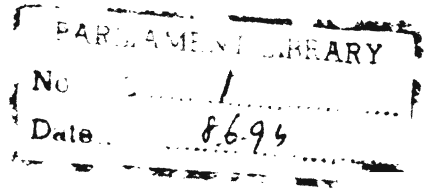


LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Sixth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XXII contains Nos. 41 to 45)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, May 13, 1993/ Vaisakha 23/ 1915
(Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Crude And Petroleum Products

+

*981. PROF. MALINI BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI RUPCHAND PAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided
to slash its crude production;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the amount required for import of crude
and other petroleum products to meet the internal
demand;

(d) whether it would also put pressure on the
foreign exchange reserve of the country; and

(e) if so, the extent thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MIN-
ISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
(CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and

(b): The target of indigenous crude oil production
during the year 1993-94 has been fixed at 27.170
million tonnes against the actual production of
26.945 million tonnes during 1992-93.

(c) to (e): The import of crude oil and petro-
leum products will be in accordance with the
approved oil Economy Budget for the year 1993-
94. The value of imports will depend upon the
total quantity and prevalent international market
prices.

PROF. MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Sir, the
answer that has been given is entirely evasive.
The target that has been mentioned for the year
1993-94, is still far lower than the actual produc-
tion in 1991-92, which was 30.346 million tonnes.
So, we find that, both the actual production of
crude and the target is declining year by year and
that is the most important point in this. We find,
according to your own data - the Minister's own
data that ONGC produced 18.555 million tonnes
of crude oil during April-December 1991, as
against the target of 25.544 million tonnes for the
year. So, the target is fixed but the production is
never according to the target and on the other
hand, the target is also declining year after year.
At the same time, we find that the net import is
increasing year after year.

So, I would like to ask the Minister this
question that at a time when due to the glutting of
international market, the OPEC decided to slash
the production in order to form up the prices and
it was known that this would mean increased
import costs for developing countries, why was
the domestic production allowed to dwindle?

We find that according to your statistics, after 1989-90 there has been a progressive decline; a certain level was reached and then there has been a decline.

MR. SPEAKER: You have asked the question. Why is it allowed to decline is your question.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: I am coming to the question. This is reportedly owing to overdrawal. It shows that there has been no long term perspective planning involved. I want to know from the hon. Minister what is being done to increase the target and to increase production

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: For 1992-93 ONGC target was 25.544 MMT and the achievement was 24.43 MMT. For Oil India target was 2.92 MMT and the achievement was 2.51 MMT. Totally we are talking about a target of crude production in the country for 1992-93 of 28.46 MMT and an achievement of 26.94 MMT. I agree with the hon. Member that from a peak of 34 MMT the oil production has come down to about 26.94 MMT. There is a background to this. When we were peaking at 34 MMT, at that peak levels of production certain steps which should have been taken to sustain it, like water injection etc., unfortunately because of financial restraints and constraints were postponed. Hence there was a reservoir, voidage imbalance as it is called, which took place, which required that many of these producing wells to be shut down which was done as per the Das Gupta Committee's recommendations. They were necessary to be shut down; otherwise there was a possibility of permanent damage taking place to the reservoir. About 55 wells are still not producing; they are shut down. Because of the steps taken, the health of the reservoir has improved. That is the latest feedback we are getting. The imbalance situation is improving.

In the mean time we have taken steps and we are taking steps to increase the production

through short and medium term measures. The improvement will be only visible two years from now. The next two years are going to be difficult for us on this front.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Considering that the oil reserves that India has are quite comfortable, the answer that the Minister has given regarding the lowering of production as a result of shutting down of oil wells is not satisfactory. Because if there had been planning, then this reduction in crude production would have been necessary.

At the moment we find that multi nationals are entering oil exploration. What is there to prevent their keeping a stranglehold on crude production in order to increase our dependence on imported oil? Has the Ministry considered this? May I know whether the Ministry is appointing any expert committee to check this decline in crude production and the decline in target so that on the basis of the recommendations of that expert committee, sufficiently strong measures can be taken?

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: I would like to inform the hon. Member that in fact if we have to become, one day, oil sufficient and bring about sufficiency in oil for India, there is no short cut. It is these same multi-nationals who are investing in exploration in China and who are investing in the exploration world-wide, who have come here and invest money to intensify our exploration efforts so that we find another Bombay High, maybe one day, so that the 50 per cent oil that we are importing can be produced here. For that we have a plan.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: You are allowing multi-nationals. But, do you have any plan in this respect?

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Through you, Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that, of course, we have a plan. We have short and medium plans. We have taken steps besides the L-II, L-III, Hira and Punna and

the other fields where work is going on. We have 3 small fields and 12 medium fields which we had offered for joint production. I am glad to inform that the response has been exceedingly good. We received 117 bids. So, we are taking various steps. I can assure the hon. Member that without the fullest interest and involvement shown by these multi-national, it may be very difficult to reach the target.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Will the multi-nationals be required to achieve some target in production? Sir, my question is not answered.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rupchand Pal.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: The implicit increase in the oil production in the 1980s was not matched with the corresponding decrease in the import in crude oil and also in the increase of domestic production of certain petroleum products; and the Government continue to import; even subsidising it, say for example, paraffin wax of certain type. May I know from the hon. Minister as to whether the Government has such an import policy, that with the rise in domestic production of petroleum or for that matter petroleum products, the Government will decide, to cease to import or bring down the import in volume, I mean? We do find that the Government is continuing to provide subsidies to the tune of Rs. 155 crores for the import of certain paraffin, whereas we do find that we do have a plenty of such paraffins in our country. The Government should have included slack wax to provide the 263 small scale industries which are suffering for want of such bulk slack wax. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has such an import policy with regard to crude as also for petroleum products, vis-a-vis domestic production of such things?

MR. SPEAKER: Do you have a policy? That is the simple question.

CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Yes. We have a policy, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. That is right.

SHEIANKUSHRAO RAO SAHEB TOPE: I want to know this from the hon. Minister. I have seen in Brazil that all the vehicles are running on gasoline, that is, the petrol mixed with purified alcohol. So, may I know whether the Government is thinking on the same lines to use gasoline for all the vehicles so that the price of petrol will be reduced?

MR. SPEAKER: No. The main question is on the production of crude and petroleum products. It does not arise from the main question.

SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAO SAHEB TOPE: Sir, due to that the foreign exchange will be saved; and by using the alcohol which is based on molasses and the molasses which is based on sugarcane, the farmers and agro-based industries will also get good remuneration. So, may I know whether the Government is going to adopt this or not?

CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that the quantities of alcohol which are produced here have the value-added-product. Alcohol, whatever is available here finds much better application in the chemicals and other industries in the country.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my friend Shri Pal has snatched my supplementary, I would like to ask that according to specifications of Indian standards Bureau, paraffin wax is one to the important petroleum products and the Government is importing it at Rs. 65,400 per tonne and selling it at Rs. 16,949 per tonne, thus it is bearing a loss of Rs. 48,451 per tonnes and according to Indian standards, Bureau, type -3 paraffin wax is surplus in the country and it can be used as type two paraffin wax. Despite that it is imported from abroad and it is petroleum product. What are the reasons of bearing a loss of Rs. 200 crore every year, while there is short-

age of foreign exchange in the country? Will the Government consider to stop its import?

[English]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, earlier also, this question on paraffin wax was referred to by the hon. Member. He also mentioned about the small scale units which are having problems on this count.

Sir, let me clarify to the hon. Member that there is no shortage of Type - 3 paraffin wax in the country. In fact, there is a glut and because of that, on an experimental basis, since the last two years, we have been exporting Type - 3 paraffin wax to our neighboring countries. We are importing only Type - 1 and Type - 2 paraffin wax.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, sir, my question was, when type-3 paraffin wax can be used as type-2, what are the reasons for its import. I wanted to know this from the hon. Minister but he has evaded the reply. Mr. Speaker, Sir, kindly ask him to reply to this supplementary.....(Interruptions)

PROF. RITA VARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any such method can be developed in the country through which type three paraffin wax, which is surplus in the country may be converted into type- 1 or type-2 by purifying it. Is there any Research and Development work in progress in this regard? My another supplementary is that the price of type-2 paraffin wax in the world market is 600 dollar per tonne and the Government is making payment at the rate of 820 dollar per tonne. I don't understand as to what is happening to the difference of 220 dollar per tonne. Why can't the Government import paraffin wax at 600 dollar per tonne, why is it importing it at higher rates?

[English]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: I can get the information from my Ministry and pass it on to the hon. Member.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, now the discussion is going on here on the candles. I would like to ask two supplementaries, though it is a single supplementary, yet a part if it is related to price. Mr. Speaker, sir, while replying to a question the hon. Minister had said on 18th March in this House that

[English]

".....import during 1992-93 on paraffin wax at an average price of US Dollars 820 per metric tonne equivalent to Rs. 65, 400/-.

[Translation]

If 1 US Dollar is equivalent to Rs. 30-31, the value of 820 dollars is Rs. 25,000 but he has stated it to Rs. 65,400 and he has given a written answer in the House.

[English]

"Against this, the ex-storage selling price is Rs. 16, 949 approximately per tonne, involving a subsidy of Rs. 48,451 per metric tonne."

[Translation]

Is it misappropriation of funds? What is the reason to estimate 4-5 times higher price of the dollar?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the second supplementary is related to it is that the hon. Minister said about the policy but actually there is no policy as such this is a policy of ruining all small scale industries and the hon. Minister said in a written reply that paraffin wax is imported at 820 Dollar

per tonne.... But as per the manifesto of import of private importers it is being imported 600 US Dollar tonne, then where is the difference of 220 dollars going?

[English]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, I think he is referring to only Type I and Type 2, which are imported, for which you have to pay duties on customs, etc. But if he desires a detailed answer on the paraffin matter I shall ensure that it will be passed on to him.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, since the matter relates to prices, it should be clarified in the House soon.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: When was it purchased?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: This is the latest, relating to the month of April. I have the figures of March and April.

MR. SPEAKER: He has promised to give the information. Let him collect it.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Sir, I want a specific reply. We find from the reply given by the hon. Minister that the Government's intention is to stagnate indigenous production of crude. I say those because the target for the year 1993-94 has been fixed at 27.1 million tonnes, whereas the actual production in the previous year, 1992-93 was 26.9 million tonnes, almost equivalent to 27 million tonnes. In this context, may I know from the hon. Minister as to why the ONGC is not being persuaded or allowed to utilise new points of drilling, particularly in areas where there are positive indications. For instance, one well is working well in Golf Green in West Bengal and others in Ichapur in Nadia District of West Bengal and Kadomah in West Champaran

District of Bihar. It is also rumoured that the ONGC is contemplating to withdraw rigs from West Bengal, Kadmah and Tripura. Would the Government assure this House that in the interest of increased indigenous production of crude, further activities will be expanded and the rigs will not be withdrawn from any center?

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, I can assure the hon. Member that the Government has no intention of withdrawing any production activity, or for that matter, even exploration activity, where we find that the work is going on well and the prospects of hydro-carbons are high. Depending upon field to field, as the hon. Member is aware, the ONGC and the Oil India are drilling for exploration as well as production. I can assure the hon. Member that we are taking various measures to increase production both off-shore as well as on-shore. The hon. Member is entirely right in saying that the difference in targets of last year and this year is almost the same. As I have mentioned already, significant increase which is going to take place in a year, will become visible in two years from now. All the steps are being taken to ensure that.

[Translation]

Lok Sabha

Illegal Mining of Coal

*982. SHRI LAL BABURAI:

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state: (a) the number of cases of illegal mining of coal reported to the Government during the last two years;

(b) the details thereof, state-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

STATEMENT

(a) and (b): Number of Cases of illegal mining of coal reported to the local police by the subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited (CIL) during the last two financial years 1991-92 and 1992-93 were 99. Statewise details are:-

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Bihar | 58 |
| West Bengal | 37 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 3 |
| Assam | 1 |

(c) First Information Reports (FIRs) have been lodged with concerned police stations. Action as per law is being taken by state Government Authorities.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL BABU RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister about statewise details of illegal mining of coal but in his reply he has said that there are 58 cases in Bihar, 37 in West Bengal, 3 in Madhya Pradesh and one in Assam. He has also said that the First Information Reports have been lodged with the concerned police stations but despite that illegal mining of coal is continuing with sinister alliance of local police and officials of the Coal India Ltd. On 21st April, when illegal mining was on, 50 labourers died there due to sinking of coal. Similar incident had also occurred in January but the hon. Minister did not say about the action taken there on. The state Government as well as the Union Government is suffering a loss of crores of rupees due to this illegal mining of coal... Almost about 250-300 trucks loaded with illegal coal are going out of Bihar every day... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We can take up only one question in 25 minutes, so come to the question.

SHRI LAL BABU RAI: Through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps are proposed to be taken to stop illegal business of coal, though cases of illegal mining have been reported in police. I would like to know this.

MR. SPEAKER: Can the Government do anything except police action or it is going to take any action?

[English]

SHRI AJIT PANJA: Yes, sir. Not only Fir is lodged, generally 6 mayor steps are taken in respect of any such illegal mining which comes to the notice of the subsidiary companies and they are!

1. Round the clock vigil of the area by security personnel.
2. Surprise checks take place from the Headquarters, Security Division.
3. Areas found vulnerable are subjected to information and feed back by intelligence department.
4. Development of intelligence sources and finding out new reliable intelligent sources.
5. Maintaining electronic communication network.
6. In respective the most sensitive areas a closer liaison with the state law enforcing authority is maintained.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL BABU RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said just now that the intelligence department is taking action but how illegal

business of coal goes on despite that. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the Government contemplates to hold a C.B.I inquiry and whether the Government proposes to make a cooperative for the unemployed youth of Bihar who are being used by coal Mafia for illegal coal mining to mine coal, so that these youths may get jobs.

[English]

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: Sir, most of illegal mining, he mentioned the word illegal mining and not theft, is taking place in the 81 coal mines which have been declared closed for various reasons. Like, the coal has already been extracted and mines enhanced secondly, because of certain water logging the mines have been kept closed.

The Government of Bihar approached us saying whether Corlmining can be given to the cooperative sector. In 1992 the Bihar Government formed a Committee to go into this question. The Coal India also participated in that Committee. I understand that their report has been finalised but we have not been given a copy of that report. As soon as that report is received, we shall consider the report and find out what is required to be done in respect of mines which have been declared closed and CIL is not interested in them so far as mining is concerned. Then only the question of handing it over to the workers cooperative or to the state Government will arise.

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI: Mr. Speaker, sir, it is a matter of great concern and deep consternation that the cases of illegal mining stand at 58 in Bihar alone. So far as the Report which is given to the Government is concerned, this is few and far between. The dimension of illegal mining is much larger than what has been reported to the Government and the authorities concerned. It is not only the illegal mining but there is a conspiracy between miners, security personnel and management of these subsidiaries of the Coal Indian Limited. So, I would like

to know from the hon. Minister what steps he would like to take in this respect and what measures should be contemplated to be taken against all these management concerns and whether the Government is contemplating to hand over this security arrangement to the private organisation, military personnel or not. Because, that will become effective.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: Sir, I have already answered the question regarding the steps taken. I have got information from the state Government as also from the subsidiaries that the total number in Bihar is 5/. If the hon. Member has got some other information, let him kindly pass on that information to me so that I can take appropriate steps.

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSAN: It is nots. Sir, you have reported it as 58.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: Yes Whatever figure that I have got I have given the some. If the hon. Member feels that there are some more illegal mining taking place, let him kindly pas on the information to me. I assure that appropriate action shall be taken in respect of those.

So far as the security personnel are concerned, we utilise security personnel drawn from central Industrial security Force.

So far as ex-military personnel, private security are concerned, we use them sometimes but not always.

[Translation]

SAHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bihar is suffering an annual loss rupees one hundred crore due to ban imposed on morning of one hundred existing coal mines since 1976 and the bad is not being life, though the state government has made several requests. The pitheads of those mines have been kept open which provide an opportunity for illegal mining. Neither the state Government has been given any special powers for the parenting illegal

mining nor the pitheads are covered. I want to know whether the Central Government is going to accept the demand made in this regard by the Government of Bihar.

[*English*]

SHRI AJIT PANJA: Sir, the Government of Bihar, the Government of Assam, the Government of west Bengal and the Government of Gujarat have asked for permission for grain lease. All the state Governments have been allowed subject to certain conditions and the conditions here are with me. I do not want to take the time of the House. I will inform the hon. Member about the conditions under which it is done. If it is in an isolated patch, it is allowed and also if it does not interfere with the coal mining operation by Coal India Limited.

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: They are not in patches. There are 100 mines.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI BHAVANA CHIKHLIA: Mr. Speaker, sir, through you I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that it has been explained in reply to the question.... (*Interruption*)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no need of reading it.

SHRIMATI BHAVANA CHIKHLIA: It has been stated that there are 99 mines where illegal mining is reportedly going on and moreover, we all are aware as to how many coal has been mined during the last three years. Coal is now essentially required for many things and he has just now said that the Government of Gujarat has made a demand for supply of coal to the State. There has been no provision in the Eighth Five Year Plan to fulfill the demand of coal of Gujarat whereas illegal mining is going on unabated. I would like to know the quantity of coal mined during the last three years that has compelled the Government not to fulfill the demand of coal

made by the Government of Gujarat and that has further constrained the Government to make supply of coal to several other states.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: If you can answer, you can do it. Otherwise, I am not insisting.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: I cannot disoblige a lady Member.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay. Then oblige.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: The answer is that the percentage is very small taking into consideration the overall operation done by the CIL. The yearly production by coal India Ltd. is 210 million metric tonnes. What is the percentage of such illegal mining? It is much less than even one per cent of the total production

But, still, we are not sleeping because is less than one per cent. There is no problem, so far as sanction of least state Govt. Companies is concerned. If other states as interests they can certainly write to us, as Bihar has done, as west Bengal has done, as Assam was done. Certainly, it will be considered.

[*Translation*]

Crude Oil

*984. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission and the Oil India Ltd. have made any assessment regarding average production cost of crude oil in the country;

(b) if so, the estimated production cost of crude oil during 1992-93;

(c) whether the estimated cost is far less in comparison to that of other crude oil producing countries;

(d) if not, the details thereof;

(e) whether the production cost can be reduced further;

(f) if so, whether efforts have been made in this regard; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The average estimated cost of production of crude oil (including statutory charges) for Oil and Natural Gas Commission and Oil India Ltd. during the year 1992-93 was Rs. 2566 per tonne and Rs. 2187.40 per tonne, respectively.

(c) and (d): The cost of production of crude oil varies from field to field and country to country depending upon the different characteristics of the reservoir and its location. Information relating to cost of crude oil production in other oil producing countries is not maintained.

(e) to (g): Steps taken to reduce the cost of production include application of value engineering techniques, controlling over-head and semi-variable expenditures, use of latest technology and introduction of improved managerial techniques etc.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: The reply made by the hon. Minister and the reports prepared by his Ministry reveal that there is enough of contradiction between the two. The

production has fallen while the average cost of production of crude oil had been increasing. Consumption of crude oil had largely increased. The per year average production cost of crude oil increased last year from Rs. 2066 open tone to Rs. 2566 per tonne. The consumption during the year 1970-71 was 1 crore 89 lakh 10 thousand tonne which has now increased to 5 crore 67 lakh tonne. It has been said that information relating to cost of crude oil production in other oil producing countries is not maintained. Through you I would like to know the steps being taken by the Government to modernise the technology and consequently to reduce manpower in production of crude oil. I would further like to know as to how without having studied the technologies of foreign countries would our country be able to modernise the technology in order to reduce the production cost.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your question. You should not ask such a long question.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: I am coming to the question. I would like the hon. Minister to explain as to how new technologies are to be adopted without having studied foreign technologies in this regard. I would further like to know the criteria to be adopted by the O.N.G.C. to reduce the number of employees which at present are 48 thousand and the places where such plants are to be set up.

