputy Chairman, Commission is for a period of five years from the date of assumption of his office. Further, he is also entitled to a salary of Rs. 2250/- per months plus DA as admissible to the Secretary to the Government of India and other perquisites as admissible to a Minister. They have also noted that the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission has been given the status of a Cabinet Minister. It was also noted that the Election Commission of India in reference to case No. 1 of 1990, between Shri A.K. Subhaiah and Rana Krishnaa Hedge had held the office of Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission is capital of profit being derived as a definite salary is attached to that office and the fact that the incumbent did not draw any salary, did not materially alter the status of that office for being an office of profit. (Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. Now it is beyond 6.00 p.m. and so, the House should be extended now.

MR. SPEAKER: I uphold your point of order. We have acquiesced in sitting here in the House. We will sit here until we complete this business.

SHRI K. VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY:

The Committee has also opined that the Members of Parliament being the representatives of the people when appointed on such an important Commission could play a very useful; and constructive role, and that they should not be deprived of the membership of the Commission on purely technical grounds. In view of this and in view of the fact that the Ministers at the Centre as well as in the States have already been exempted from incurring disqualification for being chosen, or for being, Members of Parliament vide clause (a) of Section 3 of the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959, the Committee has recommended that the schedule to the aforesaid Act should be suitably amended expeditiously so as to prevent the person holding the office of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission from incurring disqualification for being chosen, or for being a Member of Parliament. The Government are anxious to give effect to the aforesaid recommendation. Incidentally, I may mention here that the Government are examining the other recommendations of the Joint Committee along with the earlier reports. It is my earnest hope that the Bill will receive unanimous support from all sections of the House.

Sir, I now commend the Bill for the consideration of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

" That the Bill further to amend the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): I beg to move;

" That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon

by August 14, 1992."

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have moved for the circulation this Bill for the purpose the eliciting opinion thereon because all the hon. Member of the House have said just now that the Chairperson of the Minorities Commission should be given the statutory status and hence the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit has presented their Second Report in which they have made recommendation to exempt the Chairpersons of the four Commissions from incurring disqualification.

Keeping in view the granting of exemption from disqualification under Article 102 of the Constitution of India, the officers held by the Chairman, National Commission on Scheduled Casts and Scheduled Tribes; Chairman, Minorities Commission; Chairman, National Commission on Women and Deputy Chairman Planning Commission should be examined whether the Members of Parliament holding these offices can be exempted from incurring disqualification. I am sorry to say that if a Bill was to be brought, what was the hurry, the hon. Minister should have brought forward a comprehensive Bill in the House in view of what had accepted during the last few days. Today, it appears to me that since the elections to the Rajya Sabha are going to be held, this Bill will be known as the Pranab Mukherjee Bill.

It appears to me that in the next Rajya Sabha, the name of Pranab Mukherjee will come as a Member and since the office of the Deputy Chairman of the Planning is equal to that of a Cabinet Minister today. So, it has been done to oblige him and to make him safe and secure.

Sir, as I have come to know, I have just got the information that this Bill has been brought in a hurry just to appear and oblige one person and that too by succumbing to pressure exerted by only one person.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to request you that if the Bill was to be brought forward, although I do not oppose this Bill as this office is quite necessary and facilities should be given to it, I am sorry to say whether it has ever been taken into account that since its constitution in 1956 the Committee on Offices of Profit has made sixty recommendations. But the Council of Ministers never paid its attention to any recommendation to the extent as it is paying today to this recommendation made in the Second Report presented in the House nor did it ever try to express its opinion in the House. This Second Report is being presented in the House today in a hurry. It would have been better if a Bill would have been brought in the next session if the Government so wished so that all the four Commissions—

MR. SPEAKER: That is all, now to it over and done with. Now do not repeat it.