[*English*]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: The hon. Member is referring to the cost of production. Through you, I would like to share with the hon. Member so that he has a clear picture. As far as the cost which has been referred in the answer is concerned, the cost of oil production includes, besides the operating cost also the recounted cost, financing cost, the statutory charges.

Now, the rate of royalty and the oil development are variable items. I would also like to share with the hon. Member that as far as the

cost of production is concerned, it varies from field to field; on share, it is cheaper to producer; on-shore depends on the depth of the sea - the cost goes up.

Obviously, the technological input is there which keeps on changing with the changing technology. At present, we are looking at the new technologies which will enable us to produce oil from those fields which, as per our own capability, we have not been able to produce. So, technological scene is such that every year you have something new coming up. And I can assure the hon. Member that we are looking at the best technology to bring down the cost of production and increase the production simultaneously.

[*Translation*]

SHRINAWAL KISHORE RAI: Mr. Speaker Sir, when the Oil Industry Development Fund was set up and tax and surcharge were imposed, the objective behind it was to reduce the cost of production. I would like to know the amount invested in purchase of shares rather than in exploration of oil by the oil Industry Development Fund; when and how much and the manner in which the investment was made, along with the achievements and efforts made in regard to reducing the cost of production. Moreover, I would like to submit that the oil exploring units set up in Bihar did not continue the drilling work to the required depth and whenever it has been decided now to shift the unit from there. I want a categorical statement from the hon. Minister regarding the amount invested in purchase of shares during 1992-93 along with the time and the kind of investment.

[*English*]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, the hon. Member is referring to Oil Industry Development Fund. I am not aware, exactly how much money was invested in the shares. That information, I will pass on to the hon. Member as soon as it is available. But I would like to share

with him that the kind of money investments which are required in the oil sector, whether it is exploration or production, I wish the Oil Industry Development Fund was a bigger fund.

I agree with the hon. Member that is the kind of source. We have to find source to expand our sources of funds which we require from within. But as we are aware and as we know from our experience that even with whatever budgetary support, we have the kind of investment required. To give an idea, it is one field amongst twelve which we have framed out for joint production now and for which I mentioned earlier, the response has been very good. I am told that one of those odd fields requires an investment of billion dollars, just to give an idea, and our Oil Industry Development small scale as compared to the overall scenario.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, our colleague Shri Nawal Kishore Rai has put a query just now before You. Recently the Government decided to explore Crude Oil reserves by undertaking off-shore drilling, under that plan drilling work was undertaken at places like Darbhanga, Madhubani, Arariya, Raxaul etc. Foreign companies were involved in air survey as well as in drilling work. Now I would like to know the achievements made through this endeavor. Is crude oil available in abundance at these places. Moreover, the hon. Minister may kindly inform also as to why the drilling work has been stopped.

[*English*]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, if at all drilling has been stopped at any place where it was going on, the only reason I can understand is that if there is no indication of hydro-carbons there, obviously the drilling is stopped. What we are looking for is an indication of hydro-carbons or presence of hydro-carbons for drilling. I can assure the hon. Member that there can be no other reason besides this.

He is referring specifically to Madhubani, Raxaul and Darbhanga area where the drilling has been stopped, I will check up what were the causes for stopping the drilling and if at all it is stopped I will pass on the information to the hon. Members as to what are the reasons for stopping

[*Translation*]

SHRI RABI RAY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this connection I would like to remind you that the answer just now given by the hon. Minister is only about the question that Choudhari Saheb and I had raised regarding crude oil a little while ago. I wanted to ask a supplementary in this regard only because nothing substantial has been said in the answer. What is its implication.

MR. SPEAKER: Can you ask a supplementary on that question:

[*English*]

Russian Crude Oil

*985. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDKHANDURI:

SHRI MADHAN LAL KHURANA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government concluded an agreement with the Russian Government during 1992 for purchase of crude oil;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the Russian vice-president has alleged payment of huge kickbacks in sale of Russian crude oil to India during end-1992; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

(CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) and (b): As per Trade protocol between Russia and India for the year 1992, Russia was to supply 4 million tonnes crude oil. However, only 0.212 MMT of crude oil valued at approx. US \$ 27.38 million was received.

(c): Such reports have appeared in some sections of the Press.

(d): Purchases of Russian crude oil during 1992 was carried out under the "Trade Protocol between the Republic of India and the Russian Federation for 1992". All trade adjustments and payments of imports and exports from the Russian Federation are regulated by the provisions of this protocol. Consequently, the purported payment stated to have been made is not feasible under the Inter-Governmental arrangements.

[*Translation*]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I asked him whether the Government are aware that the Russian Vice President had alleged payment of huge kickbacks in black of crude oil. The reply received to this the Question is that such reports have appeared in payment sections of the press. It is a matter of great concern that an international some has been reported in newspapers and our Government simply says that it has come to know through reports in newspapers. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the vice President of Russia had ordered an inquiry into this matter and this case was discussed in this very august House and Mr. Speaker had directed the Government to clarify its stand on this issue and hon. Minister Shri Shukla had told that he would make a comprehensive statement in this connection. This issue was raised on the 20th April and today it is 13th May and yet the Government says that such kind of reports have appeared in newspapers. It is matter of great concern. From this it appears that the Government is supporting corrupt persons in this case also.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question is whether the Union Government have had a talk on this issue with the Russian Government and have tried to get information? Is the Government aware that the Government of Russia has ordered an inquiry into the case? Have any names of Indians figure in that inquiry because this issue is directly related to the Government of India. My second question is whether the Government propose to order any inquiry into it. If so, when the inquiry will be started and by when it will be over? If not, the reasons therefor?

[English]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, there were news items here and I remember that this matter was discussed with some of my colleagues at that point of time as to how we should proceed with the matter. In the meantime, because of the friendly country involved and because there was a referendum in that country, we had decided that the best course is to get the authentic action of whatever has appeared in the papers here. Simultaneously, all I can do from my Ministry is to check up from my own record as to what was the factual position. The factual position is that only 0.212 MMT valued at US \$ 27.38 million was imported during 1992 against a contract of 1.1 MMT. Price paid for the crude was internationally accepted prices for the crude. Payment by IOC was made directly into the ESCROW Account Permitted under the agreement between the RBI and the Central Bank of Russia to enable exports from India in terms of counter trade. Under these circumstances, the alleged payment to not appear feasible.

I can also give further details of what I have got. The import of crude oil from Russia is contractual. The parties involved.....

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Have you contacted the Russian Government? What is the result of that enquiry? Are you trying to get any information from that friendly Government or are you just going to

keep quiet and do nothing?

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: As I mentioned that Prime facie if the alleged \$ 30 million.....

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: \$ 3 million

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: No, \$ 30 million. There was a newspaper item stating that 30 million alleged pay-off has taken place but the total amount of crude oil revived in India is about \$ 27 million.

Then where do you go from that? So, as I said, considering what came out in the press and also what we got as authenticated and the imports actually took place, we can establish from what the information we have here. As I said, the total value of the crude which actually came into the country was only 127.38 million dollars.... (Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: When you have not paid thirty million, have you paid three million? You are not answering that.

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, the second thing which is very relevant here is that the price paid was the international price. We did not pay more price than that. The Government of Russia is conducting an inquiry and if they approach us for any cooperation, we shall be glad to give whatever cooperation is required by them.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: I think, Sir, this is a masterly digression. I have asked something and he has given every other information than what I wanted. I think, Sir, you also probably realise it. But I can do nothing about it.

[Translation]

In reply to my question patting to kick backs he has stated.

[English]

"Consequently, the purported payment stated to have been made is not feasible in the inter-governmental arrangements."

[Translation]

It is an intergovernmental arrangements. I want to know from the Government whether they are aware that Shri Shibaeye, against whom allegation has been made, has made statement that he had utilised services of consultant for Indmo-Russia trade. He has disclosed the name of that consultant as Mr. Normal Setia. If it is true and the Government knows it and if he is using constant, then how can the Government say that no kickbacks were paid. please clarify it. (Interruptions) should I speaker it in English?

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: I have followed you completely. You need not to speaker in English. I want to only submit that unless we feel that such incident has taken place in which any kickback is involved, it will not be proper to take any action on our part. Russia is our friend and you know its background that prior to the referendum it also had certain political background... (Interruptions)

MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: The referendum took place long back and now it is over. But the question is arising these days. (Interruptions)

[English]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, if the hon. Member has any specific query on this matter, I shall be glad to check up and pass on the information to him.

[Translation]

SHRI RABIRAY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I understand the difficulty of the hon. Minister. But I want to submit that on the 19th Shri safuddin Chudhury and I had raised this issue on which you have told

that since it was a very important issue, the hon. Minister should be given time so that they may provide information to this august House. We both are friendly countries, as much it becomes essential that the people should know all about the kickbacks.

I want to furnish another information.

[English]

That Minister, Mr. Shibaeye is also involved in another deal with India in which Russia lost about seventy-eight million dollars. This was for the construction of a four billion dollars factor in India.

[Translation]

Secondly, Shri Shibaeye is removed from his office on this account. He was the Deputy Minister (Trade) He was sent to Finland. I want to submit to the hon. Minister only this much that he should have looked into this matter and sought the assistance of the minister of External Affairs and apprise then House of the facts in this regard.

Shri Seti, Who is a British citizen of Indian origin, had acted as a middle-man. The hon. Ministers should have given clarification regarding all these things because we both are friendly countries. If the Government does not have the information, it should have sought certain period of time. But nothing has been said about all these happenings. I want to submit that statement was made by the Russian Vice-President, Shri Alexander Risk, in the Russian Parliament which appeared in newspapers of that country and all over the world. Due to this he has been removed from his office of the Minister of Trade. If the Government does not have information, it should collect and furnish.

The Government is stating that it does not have the information. But this is not going to heighten the glory of India. The hon. Minister should fulfil the promise made by him and reveal

it. There are two cases of kick backs. One of crude oil and that of four million dollars. What else can I ask you. I can only request. The Government should take it seriously and inform the august House about it. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You and the Government are face to face. You may ask.

[*English*]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, I will have to get it confirmed. At present I am not in a position to confirm, but what I hear is that an inquiry has already been ordered in Russia in this matter. The inquiry is going on. As far as we are concerned here, as I mentioned to you, sir, the total amount was 0.212 million Metric Tonnes which we imported, the total price we paid is US \$27.38 million and the prices which we paid for the crude, at that time were according to the prevailing international prices. So, prima facie, as far as we are concerned, as far as our Ministry is concerned, we have not paid a penny more to any supplier or any company. So, prima facie here I have no reason for concern, but I can assure that Member that any cooperation India can give to Russia in their inquiry, we will be glad to give them and cooperate with them.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now it has been stated that the Russian Government has set up certain inquiry committee and we have not paid anything extra. This statement is made by the Government today. On examination, it may be found that the deal could have been struck at the less amount than what has been paid. Who so ever has received the kickback, must have been a middleman. Therefore, it seems to the Government that the payment is not too much. The Russian Vice-President has stated that the middleman has derived money from the entire amount of the deal and the Government of India might have signed the deal at cheaper rate. Had the Government managed to sturi hte deal

directly, this situation might not have arisen. I have a very simple question the matter concerns two parties—one is India and the other is Russia. Would the Government of India like to hold inquiry in this regard and inform the august House about the findings of the inquiry does the Government propose to hold an inquiry in this regard?

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, as I mentioned earlier, on the one hand there is an inquiry going on as I understand—I cannot confirm that, but I will check up from the Foreign Office here, from the Government and pass on the information. But I understand that inquiry is going on there.

[*Transition*]

SHRI KHURANA: Who is holding the inquiry?

[*English*]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Russians.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Russians are doing, but I am asking about Indians. The second party is India

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: As far as we are concerned, Sir, as I mentioned earlier, we have not paid anything more than the international prices prevailing then to Russia from where we bought under our Indo-Russian Trade Protocol. As I mentioned, from the facts that we have—I am repeating the facts that I have here that the price paid for the crude was in internationally accepted prices our Indo-Russian Trade Protocol. As I mentioned, from the facts that we have—I am repeating the facts that I have here that the price paid for the crude was an internationally accepted price for the crude. Payment by IOC was made directly into the ESCROW Account permitted under the Agreement between the RBI and the Central Bank of Russia enable exports from India in terms of

countertrade. Under these circumstances, the alleged payments do not appear feasible to... (*Interruptions*). If the hon. Member wants any further information, additional information which I can provide, sir, I can assure you that I will pass it on to him.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Have you asked the Govt. of Russia the writing (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, bribe giving is bad and bribe taking is also bad. If we consider Russia to be our friendly country, then we cannot cause a financial loss to them also. I want to know whether in that agreement we imported crude oil from Russia through a Government company of that country or through private company. And if that is so, can the Minister tell us also, in view of the enquiry that they have ordered, whether he has also set up any kind of enquiry? In regard to Bofors Scandal also, not only in our country we had set up enquiry, but in Sweden they had also set up enquiry. So, is the Minister going to set up any kind of enquiry?

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, the hon. Member is very well aware about the political background in Russia as far as this whole issue is concerned and I will not elaborate that in this House. Who is where, who said what and who is with whom; the hon. Member will not elaborate that in this House. Who is where, who said what and who is with whom, the hon. Member is aware. The issue here is, if we find that there is a need for an enquiry, certainly enquiry will take place here.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Rourkela Steel Plant

*983. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rourkela steel Plant has adequate steps to develop the small and medium ancillary units at and around Rourkela;

(b) if not the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up and develop an adequate number of small and medium ancillary units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV)

STATEMENT

(a) to (d): Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) has taken some measures to encourage the development of small and medium, ancillary units in and around Rourkela

As in other steel Plants of SAIL, Rourkela steel plant has been rendering technical assistance for setting up of units for items identified for development in small scale industry (SSI)/ ancillary units, extending help in procurement of raw material, providing special tools and testing facilities, imparting training to the entrepreneurs in the new emerging areas, etc.

For the ongoing modernisation programme at Rourkela steel plant, several industries have been identified and classified for undertaking structural fabrication jobs.

Rourkela steel plant has also been interacting with the state Government and its nodal agencies for setting up new industries and propagating technology for upgradation and modernisation of the existing units to facilitate a greater role for the SSI in meeting the requirements of the plant.

[Translation]

Smuggling and Infiltration

*986. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of smuggling and infiltration from across the borders of the country which occurred during each of the last three years;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether these issues have been discussed with the concerned countries during mutual talks;

(d) if so, the reaction of those countries in this regard; and

(e) the progress made regarding creation of a security Belt on the borders so far?

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

(a) and (b): - The year-wise details of smuggling and infiltration detected by the concerned agencies concerned, along our borders, are as below:-

| Year | Number of cases of smuggling | Number of cases of Infiltration |
|------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1990 | 37,809 | 2,915 |
| 1991 | 36,754 | 3,397 |
| 1992 | 39,871 | 2,853 |

The year-wise details of the value of seizures and number of persons apprehended are as follows:-

| Year | Value of smuggled goods seized | Number of person apprehended (in crores) |
|------|--------------------------------|--|
|------|--------------------------------|--|

| | | |
|------|-----------|--------|
| 1990 | Rs. 81.39 | 48,542 |
| 1991 | Rs. 71.75 | 63,642 |
| 1992 | Rs. 78.22 | 35,576 |

The value of the seizures made does not include the value of the contraband sized as it is not possible to give its precise value.

The enforcement agencies are vigilant against smuggling activities and infiltration. The other steps include strengthening of Border Security Force to reduce the gaps between the border outposts, intensified patrolling including in the reverine areas, erection of OP Towers along the international border, and supply of night vision devices, binoculars, etc., for better observation.

(c) and (d): These issues are discussed periodically in the border meetings at various levels and in flag meetings of the security Forces with their counterparts. The concerned countries have assured help in tackling the menace.

(e): No "Security belt" has been created. However, security fencing has been done in some areas bordering Punjab, Rajasthan, Assam and Meghalaya, and floodlighting in some sectors of the Punjab and Rajasthan border.

[English]

Private Sector in Health Services

*987. SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDEWALL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have urged the private sector to supplement and support efforts

of the Government hospitals to provide medical aid to the maximum number of people;

(b) if so, the details of the private sector units identified so far; and

(c) the extent to which the participation of private sector in medical aid is likely to help to attain the goal of health to all by 2000 A.D.?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) Government generally appreciates the contribution of the private as well as Voluntary Sector in providing health services to the public at a reasonable cost.

(b) No such private sector units have been identified so far.

(c) The private sector can engage itself in different health care programmes which inter-alia include family planning, immunization, eradication of leprosy, control of blindness etc.

[Translation]

Aids Control Programme

*988. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI
ASHRAF FATMI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent during the last financial year on the AIDS control programme;

(b) the major areas of expenditure curried under this programme;

(c) whether the epidemiological study on HIV-incidence is being conducted through the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the comprehensive programmes for research and control of AIDS undertaken at present in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Rs. 30.89 crores.

(b) Programme Management, I.E.C., Surveillance and Clinical Management, Blood Safety, STD Control and Training.

(c) & (d): HIV prevalence trends are being systematically monitored through data obtained from 62 surveillance Centres at various places in the country.

(e) India Council of Medical Research is working on basic research aspects and the National AIDS Control Organisation on the operational aspects on AIDS.

[English]

Smuggling of Arms and Ammunition

*989. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH
SHAKYA:
DR. KRUPASINDHUBHOI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) whether a large quantity of arms, ammunition and explosives have been smuggled into the country during the last four months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) the action taken by the Government to locate the places where such materials have been distributed and also to recover them; and

(f) the preventive measures taken/being taken to check such cases?

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

(a) to (f): Sizable quantities of arms and ammunitions, explosives and other materials were smuggled into the country in the recent months. The Bombay police, in coordination with the various concerned Central agencies, is continuing will its investigations in the matter. Government had asked all state Governments, especially those neighboring Maharashtra, to launch systematic action to locate and seize the materials under reference, of which substantial quantities have been recovered. It would not be in the interest of the investigation to disclose further details.

Government had also asked the State Governments, especially Maharashtra and Gujarat, to appoint nodal officers for coordinating all actions for enforcing reinforced surveillance, especially along the coast. Appropriate instructions have also been issued to the Navy, Coast Guard and Customs for carrying out intensive patrolling in the high-seas as well as along the coast line. The outcome of these efforts is being regularly monitored.

Shortage of IV Fluids

*990. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the reported shortage of intravenous fluids (IV fluids) in Government-run hospitals, particularly in the safdarjung Hospital, Delhi;

(b) whether some patients have died due to non-availability of IV fluids resulting in inordinate delay in treatment;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the remedial measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) No shortage has been reported by the Government hospitals of Delhi except for Safdarjung Hospital which experienced temporary shortage of IV fluids. Steps have already been taken to normalise the supply of IV fluids.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d): Do not arise.

National Leprosy Eradication Programme

*991. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: Will the minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any review of the National Leprosy Eradication programme has been undertaken:

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any intensive measures have been taken to detect the number of persons affected by leprosy in Uttar Pradesh;

(d) if so, the number of patients identified during the last three years;

(e) whether any specific preventive measures are being taken in Uttar Pradesh to prevent this disease; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND)

STATEMENT

(a) to (f). Periodic reviews of the National Leprosy Eradication programme are undertaken by both national as well as international experts. The major findings/recommendations of the last review are as under:

- i. The reported data have been validated.
- ii. The progress of NLEP has been fairly satisfactory. However, it is slow in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal.
- iii. MDT has been found to be an effective tool in the fight against leprosy.
- iv. A good number of posts of Medical Officers, nonmusical Supervisors are vacant in some states. Such vacancies are 20-30% in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.
- v. There is need for further toning up of logistic arrangements, like drugs, vehicles and equipments.
- vi. The Temporary Hospitalization Wards are not being utilized to their capacity.
- vii. There is need to further strengthen the training activities.
- viii. Community awareness has increased manifold. The perception of the people has undergone a major change. Social stigma is on the decline.

(c) and (d): New cases detected during the last three years in the state of Uttar Pradesh are the Under:

| Year | No. of New Cases |
|---------|------------------|
| 1990-91 | 50693 |
| 1991-92 | 59200 |
| 1992-93 | 48785 |

(e) and (f). Under NLEP, special emphasis is given on health education, early detection of cases and their treatment with MDT to prevent spread of the disease through infection in all programme areas including those in Uttar Pradesh.

Marketing Set-Up of Steel

992. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the marketing set-up of the steel produced in the Integrated Steel Plants of the country needs improvement;

(b) if so, whether the steel Authority of India has prepared any strategy to revamp the marketing set-up; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) The new industrial policy announced in July, 1991 has introduced greater competition in the steel industry, requiring the integrated steel plants to reorient their marketing strategies to meet the changed situation.

(b) and (c): SAIL has revamped its marketing strategies to operate in an increasingly competitive environment. Special thrust is being given to improvement of customer service through more intensive customer contact, timely booking of orders and settlement of customer

contact, timely booking of orders and settlement of customer grievances, entering into annual or long term contracts, re-orientation of the product mix to meet market requirements, etc. The marketing network is being improved through modernisation of stockyards so as to facilitate better storage and handling of materials.

Revamping the marketing strategy is an ongoing process, which depends upon the market situation.

Oil Deposits in Arunachal Pradesh

*993. SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places in Arunachal Pradesh where oil deposits have been found with quantum thereof;

(b) the estimated quantum of oil drilled per month and also the total quantum of oil drilled so far

(c) whether any foreign companies have shown interest in the exploration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Oil has been discovered in two fields in Arunachal Pradesh, namely, Kharsang and Kumchai. The total in-place reserves in this area as on 1.1.93 are 31.41 million tonnes.

(b) The present oil production rate from two fields, namely Kharsang and Kumchai is 185 tonnes per day. The cumulative production of crude oil from these two fields till 31st December, 1992 is 0.44 million tonnes.

(c) and (d): Two exploration blocks falling

partly in Arunachal Pradesh have been offered for exploration by private companies under the Fifth Round of bidding. The last date of submission of bids is 30.6.93

Knarsang oil field was offered to private companies for development/production under joint venture arrangement with OIL. Two bids have been received from companies which are under evaluation.

Sino-Indian Health Co-Operation

*994. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a two-day Sino-Indian seminar and exhibition on medicines health care and contraceptives was held in New Delhi on April 1-2, 1993;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the areas of co-operation identified in health care at the seminar?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c): The National Research Development Corporation (NRDC), New Delhi, had organised an International Exhibition-cum-Seminar at New Delhi on April 1-2, 1993 on 'Selected Technologies from India and China'. Medicine was one of the ten areas covered during the Exhibition-cum-Seminar.

Cholera Epidemic

*995. SRI GURDAS KAMAT: DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of

reports that illegal immigrants from Bangladesh are posing the threat of a particular virulent cholera epidemic in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the preventive measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) There is no such report.

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

Zinc and Copper Industry

996 DR. P. R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the prices of imported zinc and copper are lower than those produced indigenously;

(b) whether the Government are also aware that zinc and copper industry is facing recession; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) (a) to (c): Selling prices of indigenously produced Zinc and Copper are fixed by their producers keeping in view the prevailing prices in the international market. Prices of both these metals in the international market are subject to cyclic fluctuations and have shown a declining trend in the recent months. It is hoped that reversal of this trend in the international market will in turn enable the domestic produc-

ers to realise better prices for these metals.

[Translation]

Employment for handicapped persons

*997. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed handicapped persons registered with various employment exchanges in the country during each of the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) the number of such persons provided with employment during the above period, State/Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether the Government are formulating any special scheme to provide employment to them at the earliest;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) (a) and (b): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) to (e): Seventeen Vocational Rehabilitation Centres for Physically Handicapped are presently functioning in the country to evaluate the residual capacity of the physically handicapped persons and recommend occupations most suited to their qualifications, ability etc. The benefits of Differential Rates of Interest are also available from Nationalised Banks to physically handicapped persons to enable them to start gainful self-employment.

STATEMENT

Number of physically handicapped job seekers and the number pillaced in employment

| State/Union Territory | Live register as on the last day of | | | | Placemeent during | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|------------------------|-------------------|------|
| | 1990 (June) | 1991 | 1992 | 1990 (January-June) | 1991 | 1992 |
| 1. Andhra Pradesh | 37936 | 41719 | 43167 | 166 | 235 | 168 |
| 2. Arunachal Pradesh | 5 | 5 | - | - | - | - |
| 3. Assam | 2767 | 3466 | 2988 | 6 | 7 | 5 |
| 4. Bihar | 13125 | 14618 | 14189 | 33 | 58 | 30 |
| 5. Goa | 435 | 445 | 444 | - | 8 | - |
| 6. Gujarat | 11415 | 11579 | 12399 | 5007 | 367 | 402 |
| 7. Haryana | 6160 | 6680 | 6626 | 57 | 117 | 40 |
| 8. Himachal Pradesh | 3496 | 3459 | 3611 | 36 | 8 | 17 |
| 9. Jammu & Kashmir | 652 | 695 | 735 | 1 | 1 | - |
| 10. Karnataka | 14567 | 15507 | 16423 | 131 | 215 | 43 |

STATES

| State/Union Territory | Live registers on the last day of | | | | Placements during | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|---------------------|-------------------|------|--|
| | 1990 (June) | 1991 | 1992 | 1990 (January-June) | 1991 | 1992 | |
| 11 Kerala | 23673 | 24675 | 22939 | 527 | 502 | 258 | |
| 12 Madhya Pradesh | 16155 | 16401 | 16707 | 339 | 293 | 127 | |
| 13 Maharashtra | 19742 | 21084 | 21375 | 415 | 587 | 232 | |
| 14 Manipur | 1081 | 1144 | 1152 | - | - | 2 | |
| 15 Meghalaya | 78 | 84 | 82 | 4 | 2 | - | |
| 16 Mizoram | 69 | 63 | 65 | - | - | - | |
| 17 Nagaland | 61 | 49 | 50 | - | - | - | |
| 18 Orissa | 9760 | 11414 | 11606 | 139 | 88 | 31 | |
| 19 Punjab | 7326 | 8577 | 8833 | 104 | 124 | 26 | |
| 20 Rajasthan | 13466 | 13806 | 14519 | 78 | 331 | 92 | |
| 21 Sikkim* | | | | | | | |
| 22 Tamil Nadu | 37473 | 40629 | 41394 | 957 | 1236 | 389 | |

| State/Union Territory | Live register as on the last day of | | | | Placemeent during | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------|-------|------------------------|------------------------|------|------|
| | 1990 (June) | 1991 | 1992 | 1990 (January-June) | 1990 (January-June) | 1991 | 1992 |
| 23. Tripura | 1994 | 2023 | 2236 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| 24. Uttar Pradesh | 28836 | 27389 | 27648 | 90 | 144 | 144 | 65 |
| 25. West Bengal | 38311 | 40867 | 42582 | 154 | 108 | 108 | 30 |
| UNION TERRITORIES | | | | | | | |
| 26. Andaman & Nicobar Islands | 69 | 152 | 176 | 15 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| 27. Chandigarh | 632 | 713 | 758 | 31 | 37 | 37 | 14 |
| 28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 24 | 24 | 40 | - | - | - | - |
| 29. Delhi | 5363 | 5007 | 5084 | 130 | 101 | 101 | 43 |
| 30. Daman & Diu | - | 18 | 18 | - | - | - | - |
| 31. Lakshadweep | 34 | 24 | 49 | 8 | - | - | - |
| 32. Pondicherry | 1141 | 1067 | 1078 | 8 | 3 | 3 | - |
| Total | 313393 | 318973 | 3939 | 4599 | 2019 | 2019 | |

[English]

Control of Asthma

*998. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Asthma is predicted to increase world-wide with growing urbanisation and industrialisation, particularly in India;

(b) whether Asthma is more prevalent in children than in adults, and more in boys than in girls; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to control Asthma in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND)

(a) The Indian Council of Medical Research have reported that this view is generally accepted globally; however specific data for India has not been published.

(b) Various reports tend to confirm this view.

(c) Steps are being taken to control atmospheric pollution.

Cardio-Vascular Surgery

*999. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an international conference and workshop on Cardiology and Cardio-Vascular Surgery was held at G.B. Pant Hospital, New Delhi in January, 1993;

(b) if so, the countries which participated in the conference;

(c) the salient recommendations made at the conference; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Austria, Australia, Canada, Finland, Germany, Israel, Russia, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom and U.S.A. participated in the conference.

(c) According to the Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi, the following recommendations were made in the conference:-

1. Need to develop homograft valve bank in India in order to save drain of foreign exchange in importing artificial valves.
2. Need to allow to cardiac transplantation in India in order to save patients from end-stage heart disease.
3. Need for more centres for paediatric cardiac surgery fully equipped and managed by well trained specialists.
4. Diet control in the prevention of coronary heart disease.

(d) The organisers have not formally forwarded the recommendations to the Government.

Small Pox and Chicken Pox

*1000. DR. SHRIMATI K. S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of deaths reported due to small pox and chicken pox in the country during 1992-93, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have prepared any new immunisation scheme to check chicken pox, small pox and viral diseases; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):
(a) No case of Small Pox has been reported in the country since 1975. Separate information for Chicken Pox is not available. However, the disease is seldom fatal.

(b) and (c): Small Pox Vaccination has been discontinued as it is no longer considered necessary. Under Universal Immunisation Programme, children are vaccinated against two viral diseases, namely, measles and polio-myelitis. At present there is no reliable vaccine against Chicken Pox nor such is recommended.

[*Translation*]

Gastroenteritis

8379. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several people are suffering from gastroenteritis in Gujarat particularly in tribal areas of the State due to the polluted water and air;

(b) if so, the number of persons suffered from gastroenteritis in Gujarat particularly in the tribal areas during the last year;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to provide assistance to Gujarat to check the spread of this disease; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) and (b): The Central Bureau of Health Intelligence reported that 2,92,884 persons suffered from diarrh diseases including gastroentreit is in 1992 in Gujarat State. This includes the tribal areas.

(c) and (d): union Ministry of Rural Development provided Rs. 16.33 crores during 1992-93 for Rural Water Supply to Gujarat State.

[*Translation*]

State Level backward Classes Commission in Madhya Pradesh

8380. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken to set up a State level backward Classes Commission in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the number tenure of members in the Commission and the main functions of the Commission; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): As per Madhya pradesh Gazette Extraordinary dated 15th march, 1993, a State level Backward Classes Commission has been constituted. The Commission shall consist of five members. The tenure of the Commission is there years. The Commission shall entertain requests for inclusion of any class of citizen as a Backward Class in the list

prepared by the state Government from time to time for purposes of making provision for reservation of appointment in posts and hear complaints of over-inclusion or under-inclusion of any backward Class in such lists and tender such advice to the State Government as it deems appropriate. The advice of the Commission shall ordinarily be binding upon the State Government. It is functioning.

[English]

Disturbances in Ayodhya

8381. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed and injured, the number of houses destroyed or damaged, the number of shops destroyed or looted, during the December, 1992 disturbances in Ayodhya;

(b) the scheme of relief and rehabilitation announced by the Government;

(c) the progress of implementation under each item of the scheme so far;

(d) the number of places of worship destroyed in Ayodhya during the disturbances and the number of those damaged?;

(e) the number of such places of worship which have been rebuilt by the Government as on march 31, 1993; and

(f) the number of persons who had been displaced from Ayodhya due to disturbances and the number of those who have returned to Ayodhya by march 31, 1993?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a): According to information furnished by the State Government, 15 persons were

killed, three persons were aware injured, 239 buildings were destroyed/damaged and 35 shops were destroyed/looted.

(b) Payment of ex-gratia relief @ Rs. two lakhs to the next of kin of persons killed in riots. Rs. 50,000/- to those who are permanently incapacitated, Rs. 2,500/- to those who are temporarily incapacitated and Rs. 1,250/- those those who received serious injuries. Compensation of Rs. 5,000/- to those who lost movable property Rs. 1,250 to Rs. 37,000/- to those whose houses have been damaged and Rs. 5,000/- in the event of damage of property earning livelihood.

(c) An amount of Rs. 30 lakhs has been paid to the next of kin of persons killed Rs. 3600/- to those who received injuries and Rs. 22,54,600/- to those who lost their property. Besides this, 54 quintals of foodgrains and 685 blankets were supplied to the riot affected persons.

(d) 19 places of worship were damaged/ destroyed.

(e) All the 19 places of worship have been repaired/rebuilt by the Government.

(f) Families who had migrated from Ayodhya have returned.

Reservation Policy in Mathura Refinery

8382. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA:
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reservation policy for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is being followed in Mathura Refinery;

(b) if so, the reasons for not promoting those employees who are due for promotion; and

(c) the time by which the temporary employees belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are likely to be confirmed in the said Refinery?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) and (b) The reservation of posts for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in promotion quota in Mathura Refinery is made as per 40 point roster (15% for SCs and 7.5% for STs). The rosters are maintained by the Management for each post having separate feeder cadres. During the year, 1992, out of a total of 197 promotions effected in different grades in Mathura Refinery, 52 candidates belonged to the SC category and 6 candidates belonged to the ST category.

(c) The Mathura Refinery does not have any temporary employee on the permanent pay roll of IOC. Therefore, the question of their confirmation in service does not arise.

Reduction of Ash Percentage in Coal

8383. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Research and Development projects of coal industry has made various suggestions for reducing ash percentage in coal;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any decision thereon; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A number of Research and Development projects related to beneficiation of coal have been taken up for optimisation of flow

sheets and circuits for effective beneficiation, improved methods and testing of use of beneficiated non-coking coal for power generation. With the reduced ash content of beneficiated coal, the consumption of coal is correspondingly lower and efficiency of utilisation is better compared to raw coal. In case of coking coal, almost all the coal supplied to steel plants is beneficiated. An Expert Committee set up by the Government had recommended use of beneficiated non-coking coal in new thermal power stations located more than 1000 kms. away from the coalfields. Accordingly it has been decided to set up pit-head coal beneficiation plants for power grade coals.

Import of Crude Oil

8384. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the actual quantity of crude oil and oil products imported during 1992-93 and the CIF cost thereof in dollars;

(b) the estimated quantity to be imported during 1993-94 and the estimated cost thereof; and

(c) the main sources of supply during 1992-93 and the expected sources in 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) About 29.2 million tonnes of crude oil and 11.3 million tonnes of petroleum products valued at approximately US\$ 18 billion (C.I.F) were imported during 1992-93.

(b) The import of crude oil will be in accordance with the approved oil Economy Budget for the year 1993-94. The value of imports will depend upon the total quantity and prevalent international market price.

(c) The main sources of crude oil importes are from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iran UAE and Malaysia etc.

from under ground and open cast mines; and

(b) the steps taken to augment the production?

Coal production by BCCL

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL
THE MINISTRY OF (SHRI AJIT PANJA)

8385. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) The figures of coal production of Bharat Coking Coal Limited for last three years are given below:-

(a) the total coal produced by Bharat Coking Coal Limited during each of the last three years

(Million tonnes)

| Year | Underground | Open cast | Total |
|---------|-------------|-----------|-------|
| 1990-91 | 12.29 | 14.41 | 26.70 |
| 1991-92 | 12.08 | 14.92 | 27.00 |
| 1992-93 | 11.54 | 16.52 | 28.06 |

(Provisional)

(b) Steps taken to augment coal production, inter-alia, include opening of new mines, modernisation of existing mines, application of new technologies to achieve maximum results and ensuring timely availability of inputs and infrastructural facilities.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):
(a) to (c): A proposal from Government of Andhra Pradesh was received in 1987 for upgradation of M.N.J. Cancer Hospital and Radium Institute, Hyderabad into a Regional Cancer Centre. The State Government was informed that no new Regional Cancer Centres would be set up or recognised during 7th Plan and the emphasis was on strengthening and improving the facilities in the existing Regional Cancer Centres. There has not been any change in the position.

MNT Cancer hospital, Hyderabad

8386. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARARAO VADDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh have submitted any proposal for conversion of M.N.T. Cancer Hospital, Hyderabad into a Regional Cancer Centre:

Intolerance to Milk

8387. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken for the clearance of the proposal?

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the Medical news service "perfect Health Features" according to which

milk is not the ideal food for all adults and intolerance to milk is caused by a deficiency in the milk digesting enzyme lactase; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND)

(a) and (d) According to the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, milk contains good quality protein and is therefore, an important dietary item even for adults, particularly for vegetarians. However, milk also contains lactose (sugar) which is not tolerated by some individuals with lactase deficiency. Studies conducted by the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad have shown that a majority of adults with lactase deficiency can consume milk without any problem as the amount of lactose present in a glass of milk is about 10gm which can be easily digested even if lactase levels are low

Acquisition of Technology

8388. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 3D seismic survey is far better than 2D survey;

(b) if so, whether ONGC and OIL have owned such technology;

(c) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken for acquiring such technology; and

(d) the manner by which 3D seismic survey has been conducted in the country at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SNTISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) 3D and 2D seismic surveys are two different methods of seismic data acquisition, each de-

ployed for different objectives. 2D seismic survey is normally carried out at the initial exploration stage while 3D seismic survey is used for obtaining more detailed information.

(b) ONGC has already acquired 3D technology whereas OIL engages foreign contractors for this purpose.

(c) OIL plans to acquire 3D technology during the Eight Plan.

(d) As on 1.4.1993, a total of 52423 K onland and 53034 LK offshore of 3D data have been acquired through foreign contractors, in case of oil India Limited, and largely through Use of departmental parties and seismic vessel in case of ONGC.

Title Deed of Coal Mines

8389. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the reply given on 8 April, 1992 to Unstarred Question No. 6633 regarding Title Deed of Coal Mines and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected.

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c): Yes, Sir. The assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 6633 dated 8.4.1982 was fulfilled in February, 1993

In terms of section 3 of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973, the right, title and interest of the erstwhile owners of the coal mines as shown in the schedule to the said Act, stand transferred and vested in the Central Government and in turn under section 5 thereof in the

Coal Companies. In view thereof, Coal Companies do not require any further instrument to carry out mining operations which they are authorised and empowered to do by the operation of law.