SHRIDAUDAYALJOSHI: In the coming days, in the next session the Government will come before the House again on the disqualification issue of the Chairpersons of the remaining three Commissions. Therefore, I want that the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, 'Shri Ramakrishna Hegde was the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission and he happened to be the Member of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly. Later on, he was disqualified from the Membership of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly and he continued as the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission. This should not happen. This Bill has been brought with the intention of preventing that precedent. It is my submission that though this Bill does not contain any such provision of present, but when it becomes Act, it should be enforced with retrospective effect. Since the Bill had to be brought in view of the prevailing circumstances, it should be

enforced with retrospective effect. That is the only solution. We shall make this request to the Government that if there is any problem in enforcing it immediately, it should be circulated to elicit the opinion on it, and it should be brought in the next session so that it can be enforced with retrospective effect and the disqualification incurred by Ram Krishna Hedge condoned.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a Bill which is non-controversial in nature and a simple Bill but with a lot of significance.

I wonder how Shri Dau Joshi chose to oppose this Bill. As I understand, the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit has recommended that such an amendment should be brought forward to give exemption to the office of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. This has been the unanimous report of the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit. Shri Dau Dayal Joshi is a Member of this Committee and the Committee has unanimously recommended after analysing the entire situation.

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: The Committee had recommended that all these four should be brought together.

[English]

SHRISRIBALLAV PANIGARHI: It says: The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission should be exempted from the list of offices of profit as for being a Member of Parliament or State legislature, provided that he should not draw salary etc. Only compensatory allowance is admissible.

Since the original Act has been enacted

[Sh. Sriballav Panigrathi]

on 1959, there have been sea-changes in the situation and there are so many public undertakings and other bodies which need active involvement of the people's representatives like MLAs and MPs. There are several Commissions, Corporations and Committees. People's participation holds key to the success of social economic programmes. Therefore, it is only the people's representatives who can arrange effective people's participation. In the present scenario, to needs a fresh approach. There should be a fresh look regarding the provisions of the offices of profit. I request the hon. Minister that he may kindly look into it. In today's situation just because an MP or an MLA becomes a Minister, he is exempted from the list. This provision is not attracted even though he gets salary and allowances. He can serve faithfully and sincerely to the people, the electorates. But an MP is chosen as a director of a public undertaking or a corporation, is he not expected to work sincerity, with devotion and with independence.

In the present scenario, for successful implementation of all our plans and programmes and socioeconomic revolution people's participation is a must.

In order to ensure people's participation for better success of all our schemes, it is high time that the Government also gives a fresh look and comes forward with necessary amendment in all the relevant laws etc.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Bill has been introduced in the House on the recommendation of the Joint Committee on offices of profit and on the basis decision taken by the Election Commission in the

case of Shri A.K. Subhaiah and Shri Ramakrishna Hegde in 1990. About the provisions of the Bill I would like to say that a comprehensive Bill should be brought because whenever the question of offices of profit has been raised in the House a Bill to that has been brought and amendments has been sought. Amendments have been brought sometimes regarding the issue of co-operative and sometimes regarding issue like other commissions and those amendments have been accepted too. Today also an amendment has been brought. As, just now a doubt has been expressed that tomorrow you will come with a demand that it would better if such facilities regarding Woman Commission, Minority Commission or any other Commission should be provided. It is better if once this is considered as a whole. (Interruptions) As far as this Bill is concerned, I think nobody is disagreed with its provisions. This Bill is only about the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission. There is no mention of intentions of the Government behind that.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put amendment No. 1 to the motion for consideration moved by Shri Dau Dayal Joshi to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 1 was put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959 be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up Clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That Clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is :-

"That clause 1 the Enacting Formulate and the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill

SHRI K. VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY:
Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttaack): The hon. Minister has given some commitment. The hon. Minister said that he will give some clarification.

SHRI K. VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY:
I cannot give it. There is already a judgment. I do not know whether we can go back. I will get it examined.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, do you want to take up Item Nos. 20, 21 and 22?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE, AND
COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN

KUMARAMANGALAM): I have already made statement on the floor of the House when the Deputy Speaker was in the Chair and said that with regard to 20 and 21 etc., Government business, we are not pressing the issue to be taken up today.

MR. SPEAKER: Item No. 22 is 193. There is discussion on the situation arising out of awarding of contract to M/s. Asea Brown Boveri for purchase of electric locomotives.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore):
What about 193?

SHRI RANGARAJAN
KUMARAMANGALAM: The hon. Minister is ready. It is up to the House.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Regarding this, we wrote a letter to you that the same company, ABB has given contract to Gandhar Power Project and another project. That relates to the same Company. The contract is for two power Projects.

MR. SPEAKER: Who has given contract?

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: The Government of India... the NTPC. It is on the same company.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, this is exactly what is happening. We have a matter on the Agenda. We are pushing it aside and taking up the matter which is not on the Agenda. It pertains to a different Ministry.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: No, Sir. We wrote a letter to you because the same company involved. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Why I am telling you this thing is because the two hon. Members came to me and said this should be taken up

and things like that. why have we not been able to take it up? When we have an item on the Agenda, we push it aside and take up something else. The Company may be the same but the contract is different. The Ministry is different. Do you think that we will be able to discuss it now?

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: We are not saying that.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Both can be discussed together.

MR. SPEAKER: How can we? The Minister should be here. The contract is different. The Ministry is different. Let us not do like that.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sobhanadræwara Rao Vadde to initiate the discussion under Rule 193.

18.52 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

CONTRACT TO M/S ASEA BROWN
BOVERI (ABB) FOR PUURCHASE OF
ELECTRIC LOCOMOTIVES

[English]

SHRI SOBHADREESWARA RAO VADDO (Vijayavada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for allowing a discussion on this important matter of awarding of a contact to M/s Asea Brown Boveri for the purchase of electric locomotives. In fact, I have written a letter to the hon. Minister on 27th March asking him to clarify several aspects relating to this contract.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the debate will take much time. We all know that this thing has also happened earlier. Therefore, I suggest that as now the debate has started it should be allowed to continue in the next session.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There will not be any difficulty if they give a fresh notice in the next Session to take it up, instead of saying that we carry it over.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) It is possible to carry it over to the next Session. We can continue it in the next Session.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, please understand that if you are very keen to discuss in the next Session, nobody is going to say not to do it. But let us not continue it to the next Session.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: There were instances.

MR. SPEAKER: I agree with you that the same thing can be discussed.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: According to rules, it is possible. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not give any promise. I will get it examined.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: There are a number of instances (interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no difficulty if

you are very keen, if the hon. Minister are keen. The Minister has more than once told me, written to me saying to take it up. He will certainly be ready to take it up next time also. There will not be any difficulty.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We can continue it in the next Session. There are a number of instances.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): Let him finish his speech. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will examine it. I will not say anything on this point. I will get it examined if it can be done.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, same thing happened in the 9th Lok Sabha also. I had initiated the debate on Bofors issues but later on the sitting of the Lok Sabha suspended.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The point is the same. You are in a position to discuss this matter if you want, in the next Session also. Nobody is going to say to do it. The Minister has been asking for a discussion. If he is ready now for the discussion, he can be ready in the next Session also.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it cannot be continued in the next House, but it can continue in the next session.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will examine it. Do I take it that you do not want to discuss it?

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: No. I wish it now. I am for that. Sir, in spite of the acknowledgment I have received, I did not receive the reply from the hon. Minister regarding the issues which I have raised through my letter. This is a very serious matter because this is not the lone case. It is one among the several issues which is causing grave concern to the people of this country. Sir, the Ministry of Railways have denied to give this particular contract to BHEL and awarded it to ABB. Similarly, as our hon. friend, Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav just now said, a contract was awarded to ABB in respect of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC).

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rao, may I tell you one thing. You are raising this matter now and the Minister will be expected to reply to it. He would have replied and then, in the next session, other members who want to speak, may not have the opportunity to speak. Having once replied to the debate, it may not be necessary in the next session to reply to it. So, if you want that good discussion should be there...

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Sir, I submit to you that I have no objection to continue it in the next session.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not promising you.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Sir, let me complete.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rao, please hear me first.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: After hearing me Sir, you may please tell me.