[*Translation*]

Migrants from Erstwhile East Pakistan

8390. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of migrants from the erstwhile East Pakistan to whom rehabilitation facilities have been provided in Uttar Pradesh especially in Lakhimpur-Khiri and Pilibhit districts;

(b) the total amount spent thereon during the last three years; and

(c) the present status of their citizenship?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) 6569 migrant families from erstwhile East Pakistan have been provided rehabilitation facilities in Uttar Pradesh. Information regarding the breakup of the number of migrant families who have been provided rehabilitation facilities in Lakhimpur-Khiri and Pilibhit District is being collected from the Government of U.P. and would be laid on the table of the House.

(b) Rs. 11.28 lakhs has been spent by the Govt. of India during the last three years viz. 1990-91 to 1992-93

(c) Migrants from erstwhile East Pakistan (Now Bangladesh) who crossed over to India before 25.3.1971 are considered for the grant of Indian citizenship.

[*English*]

New Extraction of Gold from Mines

8391. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYAGAVIT: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether extracting of gold has since been started from the new gold mines located during the last two years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the quantity of gold extracted so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Gandhi Gram Institute of Rural Health and Family Welfare

8392. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had appointed a two-member study team to study the structure and functioning of Gandhi Gram Institute of Rural Health and Family Welfare, Tamil Nadu, as early as in 1988;

(b) whether the said committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the salient features of the recommendations.

(d) whether the Government have taken any decision on the recommendations;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which the recommendations are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND)

(a) Yes, Sir. It was appointed by the State Government of Tamil Nadu.

(b) Yes, sir.

(c) Recommendations were mainly related to improving the service conditions of their employees on par with the Government servants and audit of the accounts by the Accountant General.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Some of the recommendations concerning the demands of the Institute employees to be treated on par with Government servants are not implementable as it is a voluntary organisation. The others are to be implemented by the Institute and the State Government.

[Translation]

Loan by NSFDC

8393. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National SC/ST Finance and Development Corporation Limited (NSFDC) have succeeded in fulfilling its aims and objectives;

(b) if so, the achievement made;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Above said Corporation has also provided loan to some industrial units in Delhi during the last three years;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the maximum limit of loan fixed by NSFDC;

(g) whether the Government propose to raise this limit and relax the other conditions for granting loans;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI

SITARAM KESRI) (a): NSFDC has succeeded in fulfilling its objectives, which consist of extending concessional, financial assistance to SC and ST beneficiaries, whose family income does not exceed double the poverty line income (Rs. 22,000/- per annum), for income and employment generating schemes, Skill development, assisting State SC/ST Corporations in preparation of project reports and training their personnel.

(b): NSFDC has so far sanctioned 485 schemes valued at Rs. 437.36 crores with NSFDC share of Rs. 222.76 crores to benefit 1.80 lakhs beneficiaries on completion of schemes. The Corporation has so far released an amount of Rs. 90.96 crores as on March 31, 1993. The Corporation has sanctioned 97 training programmes costing Rs. 103.00 lakhs with its commitment of Rs. 62 lakhs for skill upgradation programmes. The Corporation has also conducted training programmes for the State level Corporation officers to Upgrade their skills in project preparation.

(c): Does not arise.

(d) and (e): NSFDC had sanctioned one scheme for an industrial units in Delhi though DSFDC: M/s Ajay Garments where project cost is Rs. 14.67 lakhs and NSFDC's share in the form of seed capital assistance is Rs. 3.13 lakhs.

(f): NSFDC provides seed capital assistance and term loan. Seed capital assistance is maximum upto 25% of the project cost. As regards term loan, NSFDC provides a maximum of 75% of project cost which should not exceed Rs. 1.5 crores for each profit centre.

(g) to (i): A new package of financial assistance with prevailing limits of units cost and NSFDC share therein and slab rates of interest is under consideration of NSFDC.

Supply of L.S. (H.S.D.)

8394. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that L.S. (H. S. D.) being supplied in Bombay is adulterated one; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) A complaint has been received to the effect that LSHF (HSD) being supplied in Bombay is adulterated.

(b) The complaint is being investigated.

[English]

Central Assistance to NAB Sandalwood Smuggler

8395. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Governments of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have sent any proposals to the Union Government for assistance of para-military forces in connection with the operation for nabbing the notorious sandalwood smuggler Veerappan and his gang;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a): Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): The State Governments of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu had sent a proposal to the Government of India for assistance of paramilitary forces in connection with the operation for nabbing Verrappan and his gang to be jointly undertaken by the two State Governments. The modalities in this regard are being worked out in consultation with the State Governments.

[Translation]

Dharamveer Report

8396. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the scheme of the Government in regard to implementation of Dharamveer report regarding service conditions of police personnel;

(b) whether the Government have accepted the recommendations of the report;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the report is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH

PILOT) (a) to (d): All the 8 reports of the National police Commission were studied in detail both by the Central Government and the State Governments, police being a State subject, the implementation of the recommendations concerning the State Governments primarily vast with them.

A few areas in these reports which concern the Central Government have also been identified and action/decisions on most of such recommendations taken to the extent possible.

[English]

Pension to Petroleum Companies Pensioners

8397. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether dearness relief linked to consumer price index and minimum pension are being paid to pensioners of the petroleum companies;

(b) whether the Bharat Petroleum Pensioners are being paid low pension based on their old bais salaries;

(c) whether they have demanded for revision;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government and Bharat Petroleum;

(e) whether there is any proposal to restore the commuted portion of the pension of Bharat Petroleum pensioners on the expiry of commuted period as in the case of Government pensioners; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MIN-

ISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) The oil companies do not have this system.

(b) The retired employees of the erstwhile multi-national M/s. Burmah Shell receive pension from the pension Fund of the Bharat petroleum Corporation Ltd. under the Rules and Regulation governing the Pension Fund. This pension based on basic salary of such employees at the time of their retirement. However, in May, 1988 ad-hoc relief was given on the pension to such employees in accordance with the judgment of the Supreme Court.

(c) yes, Sir.

(d) A proposal for the grant of ad-hoc relief to such pensioners is under the consideration of the Government.

(e) and (f): There is no such provision in the Rules and Regulations of the pension Fund of the Bharat petroleum Corporation limited nor Does it propose to restore the commuted portion of the pension on the expiry of commuted period.

Production and Distribution of Kerosene and LPG

8398. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the projections for production of kerosene/LPG during 1992-93 and prospects for 1993-94;

(b) the indigenous and imported proportion in tonnes of these products;

(c) the present policy of distribution of these products to the dealers/distributors by the oil companies;

(d) the projection for distribution outlet of

kerosene/LPG in Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Delhi;

(e) whether large number of applications are pending for dealership of these items before the oil companies; and

(f) if so, the time by which these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) and (b); The production and import of kerosene and LPG during 1992-93 was as under:

(Quantity: '000' Tonnes)

| <i>Provisional Production</i> | | <i>Import</i> | <i>Provisional of total availability</i> | |
|-------------------------------|------|---------------|--|---------------|
| | | | <i>Production</i> | <i>Import</i> |
| SKO | 5290 | 3463 | 60.44 | 39.56 |
| LPG | 2570 | 328 | 88.68 | 11.32 |

For 1993-94 the production and import of these products will be in accordance with the approved Oil Economy Budget.

(c): Dealerships/distributorships of petroleum products are opened in different parts of the country in a phased manner on the basis of demand potential and economic viability of the

locations, subject to product availability. Products are supplied as per demand and allocation made by oil companies.

(d): The marketing Plans for kerosene (1989-93) and LPG (1992-94) respectively have the following provisions for kerosene and LPG distributorships:

| <i>State</i> | <i>Kerosene</i> | <i>LPG</i> |
|------------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Uttar Pradesh | 35 | 68 |
| Haryana | 4 | 32 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 2 | 1 |
| Delhi (plan not yet decided) | | 26 |

(e) and (f): Selection of dealers/distributors is done by the Oil selection Boards constituted by Government for different States/Region. Hence the question of applications being pending with the oil companies does not arise. Advertisement and other steps are being taken for selection of dealers for approved locations

[Translation]

Seizure of Explosives by CRPF

8399. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Central Reserve Police Force personnel have seized explosives weighing 206 kg. from the Aligarh Railway Station which were being carried in a parcel from Delhi in the Delhi-Agra Passenger Train on March 14, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted to ascertain the person or agency who/which booked the above Parcel;

(d) whether the involvement of any terrorist group is suspected in this incident; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a): No, Sir.

(b) to (e): . The question does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Medical Equipments

8400. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYANAYAK:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned "Croron Ke Saiyantra Varshon Se Kharab" appearing in the "Rashtriya Sahara"

dated the January 19, 1993;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any investigation in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for getting the medical equipments repaired?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) (a): Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c): The Delhi Administration have reported that the C. T. Scanner was the only equipment lying out of use temporarily in G. B. Pant hospital. The same has since been made functional by providing the necessary spare parts.

(d): Does not arise.

Lignite based Power Plants

8401. SHRI GIRDHARILAL BHARGAVA:
Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state the number of lignite-based power plants working in the country along with their locations and capacity thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

Lignite-based power plants have been set up at Neyveli in Tamil Nadu and at Panandhro in Gujarat. The details of lignite-based power plants presently working in the country are indicated below:-

| | <i>Power Station</i> | <i>Capacity</i> | <i>Location</i> |
|----|-----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1. | Neyveli Thermal Power Station - I | 600MW | Neyveli in Tamilnadu |

| | <i>Power Station</i> | <i>Capacity</i> | <i>Location</i> |
|----|----------------------------------|---|---|
| 2. | Neyveli Thermal Power Station-II | 1260 MW (to be increased to 1470 MW) | Neyveli in Tamilnadu |
| 3. | Panandhro Thermal Power Station | 2x70 MW (to be increased to 210 MW) | Panandhro in Kutch district of Gujarat. |

[English]

LDCs of Delhi Administration

8402. SHRI SHASHI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of LDCs of Delhi Administration who could not qualify the typing test in the year 1977 have been debarred from their annual increments:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the relevant rules in this regard:

(c) whether the promotion of such LDCs have also been held up till date.:

(d) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure justice to the sufferers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) 9a) to (e): The Delhi Administration has reported that the LDCs who could not qualify in the Typing test in previous years (including 1977) are debarred from earning their annual increments. However, they are allowed to take the Typing test held in subsequent years.

As per the provisions of the Delhi Admin-

istration Subordinate Service Rules, 1967, passing the typing test by an LDC is a prerequisite for earning increments.

In case of LDCs who are eligible for exemption from passing the typewriting test, as per Government of India's O.M. No.F. 14020/2-91-Estt. (D) dated 29.9.92, their requests for exemption are considered expeditiously. For the convenience of the employees, the Delhi Administration conducts typewriting tests every quarter in the months of February, May, August and November.

HBJ Pipeline

8403. SHRIDATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any dispute with French Company regarding HBJ Pipeline;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to solve the dispute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUAMR SHARMA) (a) to (c): There is a between AIL and M/s. Spie Capag Consortium, who were turnkey contractors for the construction of the HBJ pipeline, regarding

liquidated damages levied by GAIL and certain claims raised by the Consortium. A Joint Committee consisting of representatives of the Government of India and the Government of France has been set up to review the matters in dispute, and to advise both the Governments on the possible approaches to an amicable settlement.

LPG Connections

8404. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to allow import of kerosene oil and LPG;

(b) if so, the details thereof giving reasons for such a policy;

(c) whether port handling facilities for highly inflammable commodities are available;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the wait-listed persons for LPG connections will be asked to take the gas connections from the private parties; and

(f) if so, the details and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) and (b): In order to increase the availability of LPG and Kerosene in the country in addition to what is available at controlled prices through Public sector Oil Companies, Government have decided to allow their import and sale at market prices, by private agencies.

(c) and (d): While kerosene can be received through all major Indian ports, LPG handling facility is presently available at Bombay and Vizaq. Other locations are being explored

by private agencies.

(e) and (f): While Public Sector Oil Companies will continue to release new connections to the wait-listed customers, in a phased manner, such customers will, however, be free to avail of gas connection from the private agencies.

Unauthorise Conversion of Residential to Commercial Complexes in Delhi

8505. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the complaints/representations received by the Police Commissioner, Delhi during February and March, 1993 regarding illegal and unauthorised conversion of residential complexes into commercial complexes in Delhi, particularly in Bhagirath Place, Chandni Chowk area; and

(b) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against such persons in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a): The Delhi Police has reported that a communication was received from one Shri Rakesh Goyal, alleging unauthorised construction of a residential building bearing No. 1810, Bisomal Colony, Bhagirath Place, Chandni Chowk and its conversion into a commercial building by one Shri Ashok Jain.

No representation was received from any of the residents of the said colony by the Delhi Police.

(b): Enquiries made by the Delhi Police reveal that only a stair case has been constructed by the person complained against. The building of the stair case is not actionable under

the buildings bye-laws, of the Delhi Municipal Corporation.

Smuggling on Indo-Nepal Border

8406. SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI:
SHRI RAJNATH SONKOR SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Indo-Nepal Border: conduit for smugglers' appearing in the Illustrated Weekly dated December 14-20, 1991:

(b) whether the Government are aware that sophisticated weapons in huge quantity are being smuggled in motor vehicles into India through the above mentioned border;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of such weapons seized on the Indo-Nepal border especially the border touching Bahraich district in Uttar Pradesh in the recent past; and

(e) the measures being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) 9a): Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): On 8 March, 1993, the Nepalese checkpost police personnel seized one vehicle which was trying to cross over to India. One stengun and sixteen 9 m.m. cartridges were recovered from the vehicle.

(d) : 3 AK-47 rifles were seized in 1992;

Stengun and 16 nine mm cartridges have been seized in 1993 so far.

(e): In view of terrorist activities long the Indo-Nepal border, the Government of India has established an anti terrorist checkpost near Senauli in the maharajganj district of Uttar Pradesh. Police Stations, outposts and immigration checkposts on Indo-Nepal border have been alerted to keep strict vigil. Border Security and policing have also been tightened all along the border.

Sri Lankan Refugees

8407. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Sri Lankan refugees who come over to Tamil Nadu between June, 1991 and December, 1992 and are still staying there; and

(b) the amount spent on them so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a): According to the reports received from the Government of Tamil Nadu, no Sri Lankan refugee has come over to Tamil Nadu after April, 1991.

(b): Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Pending cases in Courts Relating to LPG Agencies and Retail Outlets

8408. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:
SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in the courts relating to allotment of LPG agencies, petrol/diesel retail outlets to Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes;

(b) since when these cases are pending; and

(c) the action taken for early disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a): Two cases each in respect of R.O. dealerships and LPG distributorships relating to false SC/ST certificates are pending in Various Courts.

(b): Whereas cases relating to R.O. dealerships are pending in the Courts since 1983 and 1984, the cases relating the LPG distributorships are pending since 1987 and 1991.

(c): The concerned Oil Company is taking necessary action for early disposal of the cases.

[English]

Thefts in Trains

8409. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of removal of explosive materials meant for use in the Army from the Railway trains reported during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of cases of theft of wireless sets, revolvers, cameras etc. from the baggages of Special Protection Group Comman-

dos traveling in trains which took place during the above period;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) the number of cases in which the culprits have been apprehended;

(f) the action taken against them; and

(g) the steps taken / being taken to check such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSE AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a): A statement giving the relevant details is attached.

(b): Only one case of theft of wireless Set and Pistols between Mathura and Gwalior Stations has taken place during the period.

(c) to (f): A case U/s 379 IPC has been registered by the Government Railway Police, Madhya Pradesh in this regard. No recovery of stolen article has been made so far. A Departmental inquiry was initiated and the 4 SPG personnel found guilty of negligence were repatriated to their parent Department with a recommendation to initiate suitable disciplinary action against them.

(g): Necessary guidelines have been issued in this regard.

Violation of manipur - Myanmar border

8410. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Myanmarese military is frequently violating the Manipur-Myanmar border and harassing the inhabitants of the border villages; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to prevent such violations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a): Yes, Sir.

(b): A constant watch is being kept on all developments impinging on our national security and appropriate measures are taken accordingly. The Government of Manipur has also set up a new police station at Molcham near the Indo-Myanmar border in Chandel district and patrolling has been intensified to check the illegal intrusion. The matter has also been taken up through diplomatic channels for appropriate attention at the Government level.

[*Translation*]

Infiltration of Pak Citizens

8411 SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the infiltration of Pakistani citizens in the garb of construction of mosques in Jaisalmer district in Rajasthan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b): Govt. is aware that due to border fencing and heightened vigilance on Indo-Pak border in Punjab, infiltration has increased across the Rajasthan Border. However, Govt. Have no specific report as yet on the infiltration

of Pak citizens in the Jaisalmer Dist. of Rajasthan, in the garb of construction of mosques.

2. Govt. have taken appropriate steps, including flood lighting and fencing of vulnerable stretches on Indo-Pak border in Rajasthan to check the menace of infiltration.

[*English*]

Term Loan to Set up Mini Steel Plants

8412. SHRI K. PRADHANI:
SHRI ANNA JOSHI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of entrepreneurs have come forward to set up mini steel plants to augment steel production;

(b) if so, the number of applications received by the financial agencies for term loans during the last two years; and

(c) the number of applications which have been cleared and the reasons for delay in clearing the other applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) Under the new Industrial policy 'Iron and Steel' has been removed from the list of industries reserved for the public sector and also exempted from the provisions of compulsory licensing except for certain restricted locations. Entrepreneurs who wish to set up industrial projects which are exempted from the provisions of compulsory licensing are only required to file an Industrial Entrepreneurs Memorandum (IEM) with the Central Government. While a large number of entrepreneurs have filed IEMs for setting up mini steel plants, it is not known at this stage as to how many of the projects will finally be implemented.

(b) and (c) : As reported by the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) in February, 1993, 12 applications had been received by the IDBI along with other All India Financial Institutions during the last 2 years for financial assistance for setting up mini steel projects. Of these, financial assistance was sanctioned to 9 projects, while two proposals were treated as closed due to various reasons such as inability of the promoters to raise the required funds, market prospects, uneconomic size, etc. In respect of the remaining proposal, necessary information had not been furnished by the applicant.

Oil Exploration Action Plan

8413. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH:
SMT. GEETA MUKHERJEE:
SHRI RAM NAIK
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:
SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE:
SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN THORAT:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "ONGC likely to give up blown-out well" appearing in the Indian Express dated April, 16, 1993;

(b) the reasons of blow out in komarada-I well and the action taken against the persons responsible for such negligence;

(c) the details of loss suffered and the assistance given to the affected persons;

(d) the steps taken to check such accidents in future;

(e) whether the ONGC has taken a decision to give up blown out well; and

(f) if so, the details of oil exploration Action Plan during the Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a): Yes, Sir.

(b): ONGC has constituted an Enquiry Board to ascertain the reasons for the blow out at Komarada-I.

(c): According to the preliminary survey, about 93 acres of wet paddy land and 6900 coconut palms and other trees have been damaged. About 350 families consisting of 1300 persons had to be evacuated to safer places.

About Rs. 12.92 lakhs has already been advanced towards compensation for damage to standing crops and trees through the State Government authorities.

Additional assistance is also rendered through provision of free rice and medical aid to the affected families, cash assistance to the families whose thatched houses were damaged and for cleaning the affected drinking water wells.

(d): Mud of suitable specific gravity is used while drilling, and blow out preventor (BOP) is installed over the well-head. Monitoring of operations, inspections, checks and hydraulic checks have been further strengthened.

(e): No, Sir.

(f): The exploratory drilling programme of ONGC for the Eighth plan period envisages drilling of 796 exploratory wells with 2052700 metres in onland area and 305 exploratory wells with 768130 metres in the offshore area.

Family Welfare Training to Women

8414. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN
SINGH:
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Auditors have also pointed out irregularities in this regard; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for providing training to the women to make Family Welfare programme successful;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):
(a) and (b): Short training is imparted through health functionaries to members of Mahila Swasthya Swasthya Sangh to raise awareness and elicit community participation for Family Welfare programmes.

(c): The scheme is in operation in all States since 1990-91.

[English]

Investment of Surplus Funds by NDMC

8415 SHRI RAMCHANDRAGHANGARE:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the New Delhi Municipal Corporation authorities have stopped investments of surplus funds in there to five years fixed deposits in the State bank of India since 1985 onwards and started investments in short-term fixed deposits for period of 15 days to one year in the various banks thereafter;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d): No, Sir. The Delhi Municipal Committee has reported that they are investing its surplus funds with nationalised banks within NDMC limits. During the year 1985 and thereafter the funds were invested in deposits for periods varying from open year to five years. The funds were also invested in short terms deposit ranging from 15 days to one year depending upon the requirements of funds during that period. NDMC has further reported that the liquidity position determines the amount as well as the time period for which funds can be invested. As liquidity position continues to change with time, it was considered appropriate not to invest for very long periods keeping in view the fact that NDMC has to meet the expenditure on the budgeted to be met in time. During the last few years all investments under fixed deposits are for a period of one year or above.

The New Delhi Municipal Committee has further reported that certain clarifications had been sought by Auditors on certain aspects as brought out above which have been furnished. The final observations of audit are awaited.

Regional Exploration Board meeting

8416. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Regional Exploration Board, Central Region held their meeting in Calcutta during June, 1992;

(b) if so, the main decisions taken thereon;

(c) the achievements made so far;

(d) the total amount required and spent for transporting of rigs at Kadmaha to Sibasagar; and

(e) the number of labours engaged on the Kadmaha project and the progress of work done done so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) to (c): The status of well Kadmaha-1 was reviewed in the meeting of the Regional Exploration Board held in June, 1992 when the drilled depth was 5131 m. The Board recommended to continue drilling in Kadmaha-1 to its target depth, or through lower Vindhyan limestone or equivalent formation whichever is attained earlier.

Further drilling was continued and the well was drilled down to 5372. There was no indication of hydrocarbons. Since the geological objectives of drilling this well to the Vindhyan formation was achieved and thicker Vindhyan limestones were not encountered, the drilling was terminated.

(d): About Rs. 75 lakhs

(e): The Gandak Project as on 1.3.93 has a total strength of 181 ONGC personnel. In addition, certain personnel are also engaged by different agencies to whom job contracts are awarded by ONGC from time to time based on operational needs.

Besides well kadmaha-1, 5 wells were drilled earlier in Bihar, which proved dry.

Terrorism and Anarchy

8417. SHRI RAMPUJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the causes responsible for the growth of terrorism and anarchy in the country day by day; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a) and (b): Growth of terrorism in the country is mainly due to the active support given to the terrorists from across the border. This support is in the form of providing funds, weapons, training, tactical and strategic guidance and safe havens.

IPC. Cr. P. C and Evidence Act

8418. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have adopted a 7—point time bound programme to look up the administration of criminal justice and ensure speedy and judicious disposal of cases in recent conference;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have finalized the amendments to be carried out in the Indian Penal Code, Criminal Procedure Code and Evidence Act;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (e). A Conference of Chief Ministers was held on 13th November, 1992 at New Delhi to discuss the various issues pertaining to the Administration of Criminal Justice. The Conference *inter alia* endorsed a time bound programme for adoption in respect of:

- (i) Amendment of Cr. P. C., I. P. C. and Evidence Act, to remedy the weaknesses and shortcomings found in their operations;
- (ii) Exploring possibilities of improvements in procedures to ensure speedy trial in Courts;
- (iii) Setting up of Directorates of Prosecution to effectively supervise the investigation and prosecution;
- (iv) Training of investigative officers, judicial officials and prosecutors at various levels;
- (v) Exploring alternatives to prison sentences by de-penalisation and de-institutionalisation;
- (vi) Securing redress to victims of crime : and
- (vii) Reduction in overcrowding in jails by streamlining the bail provisions.

The Conference also decided to set up a Steering Group comprising the Union Home Minister, concerned Central Ministers and some Chief Ministers to continuously monitor the implementation of the several major proposals contained in the agenda for the Conference.

The Steering Committee will consider the various proposals and make suggestions for appropriate action by the Government!

Corruption Charges Against MCD Officials

8419. SHRI MANJAY LAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of officers in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi against whom charges of corruption have been leveled and CBI enquiry instituted/completed during the last three years;

(b) the action taken against the officers found guilty ;

(c) whether there is any policy, in MCD regarding rotational transfer of employees after three years ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) the steps taken /being taken for proper implementation of the transfer policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) and (b). The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has reported that charges of corruption have been leveled against 452 officials during the last 3 years. Major penalty has been imposed on 103 officials and minor penalty on 255 officials.

During the last 3 years, 27 cases of corruption were registered against 30 officials of the Corporation by the Central Bureau of Investigation and the Anti—Corruption Branch of Delhi Administration. These cases are under investigation trial.

(c) to (e) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has reported that there is no policy regarding compulsory transfer of employees after three years. Transfers of employees are made on administrative grounds or on the advice of the Vigilance Department of MCD sometimes even before 3 years.

New Traffic System in Delhi

8420. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce new traffic system on the main roads of the capital ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) . No such proposal is under consideration of Government of India.

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

Import of Chemicals

8421. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry imported chemicals worth Rs. 3 crore from the United Kingdom in November, 1992 :

(b) whether such chemicals are being used for controlling frenzied mobs :

(c) whether these were utilised in time to control frenzied mobs during the December, 1992 disturbances :

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a). No, Sir.

(b) to (e). The questions do not arise.

Single Administrative Region

8422. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the suggestion of the Chief Minister of Punjab regarding formation of a single Administrative region consisting of Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh as reported in the Indian

Express of March 29, 1993, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a). The Government has seen the press reports in this connection.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government of India.

[Translation]

Night Soil in Jails

8423. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the practice of carrying night soil on head is continuing in various jails in the country ; and

(b) if so, the time by which this practice is likely to be stopped ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a). and (b) 'Prisons' being a State subject, the action in this regards is to be taken by the State Governments. They have been asked to do the needful.

Increase in Price of Copper

8424. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :
SHRI N. K. BALIYAN :
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that production of copper in the country is much lower than the demand;

(b) if so, the details of the demand and production of copper during 1992—93; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to meet the gap and make the country self —reliant in production of copper ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALARAM SINGH YADAV): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) During 1992—93, the indigenous production of refined copper (cathodes) by Hindustan Copper Ltd., the sole indigenous producer of primary copper in the country, was 45,275 tonnes against the estimated demand of 1. 30 lakhs tonnes.

(c) With the available and known ore reserves it is not possible to be self — sufficient in copper through indigenous production in the near future. To encourage production Government have delicensed copper industry. Further as per the current Import Policy copper is freely importable by the user industries.

Exploration of natural Gas in Jaisalmer

8425. SHRI RAM SINGH KESHWAN : Will the Minister of PRTOLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have experienced the feasibility of adequate natural gas reservation in Jaisalmer area of Rajasthan, and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government for exploration of gas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). OIL and ONGC have established geological reserves of 6. 9 billion standard cubic metres of gas (as on 1. 1. 93) and 2. 1 billion standard metres of gas (as on 1. 1. 1992) respectively. Exploration for hydro—carbons, including seismic surveys and exploratory drillings are being

continued by both ONGC and OIL. Blocks have also been offered under the Fourth and Fifth Rounds of Bidding for exploration by companies in the private sector.

Theft Incidents in V. P House, New Delhi

8426. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of incidents of theft which took place in the Vithalbai Patel House, Rafi Marg, New Delhi during 1991 and 1992 ; and

(b) the action taken by the Government to check such cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a). The number of incidents of theft/ burglary in Vithalbai Patel House, New Delhi, reported during the years 1991 and 1992 is as under :

| <i>Year</i> | <i>No. of Cases reported</i> |
|-------------|------------------------------|
| 1991 | 9 |
| 1992 | 7 |

(b) Patrolling has been intensified round the clock. The Beat Constables / Division Officers have been briefed to check suspicious persons found in the area.

Supply of Gas to Gujarat Power Projects

8427. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of power projects of Gujarat pending with the Union Government for approval in regard to supply of gas; and

(b) the time by which these are likely to be approved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). While allocations to the extent of 7.55 MMSCMD of gas have been made for various power projects in Gujarat, demands for further allocation of gas for various other power projects have been received from time to time. Considering the availability of gas and allocation already made, no further allocations of gas are feasible at present.

Kerite Cement By BALCO

8428. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharat Aluminium Company has developed a technique to manufacture kerite cement from red soil being extracted from Aluminium production;

(b) if so, whether this developed technique has been tested on experimental basis; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c). Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) had carried out research studies jointly with Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute (CGCRI) Calcutta for the manufacture of Ferrite Cement from Red Mud. Results of pilot scale experiments carried out so far have been encouraging.

Missing of Files

8429. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :
SHRI RAMACHANDRA
VEERAPPA:
SHRI MANJAY LAL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the new—item captioned "Avaidh Nirmano Ki Filen Gayab" in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' of April 10, 1993;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) the action taken against the officials found guilty; and

(f) the steps being taken to check recurrence of such incidents in future

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f). The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has reported that out of 34 files mentioned in the news—item captioned 'Avaidh Nirman Ki Filen Gayab'. 22 files are available in the record; and, in respect of the remaining 12 cases, no activity amounting to unauthorised construction has come to notice since 1 April, 88.

Oil Refinery at Paradeep

8430. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up an oil refinery at Paradeep in Orissa;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up; and

(c) the type of crude that would be processed in this oil refinery ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MIN-

ISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) A Letter of Intent has been issued to M/s. Ashok Leyland — GOTCO on 148. 1992 for setting up a refinery of 6 MMTPA capacity in Paradeep in Orissa.

(b) The approximate time required for putting up a refinery is between 48 months to 60 months from the date of start of work by the entrepreneur.

(c) It is for the refinery company to decide on the type of crude, taking into account the products to be produced and the refinery configuration.

Detection of Leprosy

8431. SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of voluntary organisations are functioning in the country particularly in the Karnataka State which are playing important roles in detection of leprosy cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have given any assistance to such voluntary organisations functioning in Karnataka during 1992—93; and

(d) if so, the details thereof.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) (a) and (b). 285 non—Governmental organisations are working for Leprosy Eradication Programme in India, out of which 25 are functioning in the State of Karnataka.

(c) and (d). During 1992—93 a sum of Rs. 90. 130 has been released to Gandhi Memorial Leprosy Foundation Unit (T. Narsipur) for run-

ning a SET Centre in the State of Karnataka.

[Translation]

Meeting of National Council of all India Freedom Fighters' Association

8432. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the National Council of All India Freedom Fighters' Association was held on 20th and 21st March, 1993 at Indore;

(b) if so, the details of the Resolutions passed in the meeting;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The important resolutions passed in the Conference include:

(i) reiteration of the pledge to preserve the glorious traditions and ideals for realising the goal of socialism enshrined in the Constitution of India;

(ii) Calling upon all secular democratic progressive people to unite so that religion and religious places are not used for political ends;

(iii) request to the Government to put an end to ULFA insurgency with an iron hand;

(iv) calling upon all secular and progressive people to unite in action to fight the menace of fundamentalism;

(v) appreciation of the Parliament considering Constitutional Provisions to

put an end to use of religion in electoral process.

- (vi) appeal to the Government for appointment of a Receiver for Shri Krishna Janmabhomi temple at Mathura and constitution of a Trust for its proper management;
- (vii) urging upon the Government to install a statue of the Frontier Gandhi at the crossing of Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road at New Delhi as a tribute to this veteran freedom fighter and a close associate of Mahatma Gandhi;
- (viii) urging upon the Central Government to make arrangements for bringing the sacred ashes of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose from Japan to India with full state honours and establishment of the Netaji Subash Chandra Bose Academy for National Integration for training of senior administrators;
- (ix) preparation of a National Register of Martyrs, establishment of a National Museum of Freedom struggle and setting up of suitable Memorial Column in New Delhi; and
- (x) early disposal of Samman Pension cases.

(c) The Government is already seized of most of the suggestions made in the Conference and has taken / is taking appropriate action. Examination of suggestions like installation of the statue of Frontier Gandhi, bringing the ashes of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose from Japan, setting up of an Academy for National Integration after the name of Netaji and establishment of Martyrs Memorial Column require sufficient time and it would be too early for the Government to react on such suggestions. As regards disposal of cases of Samman Pension, Government has already considered all the timely

claims at least once and decisions communicated to the applicants. Receipt and disposal of review petitions / representations against rejection of claims is a continuous process and such petitions are already being considered on merit.

[English]

Training Programmes for Doctors of Rural Areas

8433. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the details of the training programmes and in—service training programmes available to the Doctors of rural areas particularly of Primary Health Centres/ Community Health Centres, Sub—Divisional District level hospitals in the country to keep them informed of the latest developments in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): Doctors working in Primary Health Centres are provided in in—service training for two weeks for upgrading their knowledge and skills on new initiatives and latest programme strategies adopted under M. C. H. and F. W. Programme. Additionally, under special schemes such as Postpartum, Safe Motherhood and Child Care, focussed training is provided on specific aspects such as sterilisation, M. T. P., I. U. D. insertion etc.

Fire Fighting Equipments in High—Rise Buildings

8434. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR DEEPA: SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that

several high—rise buildings in the capital do not have proper fire fighting equipment's ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken / proposed to be taken by the Government against the owners of these buildings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). There are 123 high—rise buildings which do not fulfill fire prevention / safety measures. A list of names of these buildings is in the statement attached. The owners / occupiers of these buildings have been given time upto 30 June 1993 to complete the requirements.

List of Buildings Owned by Central Government / Local Bodies and Autonomous Bodies Etc.

Central Govt. Building (CPWD & PWD)

| <i>Sl. No.</i> | <i>Name & Address</i> |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | M. P. Flats DIZ Area, New Delhi. |
| 2. | RML Hospital, Baba Kharak Singh Marg. |
| 3. | Central Revenue Building, IP Estate. |
| 4. | A. G. C. R. Building, IP Estate. |
| 5. | Family Apartment, Tagore Road. |
| 6. | Vikas Bhawan, IP Estate. |
| 7. | M.S Flats, Sec. XIII, R. K. Puram. |
| 8. | C. G. O. Complex, Lodi Road. |
| 9. | C. A. G. Annex IP Estate. |
| 10. | Drum Shape Building, IP Estate. |

| <i>Sl. No.</i> | <i>Name & Address</i> |
|----------------|--|
| 11. | Udyog Bhawan, Rafi Marg. |
| 12. | Sardar Patel Bhawan, Sansad Marg. |
| 13. | Krishi Bhawan, Rafi Marg. |
| 14. | Nirman Bhawan, Maulana Azad Road. |
| 15. | Yojana Bhawan, Sansad Marg. |
| 16. | Central Govt. Residential Flats, Peswa Road. |
| 17. | Shastri Bhawan, Dr. Rajindra Prasad Road. |
| 18. | Sharam Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg. |
| 19. | Indian Oil Bhawan, (Janpath Bhawan), Janapath. |
| 20. | 8—storeyed MS Flats, Minto Road. |
| 21. | G. B. Pant Hospital, J. L. Nehru Marg. |
| 22. | Safdarjung Hospital, Aurobindo Marg. |
| 23. | Sena Bhawan, Duplex Road. |
| 24. | Vayu Bhawan, Rafi Marg. |
| 25. | 'Y' Shape Building, IP Estate. |
| 26. | U. G. C. Buidling, B. S. Z. Marg. |
| 27. | M. S. Buidling, Near New Delhi Rly. Station. |
| 28. | Northern Railway Flats. Punchkuin Road. |
| 29. | Rail Niwas, MS Flats. State Entry Road. |
| 30. | Rail Bhawan, Rafi Marg. |
| 31. | Baroda House, K. G. Marg. |

| <i>Sl. No.</i> | <i>Name & Address</i> |
|----------------|---|
| | LOCAL BODIES |
| 32. | Mohan Singh Palace Baba Kharakj Singh Marg. |
| 33. | Akbar Bhawan, Chanakya Puri. |
| 34. | Yashwant Palace, Chanakya Puri. |
| 35. | Chanakya Bhawan, Chanakya Puri. |
| 36. | Super Bazar, Connaught Place. |
| 37. | Mayur Bhawan, Connaught Place. |
| 38. | Chandralok Building, Janapath. |
| 39. | Shakti Sadan, Kotla Road. |
| 40. | Gaffar Market, Karol Bagh. |
| 41. | Admn. Block, Hindu Rao Hospital. |
| | AUTONOMOUS BODIES |
| 42. | Hotel Samrat, Chanakya Puri. |
| 43. | Foreign Post Office Building, Kotla Road. |
| 44. | Telephone Exchange, Idgah. |
| 45. | Khurshid Lal Bhawan, Janapath. |
| 46. | National Productivity Council Lodi Road. |
| 47. | P. N. B. Sansad Marg. |
| 48. | Akashwani Bhawan, Sansad Marg. |
| 49. | Vallabh Bhai Patel Chest Institute, Delhi University. |
| 50. | Jeevan Vihar, Sansad Marg. |

| <i>Sl. No.</i> | <i>Name & Address</i> |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 51. | USSR Building, 24, Feroz Shah Road. |
| 52. | Golden Jubilee Hall, Pusa |
| 53. | Mankalya Bhawan, B. S. Z. Marg. |
| 54. | National Youth Hostel, Chanakya Puri. |
| 55. | Manak Bhawan, IP Estate. |
| 56. | Manjusha House, 57, Nehru Place. |
| | PRIVATE BUILDINGS |
| 57. | Manisha Building, 75—76, Nehru Place. |
| 58. | Padma Tower, 5, Rajindra Place. |
| 59. | Vishal Bhawan, 95, Nehru Place. |
| 60. | Kundan House, 16, Nehru Place. |
| 61. | Hemkunt Tower 98, Nehru Place. |
| 62. | Vikrant Tower, 4, Rajindra Place. |
| 63. | Azad Apartment, Aurobindo Marg. |
| 64. | Dr. Zakir Hussain C. G. H. S., Okhla. |
| 65. | Milap Bhawan, B. S. Z. Marg. |
| 66. | Saraswati House, 27, Nehru Place |
| 67. | Punj House, 17—18, Nehru Place |
| 68. | Deepak Building, 13, Nehru Place |
| 69. | Osian Building, 12, Nehru Place. |
| 70. | Sidhartha House, 96, Nehru Place. |
| 71. | Gagan Deep, 12, Rajindra Place. |
| 72. | Sethi Bhawan, 7, Rajindra Place |