MR. SPEAKER: Please hear me first on the procedural part. If you are speaking and if I ask the Minister to reply to it, next time,

it will be difficult to take it up for discussion. Supposing, there is no bar to take up the same matter in the next session, if he does not reply...

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Sir, let me say. During the Eighth Lok Sabha, there were instances where the matters under Rule 193 were discussed partly and were continued and taken up in the session. It happened during the Eighth Lok Sabha. I am very much aware of it. You may kindly examine the precedents and allow me to continue the discussion in the next session.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I will examine the precedents and all those things. But why are you doing like this? Let me understand the logic.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Sir, I have no objection. I am ready to proceed with my speech. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: O.K., You may proceed. If I am not able to persuade you, you have to proceed. Please understand that nobody is saying that you do not speak now. If I understand correctly, everybody is interested in discussing it in detail in the next session. And, there would not be any difficulty in discussing it in detail in the next session. So, you can continue it in the next session (*interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): Sir, two 193 discussions were carried over to the next session.

MR. SPEAKER: On that point, I will examine fully and then I will see. On that point, I am not expressing my views. I can tell you only one thing. In the session, if you want to discuss it, there would not be any difficulty.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, the

rule lies very clear on this, rule 336 says:

" A motion, resolution or an amendment, which has been moved and is pending in the House, shall not lapse by reason only of the prorogation of the House."

The rule is very clear.

MR. SPEAKER: If the rule is there, it will apply.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: This is Rule 336. It is there in the rules.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not pronouncing.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Then it is all right.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, will have the last word.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the Government should not proceed with this contract till it is discussed in this House. That is my suggestion.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: That is his suggestion. and whether it has to be accepted or not, we will see.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, everyday delayed in finalising this contract would be costing country 4,000 dollars or Rs. 1 lakh. and therefore, if the continuation of this discussion into the next session is going to stand in the way of the Ministry of Railways in completing its work, then, I think that it was our responsibility that we should not do it. If there is no such restriction, then there is no objection.

19.00 hrs.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittogarh): Sir, the Parliament does not hold the executive's action. It examines the executive's action. It is no one's suggestion that in the inter session period, the Government stop taking all decisions; of course, not. The Government must go forward with its decisions. If your decisions are correct, you will meet with out approval. If your decisions are unhappily incorrect, then you will meet our disapproval. It is as simple as that.

This motion be carried forward to the next session.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): We agree.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, all right.

19.01 hrs

VALEDICTORY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, the Third Session of the Tenth Lok Sabha and the Budget Session for this year comes to a close today. This has been a long Session in which the House held 49 sittings lasting over 310 hours.

The President addressed the members of both Houses assembled together on 24th February, 1992 in the Central Hall of parliament.. The address was televised live. Thereafter the current session began with oath/affirmation by Members elected from Punjab.

The House discussed the President's Address for more than 16 hours before adopting it unanimously. The discussions

were marked by lively exchanges between Members and speeches of the highest quality were made by many Members. Many of the speeches have been telefilmed and will be available as a permanent record in the Library.

The major part of work in this session related to the transaction of financial business. The Railway and General Budgets for 1992-93 were presented on 25 and 29th February respectively. For the first time, we telecast live, the presentation of the two Budgets and I believe that we have a very favourable response from the viewers.

The Railway Budget was discussed in the House for almost 18 hours before it was passed. The discussion relating to the General Budget lasted for more than 16 hours. The House had a general discussion on the Budget for almost 20 hours; the demands in respect of 8 ministries were taken and the others guillotined after almost 41 hours of discussions; and the discussions regarding the Finance Bill lasted for more than 11 hours. Supplementary Demands for grants, both in respect of Railways and General, for 1991-92 were also discussed and voted and the Budgets in respect of the States of Jammu and Manipur for the year 1992-93 were also passed. In all, 8 Appropriation Bills were passed by the House. The speeches of many of the members in regard to the financial business have been telefilmed and will be available in the Library.

In the field of legislation, the House passed 20 Bills, importing among them being the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, the Securities and Exchange Board of India Bill, the Finance Bill, and the Constitution (Seventy-Sixth Amendment) Bill. The House also referred the Constitution (Seventy-First Amendment) Bill for delimitation of constituencies as passed by the Rajya Sabha to a select committee of the House.

One short duration Discussion under Rule 193 on the latest position on Bofors gun deal investigations was held. Besides a motion under Rule 184 regarding proclamation in relation to the State of Manipur was also discussed.

The House also discussed and adopted 3 statutory resolutions - one seeking approval to the continuance of the proclamation in respect of Jammu & Kashmir for a further period of six months and the other two approving the proclamations under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the States of Manipur and Nagaland.

Four important matters, namely, prolonged strike by the Jute workers in West Bengal, exposure of a racket in spurious drugs run by doctors in Delhi, resentment among tobacco growers in Andhra Pradesh over a low prices for VFC tobacco and strikes by share brokers resulting in closure of stock exchanges, were raised through the device of calling attention on which four hours were taken. Twenty Eight statements on important matters were made by various Ministers. In addition, 314 matters were raised under Rule 377.

Notices of 47,370 question were received of which 947 questions were listed as starred, 271 questions could be orally answered and written replies were given in respect of 9715 questions. One Short Notice Question and one Half- an- Hour discussion were also taken up. I learn the receipt of notices for 47,370 questions is the largest ever for a Budget Session. I also learn that the average number of Members giving notices of questions for a sitting is 212 which is double the number for previous sessions. I am extremely happy the keen interest displayed by Members.

As usual, the Private Members continued to evince keen interest in bringing forward Bills and Resolutions in the House.

Sixty One Bill on various subjects were introduced by Private Members. Two Bills - one to restrict powers regarding imposition of President's Rule in the States and the second to give constitutional status to the Planning Commission and the National Development council were discussed in the House. Another Bill seeking to include manipuri and Nepali languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, which received the support of almost all sections of the House, remained part-discussed. Two resolutions, one for rejecting the proposals pertaining to TRIPS, etc. and the other seeking to give adequate compensation to victims of Bhopal Gas Disaster were discussed during the session. While the former resolution was withdrawn by the House, the latter remained part-discussed.

Considerable time of the House was spent by the members raising various issues during the so-called "Zero Hour", the unlisted business hour. I must compliment the members for focusing attention of the House to a good number of very important and topical matters during this time. On an average, about 75 minutes were spent each day on such matters on which there cannot be any compliment from us to ourselves. I am happy that most of the Members got opportunities to raise matters uppermost in their minds.

I am also happy the progress made in televising the proceedings of the House. During the current session, we have not only continued the telecast of the Question Hour, but also extended it to other important debates. As mentioned earlier, for the first time in the history of Parliament, there was a live telecast of the presentation of the General Budget and the Railway Budget. We also telecast speeches of some Members in debate on the President's Address and on the demands of Ministries like Human Researched Development, Food and Agriculture, External Affairs, Rural

Development, Civil Supplies, which had been telefilmed earlier. It is gratifying to note that the feed-back from all corners of the country is quite encouraging.

Finally, I take this opportunity to thank all the honourable Members for the kind cooperation extended to me and my colleagues - the honorable Deputy Speaker and the hon. Members of the Panel of Chairpersons - in the smooth conduct of the business of this House. I would specially like to thank the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition, the Leaders of various parties and groups as well as the whips of the parties, for unstained cooperation and courtesy extended to me without which my task would not have been easy. I would like to express our appreciation to all the officers and employees of the Parliament for the

cooperation that they extended to one and all also for doing their duties in the best possible manner. Without their cooperation, the House would not have functioned as it did.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHARAO): You are happy and you always make others happy. The moment you are happy, we all become happy.

MR. SPEAKER: I wish all the hon. Members very best till we meet in the Monsoon Session again. The House stands adjourned *sine die*.

19.10 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned sine die.

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