| <i>Sl. No.</i> | <i>Name & Address</i> |
|----------------|---|
| 73. | Hemkunt House, 6, Rajindra Place. |
| 74. | Mayfair Apartment, Mayfair Garden. |
| 75. | D. L. F. Shopping Complex, Greater Kailash. |
| 76. | Ashoka Estate, 24, Barkhamba Road. |
| 77. | Daily Tej, Bahadurshah Zafar Marg. |
| 78. | Rohit House, 3, Tolstoy Marg. |
| 79. | Riveira Apartments, 45, Mall Road. |
| 80. | P. T. I. Building, Sansad Marg. |
| 81. | Madan House, 26, Nehru Place. |
| 82. | Railok Building, 24, Nehru Place. |
| 83. | Raja House, 30—31, Nehru Place. |
| 84. | Kushal Bazar, 32—33, Nehru Place. |
| 85. | Dohil Chamber, 46, Nehru Place. |
| 86. | Sehyog Building, 58, Nehru Place. |
| 87. | Shakuntala Apartment, 59, Nehru Place. |
| 88. | Goverdhan House, 53—54, Nehru Place. |
| 89. | Godere House, 51—52, Nehru Place. |
| 90. | Laxmi House, 72, Nehru Place. |
| 91. | Red Rose, 49—50, Nehru Place. |
| 92. | Skylark Building, 60, Nehru Place. |
| 93. | Guru Angad Bhawan, 71, Nehru Place. |
| 94. | Sachin Building, 77, Nehru Place. |

| <i>Sl. No.</i> | <i>Name & Address</i> |
|----------------|--|
| 95. | Ashok Bhawan, 93, Nehru Place. |
| 96. | Skipper Comer, 87—88, Nehru Place. |
| 97. | Padma Place, 86, Nehru Place. |
| 98. | Skyline House, 85, Nehru Place. |
| 99. | Bajaj House, 97, Nehru Place. |
| 100. | Deepali Bulding, 92, Nehru Place. |
| 101. | Bhandari House, 91, Nehru Place. |
| 102. | Kailash Building, 26, Nehru Place. |
| 103. | Sagar Apartment, 6, Tilak Marg. |
| 104. | Himalaya House, 23, K. G. Marg. |
| 105. | Chiranjiv Tower, 43, Nehru Place. |
| 106. | Madhuban, 55, Nehru Place. |
| 107. | Sarojini House, 6, Bhagwan Dass Road. |
| 108. | Manasarover Building, 90, Nehru Place. |
| 109. | Mehdoot Building, 94, Nehru Place. |
| 110. | Asha Deep, 9, Hailay Road. |
| 111. | Surya Diran Building, 19, K. G. Marg. |
| 112. | Kirti Mahal, 19, Rajindra Place. |
| 113. | Pragati House, 47—48, Nehru Place. |
| 114. | Sheetla House, 73—74, Nehru Place. |
| 115. | New Delhi House, 27, Barakhamba Road. |
| 116. | Deep Shikha, 8, Rajindra Place. |

| <i>Sl. No.</i> | <i>Name & Address</i> |
|----------------|--|
| 117. | Prabhat Kiran, 17, Rajindra Place. |
| 118. | Pragati Tower, 26, Rajindra Place. |
| 119. | Eros Apart,ment, 56, Nehru Place. |
| 120. | Ratan Joyti, 18 Rajindra Place. |
| 121. | Dakshneshwar, 10, Hailey Road. |
| 122. | Indian Express Building, B. S. Z. Marg. |
| 123. | Hansalaya Building, 15, Barakhamba Road. |

[*Translation*]

Ultra—Sound Machines

8435. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA :
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news—item captioned "Nai Ultra Sound Machine Beach Dee Gai" appearing in 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated April 10, 1993:

(b) the reaction of the Government thereto ; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the rising corruption in the Government hospitals ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Oil Exploration in Coastal Areas of Konkan—Arabian Sea

8436. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to explore the availability of oil in the Konkan — Arabian sea coastal areas of Maharashtra during the last two years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the West Coast offshore areas of Bombay offshore basin and Kerala—Konkan basin, during 1991—92, 20908 LK of 2D and 4690 LK of 3D seismic surveys and during 1992—93, 23119 LK of 2D and 4976 LK of 3D seismic surveys were carried out. While no reserves have as yet been established in the Kerala — Konkan Basin, in place geological reserves established in the Bombay offshore basin as on 1. 1. 1992 were 3421. 80 million tonnes of oil and oil equivalent of gas.

[*English*]

ONGC

8437. SHRI RABI RAY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission would be registered as a company this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether financial consultants have been

entrusted with the task of conducting a total evaluation of ONGC assets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (d). Government have decided to convert ONGC into a Public Limited Company registered under the Companies Act and this conversion is likely to be completed this year. Documentation for incorporation of the new company has been initiated. Selection of financial consultants to advise on the financial restructuring of the new company including valuation of ONGC's assets is not finalised.

[*Translation*]

Discrimination Against Handicapped Persons

8438 SHRI N. K. BALIYAN,
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN
SINGH;
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS
VARMA;
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD;
SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA.

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding discrimination against the handicapped persons; and

(b) if so, the steps taken / proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) To prevent discrimination Government is considering a legislative measure.

[*English*]

Raids on Office Buildings of VHP and Shiv Sena

8439. SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) conducted raids on the office building of VHP and Shiv Sena in some States recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons apprehended in this connection.

(d) whether some valuable materials have been seized during raids; and

(e) if so, further action being taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Simultaneous raids were conducted on 8th April, 1993 at twenty four places in the country. The places raided include the residential/business premises of some VHP and Shiv Sena as well as Bajrang Dal, RSS, Hindutva activists.

(c) In all, seven persons were arrested during the raids.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Material seized during the raids is being scrutinised for evidence by CBI.

Bangalore Refinery Petrochemicals Limited

8440. SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mangalore Refinery Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL) has awarded a contract to a Japan consortium consisting of Toyo Engineering Corporation, Mitsubishi Corporation and Kitsui and Company Limited recently ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) The Japanese Consortium has been appointed as the Prime Management Contractor (PMC) for the execution of the 3 MMTPA refinery project of MRPL. The PMC has been assigned the single point responsibility for timely completion of the refinery project including detailed engineering of the foreign licensed units, supply of imported equipment and construction supervision.

Purchase of Vaccines

8441. SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the vaccines the Government are purchasing under the immunisation programme alongwith the details of the purchase of vaccines during the last three years. year—wise;

(b) whether the budget allocated for such programme is inadequate; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to increase the allocation for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c).

STATEMENT

The details of Vaccines purchased under the Immunisation Programme are as follows:

(FIGURES IN LAKH DOSES)

| VACCINES | 1990—91 | 1991—92 | 1992—93 |
|----------|---------|----------|----------|
| DPT | 896.35 | 1173.90 | 1216.90 |
| TT | 677.73 | 1150.00 | 1329.89 |
| DT | 493.89 | 532.59 | 489.03 |
| Measles | 390.00 | 423.50 | 458.00 |
| BCG | 388.00* | 490.00* | 550.00* |
| OPV | 898.00* | 1270.00* | 1700.00* |

The budget for procurement of the above quantities of vaccines is adequate for universal coverage of beneficiaries under the Immunisation Programme.

SC/ST Students Hostels

8442. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made for the construction of hostels for SC/ST students during each of the last three years, State Union Territory—wise; and

(b) the details regarding the provision made during the Eighth Five Year Plan, State/ Union Territory—wise?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI

SITARAM KESRI) : (a) and (b). Allocation of Central assistance for the construction of hostels for SC/ST students is not made State or Union Territory—wise. However, details of the amounts actually released to the States and Union Territories in the last three years are given in the Statement. A total outlay of Rs. 90. 00 crores has been made for the purpose for the Eighth Five—Year Plan period.

STATEMENT

RELEASE OF CENTRAL ASSISTANCE
(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl No | Name of State/UT | 1991-92 | 1991-92 | 1992-93 |
|-------|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 311 69 | 500 73 | 134 90 |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh | 17 13 | 28 18 | - |
| 3 | Assam | 42 13 | 46 00 | 32 38 |
| 4 | Bihar | 209 38 | 453 75 | 66 06 |
| 5 | Gujarat | 30 82 | 119 83 | 41 21 |
| 6 | Haryana | - | - | 7 28 |
| 7 | Himachal Pradesh | - | - | - |
| 8 | Jammu & Kashmir | 6 25 | 10 00 | 8 31 |
| 9 | Karnataka | 126 19 | 235 11 | 120 34 |
| 10 | Madhya Pradesh | 399 23 | 242 23 | 383 16 |
| 11 | Kerala | 42 00 | 53 58 | 46 32 |
| 12 | Maharashtra | 59 28 | 112 78 | - |

(Rs in lakhs)

| Sl. No | Name of State/UT | 1991-92 | 1991-92 | 1992-93 |
|--------|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 13. | Manipur | 28.12 | 11.69 | 3.49 |
| 14. | Meghalaya | 11.00 | - | - |
| 15. | Orissa | 58.00 | 88.41 | 135.58 |
| 16. | Punjab | 1.50 | 2.50 | 2.50 |
| 17. | Rajasthan | 34.24 | 47.70 | 34.61 |
| 18. | Sikkim | 29.97 | 17.12 | - |
| 19. | Tamil Nadu | 134.93 | 92.74 | 154.40 |
| 20. | Tripura | 14.70 | 28.86 | 26.38 |
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh | 40.03 | 127.18 | 198.74 |
| 22. | West Bengal | 61.43 | 68.01 | 110.59 |
| 23. | Mizoram | - | 12.25 | - |
| 24. | Goa | - | - | - |
| 25. | Chandigarh | - | - | - |
| 26. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 34.93 | 11.89 | 43.74 |

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl/ No | Name of State/UT | 1991-92 | 1991-92 | 1992-93 |
|--------|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 27 | Delhi | - | - | - |
| 28 | Daman & Diu | 3.83 | - | - |
| 29 | Andaman & Nicobar | 7.81 | - | - |
| 30 | Lakshadweep | 11.44 | 22.05 | - |
| 31 | Nagaland | - | - | - |
| 32 | Pondicherry | - | 21.22 | - |

Drilling Operation in Krishna—Godavari Project

8443. SHRI G. M. C. BALAYOGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allocated any funds for the drilling operation in Krishna—Godavari Project of the oil and Natural Gas Commission; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to speed up the drilling operation in the Project area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). ONGC have made a budget provision of Rs. 239 crores during 1993—94 for the Krishna—Godavari Project (both onshore and offshore). Besides acquisition of more 2—D and 3—D Seismic data, it is planned to drill 31 wells during the current year.

Drug Cases in Delhi

8444. DR. S. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether special courts to deal with drug cases as required under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 have been set up in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have studied the legal loopholes in dealing with the accused involved in drug cases;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps contemplated by the government to plug such loopholes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). The Delhi Police has submitted a proposal to the Delhi Administration for setting up of Special Courts for expeditious trial and punishment of drug traffickers.

(d) to (f). According to the Delhi Police no legal loopholes have come to notice.

[Translation]

Allocation of Gas for Industries and Domestic Use

8445. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quota of gas proposed to be allocated by the Government for industries and domestic use separately under the agreement concluded with Oman during March, 1993;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the quota of gas for Bihar; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a). A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Governments of India and Oman to explore the possibility of importing natural gas by pipeline. As the project is still at a conceptual stage details such as allocation of gas have not been worked out.

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

[English]

Grants to Voluntary Organisations in Tamil Nadu

8446. DR. SHRIMATI K. S. SOUNDARAM

: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the voluntary organisations in Tamil Nadu which were provided grants by the Union Government for family welfare during the last three years and current year;

(b) the amount given to each such organisation;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry to find out the utility of this expenditure;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) and (b). The names of the organisations in Tamil Nadu who were given grants for family welfare work during the last three years along— with amount of grants released to each are shown in the statement attached at Annexure. No grant has been released to such organisations during the current financial year.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) : The utilisation of funds is checked by getting audited statement of accounts and utilisation certificates. Recommendations are also obtained from the State Governments.

STATEMENT

Amount of grant released during

1992-93

1990-91

1991-92

Sl No Name of the Voluntary Organisation

Name of the Scheme

| Sl No | Name of the Voluntary Organisation | Name of the Scheme | 1990-91 | 1991-92 | 1992-93 |
|-------|---|--|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 | Karunya Educational Trust Madras | PVOH-II Scheme | - | 14,20,925 | - |
| 2 | Rural Education and Development Society, Sivagangai | -do- | - | 10,03,900 | 1,41,913 |
| 3 | Tamil Nadu Voluntary Health Association, Madras | -do- | - | - | 28,29,660 |
| 4 | Alternative for India Development, Madras, Tamil Nadu | Experimental/Innovative Project Scheme | 1,05,710 | 81,796 | - |
| 5 | SOS Children Village, Thambaram, Madras | -do- | 1,05,710 | 54,000 | - |
| 6 | Christian Medical College, Vellore | -do- | 42,896 | 17,923 | - |
| 7 | Gandhi Gram Institute of Rural Health and Family Welfare Trust, Ambaturai | -do- | 11,045 | 9,25,100 | - |

IPG Connections on Priority Basis to Freedom Fighters

8447. DR. Y. S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering any proposal to sanction L. P. G. connections on priority basis to the freedom fighters; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA)

(a) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Cash Relief to Kashmiri Migrants

8448. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE
DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cash relief is being paid regularly every month to Kashmir migrants living in Uttar Pradesh especially in Ghaziabad district;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether cash relief has been paid to them upto August 1991 only;

(d) whether some district authorities have submitted their requirement of funds to the Government of Uttar Pradesh covering the period upto March, 1993.

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reasons for not paying the cash relief so required?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (f) Ex—gratia relief to the Kashmir migrants is paid periodically as per the Budgetary allocations. The District Administration submitted a requirement of Rs. 56,62,000/— to State Government for payments upto March, 1993. The State Government has released Rs. 51,06,000/— so far. Out of 369 migrant families, relief has since been disbursed to 325 families, upto March, 1993.

Rural Health Centres

8449. SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news—Item captioned 'Ill—health dogs Agra rural health centres' appearing in the 'Indian Express' on April 13, 1993;

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

(c) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Health is a State subject and the day—to—day administration of the rural health centres is looked after by the State Government. The State Government has been requested to take corrective action.

Mental Patients

8450. SHRI MOHANSINGH (DEORIA)
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN
SHRI KANTA JENA

Will the Minister of Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any study of the social and family rejection problems faced by the mental patients after they are cured and discharged from the mental hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures contemplated by the Government for rehabilitation of such persons;

(d) whether the Government propose to amend the Mental Health Act, 1981 for the purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a): According to the Indian Council of Medical Research, no specific study on the rejection problems faced by the mental patients after they are cured and discharged from the mental hospitals has been made.

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

(d) and (e). At present, there is no proposal to amend the Mental Health Act enacted in 1987.

National Integration Council Meeting

8451. SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the National Integration Council was held on November 2, 1991;

(b) if so, the issues discussed and the resolutions passed in the Meeting; and

(c) the action taken on those resolutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) Communal Harmony: Ram Janma Bhoomi—Babri Masjid issue" was discussed in the Meeting. Only one resolution was passed, a copy of which is given in the statement attached,

(c) A delegation comprising members of the Standing Committee of the National Integration Council (NIC) and Parliament visited Ayodhya on 7th April, 1992. The report of the delegation was inter—alia, discussed in the Standing Committee of the NIC following which another meeting of the NIC was held on 18th July, 1992. Further, in the light of the assurances given by the Chief Minister of the NIC, the Central Government from time to time took up the matter in an appropriate manner with the Government of U. P. and the Chief Minister. The Central Government also continued to make efforts to find an amicable solution to the Ram Janma Bhoomi—Babri Masjid to find an amicable solution to the Ram Janma Bhoomi—Babri Masjid issue.

The National Integration Council views with deep concern the deterioration in the communal situation in the country during the last two years, which have witnessed increasing communal tension and serious incidents of violence leading to heavy loss of life and property. Along with the continuing activities of terrorist and militants in certain parts of the country, communal animosity can seriously undermine the national unity. The Council reaffirms the resolve of the people to resolutely meet any challenge to the country's unity and integrity and its secular democratic polity.

The Council noted that one of the factors which has added immensely to the build—up communal tension is the Ram Janma Bhumi—Babri Masjid dispute. The Council expressed its concern at the recent happenings in Ayodhya and hoped that such situations will not recur.

The Ram Janma Bhumi—Babri Masjid dispute has continued to evade a satisfactory solution. The Council appeals to all concerned

parties and organisations to work towards an amicable, negotiated solution of the dispute in a spirit of cooperation and mutual understanding.

The Council noted the following assurances given by the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh:

- i) All efforts will be made to find an amicable resolution of the issue;
- ii) Pending a final solution, Government of Uttar Pradesh will hold itself fully responsible for the protection of the Ram Janma Bhumi — Babri Masjid structure;
- iii) Orders of the Court in regard to the land acquisition proceedings will be fully implemented; and
- iv) Judgement of the Allahabad High Court in the cases pending before it will not be violated.

The Council welcomed the invitation given to it by the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh to visit Ayodhya on any suitable date.

The National Integration Council calls upon all concerned, including the political parties, religious leaders, the media and other organisations, to act with restraint and in a manner that will promote harmony and goodwill between all communities. Every one must make efforts to desist from words or deeds that are likely to inflame communal passions or give encouragement to disruptive forces. Indian society is traditionally marked by a spirit of tolerance and respect for each other's faith. This spirit should continue to guide our thoughts and actions. The Council appeals to all people to maintain peace and tranquillity and create an atmosphere conducive to the satisfactory settlement of the Ram Janma Bhumi—Babri Masjid dispute.

Risk—Allowance

8452. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether one person committee set up by the Government following the report of the Fourth pay Commission had recommended "risk allowance" in the hospitals;

(b) if so, the categories recommended for entitlement of risk—allowance;

(c) whether the Government have taken any decision thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The group 'C' and 'D' category employees in certain departments were covered by the report.

(c) and (d). The recommendations of the committee were examined but were not found to be acceptable.

Tibetan Refugees

8453. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of allocations made by the Union Government for the rehabilitation of Tibetan refugees during 1992—93, State—wise; and

(b) the details of such allocations proposed to be made during 1993—94, State—wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH

PILOT): (a) and (b). Allocations made during 1992—93 and proposed to be made during 1993—

94 for rehabilitation of Tibetan refugees in different States are as follows:—

| S. No | States | BE 1992—93 | BE 1993—94 |
|--------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| | | (Rs. in lakhs) | |
| i) | Himachal Pradesh | 20.80 | 15.30 |
| ii) | Jammu & Kashmir | 1.10 | 11.00 |
| iii) | Karnataka | 50.00 | 30.00 |
| iv) | Sikkim | 2.00 | 3.00 |
| v) | Uttar Pradesh | 10.35 | 15.35 |
| vi) | West Bengal | 0.50 | 0.50 |
| vii) | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.20 | 0.20 |
| TOTAL: | | 84.95 | 75.35 |

Underground and Open Cast Mines

cast mines functioning as on 31 March, 1992 and 31 March, 1993?

8454. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:
SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new both open cast and underground mines opened in BCCL since nationalisation of coal mines;

(b) the number of mines closed during the same period; and

(c) the number of underground and open

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA):
(a) As reported by the coal company the number of new opencast and underground mines (including reorganised mines opened in Baharat Cooking Coal Ltd. (BCCL) since nationalisation is 54 (Opencast—33 and Underground—21).

(b) The number of mines closed during the same period is 13 (Opencast—7 and Underground—6)

(c) The information is given below:—

| | Underground | Opencast | Underground & Opencast (mixed) | Total |
|-----------------|-------------|----------|--------------------------------|-------|
| As on 31.3.1992 | 49 | 11 | 34 | 94 |
| As on 31.3.1993 | 40 | 13 | 40 | 93 |

The change in number has resulted from

reconstitution/ reorganisation of mines.

Smuggling on North—East Borders

8455. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the rampant corruption and smuggling of essential commodities on the international borders of North—East; and

(b) if so, the immediate steps taken by the Government to stop the smuggling of essential commodities especially to Bangladesh from Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) The Government are aware of smuggling of essential commodities along the Indo—Bangladesh border. There are also reports about some cases of corruption.

(b) A number of measures, including reduction of gaps between VOPs, intensification and increases in patrols, erection of OP Tower, use of night vision devices, construction of border roads and fences along sensitive stretches have been taken to check smuggling

Mosquitoes Menace in Delhi

8456. MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the growing menace of mosquitoes in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether any anti—mosquito programme is under Government's consideration;

(c) whether the pace of present mosquito eradication programme in Delhi is very slow;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to remedy the alarming situation?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (e). There is an ongoing National Malaria Eradication Programme in Delhi under which anti—malarial measures including detection control along with detection and treatment of malaria cases are being undertaken.

Malaria Research Centre, Delhi is also working on a bio—environmental strategy to prevent mosquito breeding to control malaria.

Amount spent on litigation by BCCI

8457. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the minister of COAL be pleased to state the amount spent by the Heart Cooking Coal Limited on Litigation in various Tribunals and Courts during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : According to information furnished by Coal India Limited, the amount spent by Bharat Cooking Coal Limited on litigation in various Courts / Tribunals during last 3 years was as under :-

| Year | amount |
|------|-----------------------|
| 1990 | Rs. 28, 75, 969. 70 P |
| 1991 | Rs. 25, 69, 027. 93 P |
| 1992 | Rs. 21, 84, 354. 53 P |

[Translation]

Training to Health Workers

8458. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of health workers in the country;

(b) whether any incentive is given by the Government to impart training in the private sector for preparing more and more health workers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) There are 2, 26, 242 Male and Female Health Workers in position.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) As there are adequate number of trained workers, there is no need to provide incentives for further training in the private sector.

[English]

SC/ST Population

8459. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state the population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes persons according to 1991 Census, State / Union Territory—wise?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI):

STATEMENT

STATEMENT SHOWING POPULATION OF SCHEDULED CASTE/SCHEDULED TRIBE PERSONS ACCORDING TO 1991 CENSUS, STATE/
UNION TERRITORY WISE AS UNDER

| Sl No | STATE/UT | SCH. CASTE POPULATION | SCH. TRIBE POPULATION |
|-------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 10592066 | 4199481 |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh | 4052 | 550351 |
| 3 | Assam | 1659412 | 287441 |
| 4 | Bihar | 12571700 | 6616914 |
| 5 | Goa | 24554 | 376 |
| 6 | Gujarat | 3060358 | 6161775 |
| 7 | Haryana | 3250333 | - |
| 8 | Himachal Pradesh | 1310296 | 218349 |
| 9 | Jammu & Kashmir | N A | N.A. |
| 10 | Karnataka | 7369279 | 1915691 |
| 11 | Kerala | 2836522 | 320967 |

| Sl. No | STATE/UT | SCH. CASTE POPULATION | SCH. TRIBE POPULATION |
|--------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 9626679 | 15399034 |
| 13 | Maharashtra | 8757842 | 7318281 |
| 14. | Manipur | 37105 | 632173 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 9072 | 1517927 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 691 | 653565 |
| 17 | Nagaland | - | 1060822 |
| 18 | Orissa | 5129314 | 7032214 |
| 19. | Punjab | 5742528 | - |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 7607820 | 5474881 |
| 21 | Sikkim | 24084 | 90901 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 10712266 | 5741194 |
| 23. | Tripura | 451116 | 853345 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 29276455 | 287901 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 16080611 | 3808760 |

| Sl No | STATE/UT | SCH CASTE POPULATION | SCH TRIBE POPULATION |
|-------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 26 | Andaman & Nicobar | - | 26770 |
| 27 | Chandigarh | 105977 | - |
| 28 | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 2730 | 109380 |
| 29 | Daman & Diu | 3891 | 11724 |
| 30 | Delhi | 1794836 | - |
| 31 | Lakshadweep | - | 48163 |
| 32 | Pondicherry | 131278 | - |
| | Total | 13822377 | 67758380 |

[Translation]

Production of Pig Iron, Sponge Iron and Steel in Bihar

8460. SHRI LAL BABU RAI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any measures to increase the production of pig iron, sponge iron and steel in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years; and

(c) the percentage of increase made in their production during the current year in comparison to the last two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b). Government do not propose to set up new iron and steel plants during the Eighth Five Year Plan. However, Government

are making efforts to improve the performance of the existing public sector steel plants through technological upgradation and modernisation. A number of steps have also been taken by the Government to encourage private sector investment in the steel industry so as to increase production of iron and steel in the country. These include exemption of iron and steel from the requirements of compulsory licensing subject to some locational restriction, removal of control over pricing and distribution, inclusion of iron and steel in the list of high priority industries and reduction in import duties on raw materials/intermediates. A set of "Guidelines for Entrepreneurs in Iron and Steel Industry" has also been issued for providing guidance to prospective entrepreneurs interested in setting up new iron and steel projects.

(c) The estimated production and percentage of increase (+) / decrease () of pig iron, sponge iron, saleable steel in the State of Bihar during the last three years are given below :

(Unit in lakh tonnes)

| Item | 1990—91 | 1991—92 | 1992—93 (Prov.) |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Pig Iron | 3.32 (-14.9%) | 1.71 (-48.5%) | 1.54 (-10%) |
| Sponge Iron | 1.15 (+45.6%) | 1.24 (+7.8%) | 1.25 (+0.8%) |
| Saleable Steel | 45.29 (+1.7%) | 49.21 (+8.7%) | 52.63 (+7.0%) |

NOTE : Figures in brackets indicate the percentage increase/ decrease over the previous year.

Aids Control

8461. SHRI N. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of H. I. V. (Positive) cases

detected so far in Gujarat;

(b) the names of the hospital in Gujarat where AIDS testing facilities are available;

(c) whether any AIDS control programme is being implemented in Gujarat with foreign

assistance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) As on 30. 4. 1993, 108 H. I. V. Positive cases have been detected in Gujarat.

(b) H. I. V. Testing facilities are available at six cities in Gujarat, namely:

1. B. J. Medical College, Ahmedabad.
2. Surat Medical College, Surat.
3. Government Medical College, Vadodara.
4. M. P. Shah Hospital, Jam — Nagar.
5. District Hospital, Junagarh,
6. Civil Hospital, Amrahi.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The State of Gujarat is covered under the national programme for the Prevention and Control of AIDS being implemented in the Country. During the year 1992—93, a sum of Rs. 56. 41 lakhs have been released to the Government of Gujarat for the generation of awareness, promotion of blood safety and rational use of blood, control of sexually transmitted diseases, and better management of AIDS cases.

Allocation of Funds to Durgah Committee

8462. **PROF. RASASINGH RAWAT:** Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to Durgah Committee during each of the last three years with its utilisation;

(b) the details of the income earned by the Durgah Committee during the above said period;

(c) whether the accounts of the Durgah Committee are regularly audited;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to set up any trust for the proper and planned utilisation of the income being earned by the Durgah Committee;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) No grant from the Central Government has been given to the Dargah Committee during the last three years.

(b) Incomes of the Dargah Endowment during the last three years are as under:

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Income (in lakh)</i> |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| 1990—91 | 32. 86 |
| 1991—92 | 57. 66 |
| 1992—93 | 48. 47 |

(c) and (d). The accounts of the Dargah Committee are audited by the Accountant General, Rajasthan.

Audit for the years 199—92 has been completed and the Report received by the Dargah Committee. The Audit for the year 1992—93 is yet to start.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) There is no provision in the Dargah Khwaja Sahab Act, 1955 for setting up any such Trust.

Eye—Treatment[*Translation*]

8463. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether micro—surgery and laser technique are used for eye—treatment;

(b) whether this treatment facility is available to the people in general; and

(c) if, not, the steps taken by the Government to ensure easy access to this facility?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]**Diseases in Drought Affected Areas**

8464. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of children suffering from various diseases and health problems in the drought affected areas of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether any special grant has been sanctioned for the treatment of these children; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) The information is not available.

(b) and (c). A grant of Rupees One crore has been sanctioned to the State Government from the Prime Minister's National Relief fund for setting up nutrition centres for the old, the infirm and children in the drought affected blocks of Madhya Pradesh.

Production of Suspaint

8465. SHRI PARESRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Petroleum is producing a product "Suspaint" in its Bombay refinery which of the same density as of the petroleum;

(b) whether this product is being adulterated with petrol openly at petrol pumps;

(c) whether the Government have made any inquiry in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEPARTMENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARAMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

[*English*]**Complaints Regarding Illegal Diversion of Petrol/Diesel**

8466. SHRI MALLAPALLY RAMCHANRAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaint regarding illegal diversion of petrol/diesel bound for Mahe (Pondicherry) to Kerala;

(b) if so, the steps taken to prevent such illegal diversion;

(c) whether the Government have apprehended any offenders in this connection; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA):

(a) IOC, BPC & HPC have received notices from the Sales Tax authorities of Kerala regarding diversion of petrol/Diesel bound for Maheto Kerala.

(b) The following measures are taken to prevent such illegal diversion of Petrol/Diesel:

1. All the invoices for supplies made to Mahe are verified for seal and signature of the inter-state check post authorities.
2. The entry no. in the check post register is recorded in the invoices & the same is mounted by the supply point.
3. Additional seals are provided on the dispensing units of the outlets at mahe to avoid tampering.
4. Surprise checks/inceptions have been stepped up at the outlets at Mahe and surrounding areas.

(c) and (d). Investigations carried out by IOC have not established the charge of diversion of products..

Arrest of Persons for Spreading Communalism

8467. SHRI SYED SHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 5414 on April 8, 1993 and state:

(a) the number of persons released out of those arrested in Uttar Pradesh as on March 31, 1993;

(b) the number of persons charge sheeted and prosecuted.

(c) the number of persons found guilty and sentenced to punishment;

(d) the number of cases pending as on April 1, 1993 with the number of dependents as on April 1, 1993; and

(e) break-up of the number of defendants by those in custody or enlarged on bail?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH POLOT) (a) to (e). The required information is being collected.

Smuggling by Pakistanis in India

8468. DR. LAXMINAR PANDEYA:
DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government are aware that some Islamic nations have captured and beheaded a large number of Pakistanis for smuggling drugs and sophisticated weapons of military origin;

(b) if so, whether the Government have nabbed and ousted any for smuggling drugs and weapons in India;

(c) if so, their number in each of the last three years and the current year;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to exercise a strict vigil on Pakistani smuggler

(e) whether some Indians have also been found to be adding them; and

(f) if so, the steps being taken to smash their network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a) Yes. The Govt. is aware of the News item.

(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the house.

(d) The Government has taken a number of measures to tighten the vigilance on Indo-pak border. The measures also include holding of co-ordination meeting with various law enforcement agencies and the States concerned. Measures have also been taken to ensure sheering of intelligence amongst the law enforcement agencies.

(e) and (f). Instances of some Indians aiding and assisting these traffickers have come to the notice and stringent action has been taken against them under the relevant Acts.

C.G.H.S. Benefits to Retired Railway Officials

8469. SHRI GIRDHARILAL BHARGAVA Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the retired employees of Railway Board are eligible to avail the facilities of Central Government Health Services after their retirement.

(b) whether the retired employees of zonal offices of railways in the country particularly line officials are not eligible to avail the facilities of C.G.H.S.

(c) if so the reasons therefor.

(d) whether the Government have received number of representations from the retired railway employees for providing this facility to them also, and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As Indian Railway have their own Medical set up like Dispensaries and hospitals, the CGHS facilities have not been extended to their employees.

(d) and (e). A representation from the Railway Pensioners Association of Jaipur for extending CGHS facilities to them was received. They had also gone to the High court of Rajasthan, Jaipur Bench, for this purpose. As per stay orders of the said High court, CGHS facilities are at present extended to the Railway pensioners at Jaipur only.

Investigation and Trial of Cases in Delhi

8470. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of cases pending investigation and trial in Delhi are going up.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor.

(c) the number of cases pending investigation and trial in various zones in Delhi; and

(d) the steps taken to complete the investigation and trial of such cases expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a) to (c) The number of cases reported to be pending investigation and trial for the last three years (i.e. 1990, 1991, 1992 and 1993 upto 15.3.93) district-wise is given in the statement attached

Some of the reason of for cases remaining under investigation for long periods are 9i) Delay in receipt of reports from foensic experts. (ii) Delay in receipt of Medico Legal Certificates from hospitals. (iii) Non-cooperation of the accused persons.

Reasons for increase in the cases pending trail can be attributed to cumbersome troll long

procedures, inadequacy of courts, delays caused by matters relating to advocates, non-availability of witnesses, frequent adjoummments, etc.

(d) Progress of investigation is reviewed from time to time and it is enjoined upon the investigating Officers to investigate cases expeditiously.

STATEMENT

*Disposal of Cases (District wise)
For the period of 1. 1. 1990 to 31. 12. 1990*

| Name of the | Cases reported | Cases Cancelled | Cases admitted | Cases challenged | Cases Convicted | Cases Acquitted | Cases pending Trial | Cases Pending Investigate. | Cases Uttered |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| North | 3729 | 147 | 3582 | 2730 | 860 | 81 | 1789 | 21 | 831 |
| North-West | 4537 | 173 | 4364 | 3369 | 434 | 92 | 2834 | 21 | 974 |
| Central | 4732 | 130 | 4602 | 3512 | 918 | 231 | 2363 | 14 | 1076 |
| New Delhi | 2850 | 93 | 2757 | 1087 | 129 | 40 | 918 | 25 | 1645 |
| East | 3000 | 102 | 2898 | 1805 | 191 | 23 | 1591 | 9 | 1084 |
| North-East | 3284 | 118 | 3166 | 2393 | 416 | 78 | 1900 | 7 | 766 |
| South | 6416 | 222 | 6194 | 3325 | 560 | 141 | 2624 | 33 | 2836 |
| South West | 3736 | 196 | 3540 | 2060 | 237 | 99 | 1724 | 24 | 1456 |
| West | 7139 | 438 | 6701 | 4252 | 534 | 156 | 3562 | 18 | 2431 |

| Name of the | Cases reported | Cases Cancelled | Cases admitted | Cases challenged | Cases Convicted | Cases Acquitted | Cases pending Trial | Cases Pending Investigate | Cases Uttered |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| P A P | 654 | 59 | 595 | 507 | 157 | 9 | 341 | 2 | 86 |
| D R P | 1168 | 7 | 1161 | 694 | 450 | 26 | 218 | - | 467 |
| Total | 41245 | 1685 | 39560 | 25734 | 4885 | 976 | 19873 | 174 | 13652 |

STATEMENT

Disposal of Cases (District wise)
For the period of 1 1 1991 to 31 12 1991

| Name of the | Cases reported | Cases Cancelled | Cases admitted | Cases challenged | Cases Convicted | Cases Acquitted | Cases pending Trial | Cases Pending Investigate. | Cases Uttered |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| North | 4426 | 136 | 4290 | 3134 | 1089 | 30 | 2015 | 49 | 1107 |
| North West | 4862 | 137 | 4725 | 3620 | 415 | 34 | 3171 | 51 | 1054 |
| Central | 5029 | 163 | 4866 | 3741 | 1125 | 143 | 2473 | 47 | 1078 |
| New Delhi | 3338 | 122 | 3216 | 1385 | 340 | 28 | 1017 | 60 | 1771 |
| East | 3611 | 125 | 3486 | 2438 | 303 | 8 | 2127 | 94 | 954 |
| North East | 3756 | 138 | 3618 | 2768 | 427 | 42 | 2299 | 38 | 812 |
| South | 7057 | 216 | 6814 | 3930 | 591 | 63 | 3276 | 196 | 2715 |
| South West | 4386 | 185 | 4201 | 2257 | 177 | 43 | 2037 | 114 | 1830 |

| Name of the | Cases reported | Cases Cancelled | Cases admitted | Cases challenged | Cases Convicted | Cases Acquitted | Cases pending Trial | Cases Pending Investigate. | Cases Uttered |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| West | 8466 | 333 | 81343 | 5366 | 735 | 123 | 4508 | 9 | 72 |
| P.A.P | 687 | 39 | 648 | 58 | 1 | 508 | 9 | 72 | |
| D.R.P | 1332 | 12 | 1320 | 681 | 465 | 7 | 209 | 2 | 637 |
| Total | 46950 | 1606 | 45344 | 29887 | 5725 | 522 | 23640 | 984 | 14509 |

STATEMENT

*Disposal of Cases (District wise)
For the period of 1.1.1992 to 31.12.1992*

| Name of the | Cases reported | Cases Cancelled | Cases admitted | Cases challenged | Cases Convicted | Cases Acquitted | Cases pending Trial | Cases Pending Investigate. | Cases Uttered |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| North | 4635 | 132 | 4503 | 2181 | 544 | 9 | 1628 | 1281 | 1041 |
| North West | 5675 | 112 | 5563 | 3488 | 447 | 6 | 3035 | 1297 | 778 |
| Central | 5027 | 82 | 4945 | 3074 | 1070 | 52 | 1952 | 1195 | 676 |
| New Delhi | 3298 | 61 | 3237 | 760 | 137 | 5 | 618 | 1524 | 953 |
| East | 3654 | 96 | 3558 | 1642 | 242 | - | 1400 | 1345 | 571 |
| North East | 3920 | 86 | 3834 | 2190 | 437 | 6 | 1747 | 1233 | 411 |
| South | 7825 | 180 | 77645 | 2734 | 363 | 5 | 2366 | 2976 | 1935 |
| South-West | 4527 | 161 | 4366 | 1265 | 79 | 4 | 1182 | 1912 | 1189 |

| Name of the | Cases reported | Cases Cancelled | Cases admitted | Cases challenged | Cases Convicted | Cases Acquitted | Cases pending Trial | Cases Pending Investigate. | Cases Uttered |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| West | 7738 | 210 | 7528 | 3265 | 498 | 20 | 2747 | 2845 | 1418 |
| P A P | 759 | 19 | 740 | 534 | 320 | - | 214 | 148 | 58 |
| D R P | 1258 | 9 | 1249 | 553 | 272 | 1 | 280 | 32 | 564 |
| Total | 8316 | 1148 | 47168 | 21686 | 4409 | 108 | 17169 | 15888 | 9694 |

STATEMENT

*Statement showing disposal of cases
For the period from 1 1 1993 to 15 3 1993*

| Name of the | Cases reported | Cases Cancelled | Cases admitted | Cases challenged | Cases Convicted | Cases Acquired | Cases pending Trial | Cases Pending Investigate | Cases Uttered |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| North | 1007 | 2 | 1005 | 137 | 106 | - | 31 | 853 | 15 |
| North West | 1098 | 1 | 1097 | 104 | 44 | - | 60 | 983 | 10 |
| Central | 811 | 3 | 808 | 142 | 106 | - | 36 | 653 | 13 |
| New Delhi | 638 | 3 | 636 | 38 | 11 | - | 27 | 573 | 24 |
| East | 789 | 1 | 788 | 74 | 30 | 1 | 43 | 699 | 15 |
| North East | 761 | 3 | 758 | 122 | 70 | - | 52 | 618 | 18 |
| South | 1333 | 3 | 1330 | 67 | 22 | - | 45 | 1241 | 22 |
| South West | 787 | 2 | 785 | 34 | 3 | - | 31 | 733 | 18 |
| West | 1498 | 10 | 1488 | 155 | 54 | - | 101 | 1319 | 14 |

| Name of the | Cases reported | Cases Cancelled | Cases admitted | Cases challenged | Cases Convicted | Cases Acquitted | Cases pending Trial | Cases Pending Investigate. | Cases Uttered |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| P.A.P. | 136 | - | 136 | 25 | 20 | - | 5 | 108 | 3 |
| D.R.P. | 266 | 1 | 265 | 49 | 28 | - | 21 | 186 | 30 |
| Total | 9124 | 29 | 9095 | 947 | 494 | 1 | 452 | 7966 | 182 |

World Chakma Conference

8471. SHRI GOEGE FERNADES: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Chakma Conference organised by the All India Chakma Cultural Conference, Machmara (Tripura) was held in Calcutta in April, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the countries whose delegates participated in the conference;

(d) the broad issues discussed therein; and

(e) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RJESH PILOT): (a) to (e). According to reports received by the Government, the World Chakma Conference organised by the All India Chakma Cultural Conference, Machmara (Tripura) was held in Calcutta during 12-15 April 1993. The theme of the Conference was "The Chakmas in New Partnership". Delegates from Germany, Switzerland, Netherlands, Japan, U.K., and Bangladesh attended the Conference.

The Conference covered a wide spectrum of issues concerning Chakmas, viz., culture, heritage, language and literature, socio-economic conditions, status of Human Rights, and right of self-determination. The thrust of the Conference was gross abuse of human rights and destruction of ecological environment in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. For the preservation of Chakmas and their culture, the speakers proposed measures like repatriation of nontribal settlers and de-militarisation of the Chittagong Hill Tracts. Also, they suggested acceptance of the right of self-determination of the tribes and creation of a healthy environment for the return and honorable rehabilitation of the refugees.

Ad-Hoc Government Servants in A & N Islands

8472. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of ad-hoc Government servants in Groups 'A' and 'B' in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) whether the Government are contemplating to provide one time relaxation for regularisation to these Government employees;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which these employees are likely to be regularised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) There are one hundred and five cases of adhoc appointments in Group 'a' and Group 'b' posts under the Andaman & Nicobar administration.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Does not arise

Petrochem Unit at Vijaipur in Madhya Pradesh

8473. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether technology flaw has imperiled Rs. 800 crores propylene plant petrochem unit initiated to be set up by the Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) at Vijaipur in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the proposed plan of the Government and GAIL in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). While the first stage clearance for the project was given, the performance of the new technology proposed to be used has not reached the level of acceptance.

(c) Unless the technology is techno-economically proven, it would not be prudent to set up this plant.

Ayurvedic Medicines

8474. SHRI BILLABULLI RAMAIAH:
PROF. PAM PRASE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity of Ayurvedic medicines like slight lies breaded in Himalayas and the other parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering to extract these medicines; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) It is fact that Himalayas and other regions of India have been a rich source for Herbal and mineral martial used in Ayurvedic Medicines.

(b) and (c). There is no such proposal.

Appointments in NDMC

8475. SHRI RAM KIHORE RAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) whether reservation for Ex-servicemen in NDMC is being followed;

(b) if so, whether the posts of Chief Security Officer and Executive Officer reserved for Ex-servicemen in NDMC have been filled from amongst this category persons;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to remove the irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d). the New Delhi Municipal Committee has reported that the posts reserved for Ex-servicemen are filled up only through them but on availability of suitable candidates.

The post of Chief Security & Executive Officer was created in NDMC in 1986. The post has been held by Ex-servicemen except for a short span when it was held by a civilian pending selection of a suitable Ex-servicemen. The incumbent at present is an Ex-servicemen.

India-French Joint Project

8476. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an India-French joint project has been launched to seek alternative development strategies and contain demographic transition;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) whether any time bound programme has been chalked out in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) No Sir

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

Evasion of Duty

8477. SHRI TATRA CHAND KHANDREWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Advocate held for evading duty' appearing in the Pioneer of February 10, 1993;

(b) if so whether any incriminating documents have been seized;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the erring companies/persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The Delhi Administration has reported that on receipt of information that certain dealers had obtained large number of statutory sales tax forms during a short span of time after their registration and conducted business worth Rs. 86 crores approximately against these forms, and were indulging in activities of doubtful nature, a complaint was made to D.C.P. (Crime), Delhi Police, for further investigation. On investigation, the Police detected sufficient material to establish involvement of an advocate in the launching of bogus firms, providing fake sureties required for opening new firm. etc.

The Delhi Administration has reported that action for disqualifying the Advocate from appearing before any Sales Tax Authority in any proceeding has been initiated. The Sales Tax Bar Association (Regd.) has also unanimously passed a resolution to suspend the advocate.

Steps are also being taken against the erring companies/persons which include checking of misuses of statutory forms; cancellation of such forms when found being in order to release

sales tax arrears; identification of defaulters of sales tax dues; and, cancellation of Registration Certificates of bugs dealers.

Terrorism, and Crimes

8478. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of cases of terrorism and other crimes which are based/have been committed on the copying of films in various Union Territories during each of the last three years, Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Arms Trafficking by Militants

8479. SHRI GURURDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the militant nationalist forces have been involved in trafficking of arms and narcotics for the last several years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). The Government have been reports of narco-trusts linkages in Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab.

(c) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects. It is for the concerned State subjects. It is for the concerned State Governments to devise various methods and take concrete steps to improve law and order situation. The Central Government has also been taking coordinated action with concerned Central agencies and State Governments so as to prevent trafficking

in arms and narcotics. Enhanced vigilance is being maintained along the cast the land borders.

[Translation]

Arrest of Satyagrahis

8480. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:
DR. FRAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
SHRI SHRIGAN KUMAR PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of persons staging satyagraha outside the Union Public Service Commission building in New Delhi have been arrested and remanded to judicial custody recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether they have been given the facilities of 'B' Grade detainees as per court orders;

(d) whether any instances of misbehaviour with such persons by the police and Jail authorities have come to the notice of the Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(g) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(h) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. On 7 April, 1993, 7 persons defied prohibitory orders u/s 144 Cr.P.C. by sitting on dhama and raising slogans on the Shahjahan Road outside the gate of the Union Public Service Commission. All these

persons were arrested the Delhi Police u/s 188 I.P.C.

(c) No, Sir, They were given 'C' class facilities inside the Jail since they are not allowed 'B' class by the trial court.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) to (h). Do not arise.

Terrorist Activities in J & K

8481. SHRI RAMLAKHAN SINGH YADAV:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of persons providing shelter to the terrorists have been arrested in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the number of such persons arrested during each of the last two years; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to discourage the people in the State not to give shelter to the terrorists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). The persons being apprehended from time to time for terrorist activities include those who provide shelter to the terror either through comity or under coercion. However, since most such arrests take place during search operations, it is difficult to clearly identify and segregate the arrested persons into clearcut categories.

Consistent efforts are being made to contain militancy and reduce the fear of the gun. It is hoped that this would also have impact on the phenomenon of harboring terrorists under threat and otherwise.

Letters from. MPs

8482. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF

FATMI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of letters/representations/memoranda received in his Ministry from the Member of a parliaments during the last six months; and

(b) the number out of them to which acknowledgment was sent within fifteen days and the number of cases in which final reply has not been sent so far;

(c) the reasons for delay in acknowledging the letters and final reply within three months; and

(d) the steps taken too expedite the replies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BAIRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) 111 letters were received from the Members of Parliament during the last 6 months.

(b), (c) & (d). Out of 111 letters, receipt of 108 letters were acknowledged within 15 days. Final replies to 46 letters have been sent. For expediting final replies to the remaining letters, all efforts are being made to collect the required material from various filed units spread throughout the country.

[English]

Central Assistance to Deal with Arms Landing

8483. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO.
SHRIBOLLABULLI RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of arms landing in the country have increased recently;

(b) whether some State Governments have

requested the Union Government for financial assistance to meet the situation;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the names of such States; and

(d) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d). The Central Government releases funds to the State Governments every year under the scheme for modernisation of State police forces. For the years 1993-94, a total allocation of Rs. 30.00 crores has been made available for this purpose. From item to time, the State Governments also make specific requests to the Central Government for releasing ad-hoc grants for tackling the law and order problems. Such request are considered by the Central Government on individual merits and resource availability.

Ophthalmic Equipment's

8484. SHRI GYA PRASAD KORI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the Central assistance given during the last two years to Uttar Pradesh for upgradation of Ophthalmic Departments in each medical collage; and

(b) the number of primary Health Centre in Uttar Pradesh to whom ophthalmic equipment's were supplied during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). The allocation under the National Programme for Control Uttar Pradesh was stepped up from, Rs. 98 lakhs in 1991-92 to Rs. 165 lakhs in the year 1992-93 to inter alia over the cost of equipments for Primary Health Centres, conducting surgery and establishing District

Mobile Units. During the last three years funds for upgradation of 165 PGHCs have been released to the State Government.

Allotment of LPG Agencies

8485. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:
SHROI ZAINAL ABEDIN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG agencies allotted in the West Bengal and Orissa during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to allot more LPG agency in these states during 1993-94; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA):

(a) 7 LPG distributionships in West Bengal and 5 LPG distributionships in Orissa were allotted during the period from 1990-91 to 1992 (upto December, 1992)

(b) and (c). Thirty one (31) pt for west bengal and two (2) propose for soirees age even included in the LP-FC, marking plan 1992-94

[Translation]

Promotion of Naturopathy

8486. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRI MANORANJAN BHATKTA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take steps to encourage naturopathy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) The Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy at New Delhi and national Institute of Naturopathy at Pune, have been established with a view to encourage Naturopathy.

Medical Facilities in Rural Areas

8487. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:
SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of spent by the Government for improving the medical facilities in rural areas of the country during the last two years; and

(b) the amount proposed to be spent by the Government in rural areas during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA):

(a) The amount released by the Department of Family Welfare for implementation of different schemes in rural areas during the last two years is given below;

| (Rs. in crores) | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Year | Amount |
| 1991-92 | 451.93 |
| 1992-93 | 478.20 |

(b) During the current year, an amount of Rs. 509.00 crores has been allocated.

Utilisation of Waste Gas in Bhabra Oil Refinery

8488. SHRI UPENDRANT VERMA: Will

the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme of check and make proper utilisation of gas being wasted daily in Barauni oil refinery; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PEROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Filaring of gas in refienries is a technical necessity and is kept to the barest minimum. Normally these gas treams are not fit for bottling as L.P.G.

Aids Control

8489 SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PETEL: Will the Minister of HELATH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals for dissemination of information, education and effective control of AIDS have been received from the Government of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the Central assistance sought by the State Government in this regard; and

(c) the details of the AIDS detractions, surveillence and prevention and treatment facilities in that State at present and the additional facilities which are sought to be created therein?

THE MINISTER HEATH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHNAKARANAND):(a) Yes, Sir .

(b) A proposAL has been received from Maharashtra Government for assistance of approximately Rs. 20 crores inclusive of Rs. 5.5 Crores for IEC.

(c) The State has already 12 Surveillance Centres and 17 Zonal Blood Testing Centres. No

further increase in this regard is proposed. The proposal also includes strengthening of 54 Blood Banks and 18 S.T.D. Clinics.

Fan on Sale of Ice-Sticks

8490. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn ti the news-item captioned "No more adulterated Ice-stiks" appearing in Indian Express dated April, 2, 1993;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to baen the sale of the ice-sticks which are i injuriy to the health of the children?

THE MINISTER OF HELATH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (c). the standards office-candy have been laid down under the Prevention of food adulteration Rules, 1955, which also cover the quality of Ice-sticks. Contravention of the standards allied down would invite penal action under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act. The Food (health) Authorities of the States/UTs have been requested to ensure quality of Ice-candy/Ice-stick sold in the market.

[Translation]

Production of Brass

8491. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether brass is being imported to meet the internal demand of the country;

(b) if so, the details of the brass imported and prodced in the cucountry during 1992-93; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the production of brass?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b). Import of brass takes place in various forms such as copper-zinc (Base alloys), brass scrap, scrap of copper alloys, castings, etc. Quantity of copper/brass imported during 1992-93 (April, 1992 to January, 1993) was 1.20 lakhs tones. Brass as an alloy is manufactured by a large number of units, both in the organised as well as in the unorganised sectors in the country. Separate domestic production data of brass alone is not maintained.

(c) To encourage production of non-ferrous metals and their alloys including brass, the non-ferrous metal industry has been de-licensed. Further, as per the current Import Policy, brass is freely importable.

Oil Refinery in Bihar

8492. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an oil refinery in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

{English}

Exploration of Oil Gas in Tamil Nadu

8493. DR. (SMT.) K. S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC has been engaged in exploring oil/gas in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, since when and the place of exploration; and

(c) the success achieved in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since 1958, in most of the coastal plains of Tamil Nadu from Cuddalore to Tuticorin.

(c) As on 1.1.93, a total of 143 exploratory and development wells were drilled out of which 50 wells were proved to be hydrocarbon bearing. As on 1.1.92, in place geological reserves established were 40.63 million tonnes of oil and oil equivalent of gas.

Pending Cases of H.P.C. in Courts

8494. SHRI SASHI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of H.P.C. pending in various courts regarding rehabilitation/ reactivation on uncancelled/ terminated dealerships/distributions of petroleum products;

(b) the total expenditure incurred by H.P.C. on these cases so far; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to reduce such litigations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) According to M/s. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, only two such cases are pending in the Courts.

(b) Rs. 12,000 approximately.

(c) All effects are being made by the company to settle the disputes through negotiations and arbitration.

Reservation Policy

8495. SHRI RAM VALAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the High Court has given judgment against the reservation policy for SCs/STs in the matter of faculty and post-doctoral post of PGI, Chandigarh;

(b) if so, whether the Government have filed any review petition against this High Court's judgment;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Legal Advisor acted openly against the reservation policy; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARNAND): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Special Leave Petition has been admitted by the Supreme Court and the matter is sub-Judic.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House

Raising of Special Force by ITA

8496. SHRIBIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Tea Association

(ITA) has sought the permission from the Union Government to raise train and maintain a special force to meet the exigencies arising out of militant activities in Assam:

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have since given the permission; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). The Indian Tea Association (ITA) had been in correspondence with Government of Assam as well as the Government of India to consider the feasibility of raising a force for the security of the personnel and properties of tea garden industries. The Government of Assam has decided to raise an auxiliary force in the name and style of "Assam Tea Plantation Security Force" on the understanding that the Tea Industry will bear the cost.

Finance Crisits in BCCL

8497. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Bharat Cooking Coal Limited is facing financial crisis;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the financial position during each of the last three financial years; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) (a) and (b). According to information furnished by Coal India Ltd. the details of fund requirements (both capital and revenue), sales realisation and financial support from Coal India Limited for Bharat Cooking Coal Limited during the last three years were as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

| Cash Requirement | 1990-91 | 1991-92 | 1992-93 |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| (provisional) | | | |
| Revenue | 997.16 | 1139.59 | 1171.35 |
| Capital | 230.00 | 173.56 | 210.00 |
| | 1227.16 | 1313.15 | 1381.35 |
| Statutory Levies | 166.54 | 195.69 | 256.09 |
| Total cash requirement | 1393.70 | 1508.84 | 1637.44 |
| Less: Seles realisation | 973.10 | 1020.39 | 1168.75 |
| Cash Deficit | 420.60 | 488.45 | 468.69 |
| Less: Received from CII | 321.19 | 336.14 | 255.20 |
| Net Cash Deficit | 99.41 | 152.31 | 213.49 |

(c) Various steps taken to narrow the gap between the cash requirement and actual realisation are given below:

(1) Effective follow-up measures to improve the sale realisation;

(2) Production of coal has been increased.

(3) Despatches of coal have been increased.

(4) Manpower is being reduced through voluntary scheme.

(5) Purchase of capital items has been reduced and austerity in expenditure is being practised for all controllable items.

(6) Utilisation of equipment has been improved.

(7) Cash and Carry Scheme is being enforced with effect from 1.10.1992.

(8) Improving supply of power by shifting major power loads to DVC sources and installation of own captive power plants for better working.

Bombay Blasts

8498. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any information regarding collusion between underworld dons responsible for the Bombay blasts and some film stars/production;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any film stars/producers have recently been arrested in connection with illegal possession of arms; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Investigations are in progress on various aspects relating to the Bombay bomb blasts, including possible nexus between the Bombay under-world and the film industry. It would, therefrom, at this stage not be in public interest to divulge any information on this.

(c) Yes, Sir. Shri Sanjay Dutt was arrested.

(d) Investigations are in progress. Divulging the details at this stage will not be in the interest of proper investigation.

Liberation of scavengers

8499. SHRI SYED SHAHBUDDIN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given on April 8, 1993 to Unstarred Question No. 5452 and state:

(a) the allocation made under the scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of scavengers during the Seventh Five Year Plan and proposed for the Eight Five Year Plan period, State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) the quantitative achievements under

the scheme upto the end of 1992-93, State/Union Territory-wise; and

(c) the estimated number of remaining dry latrines and scavengers in the Country as on April 1, 1993?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Central assistance of Rs. 41.44 Crores was released to the various State Government/U. Ts during the VIIth Plan under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Liberation of Scavengers. Statement is attached statement. Allocation for the VIIIth Five Year Plan under the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers is 464 Crores. Planning Commission allocates funds scheme-wise. Central assistance is released to the State Governments/U.T. Adms. as per their requirements.

(b) The target for 1992-93 was to provide training to 27,618 and rehabilitate 65,140 scavengers under the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependents. Statement is attached statement & III).

(c) The Ministry of Urban Development has estimated 57.3 lakh dry latrine in the country at present. The survey to identify scavengers and their dependents is almost complete. The preliminary estimates show a total scavenger population of 5,41,657. However, this figure is likely to go up after final recognition of the date.

STATEMENT NO 19

Centrally sponsored scheme for liberation of Scavengers-Central Assistance Released during Vllth five year plan (Rs. in lakh)

| Sl. No. | Name of State | 1985-86 | 1986-87 | 1987-88 | 1988-89 | 1989-90 |
|---------|------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 3.81 | 141.61 | 103.69 | 50.30 | 72.00 |
| 2 | Assam | 8.00 | - | 16.69 | - | 8.00 |
| 3 | Bihar | 88.23 | 160.74 | - | - | 125.00 |
| 4 | Gujarat | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5 | Haryana | - | - | 15.66 | 23.70 | 20.00 |
| 6 | Himachal Pradesh | - | 35.74 | 28.81 | 20.34 | - |
| 7 | Jammu & Kashmir | 54.00 | 54.00 | 59.20 | - | - |
| 8 | Karnataka | 8.00 | - | 36.37 | - | 50.00 |
| 9 | Kerala | - | - | - | - | - |
| 10 | Madhya Pradesh | 115.56 | 147.98 | 113.34 | 323.34 | 137.00 |
| 11 | Maharashtra | 0.22 | 24.14 | - | 100.00 | 50.00 |
| 12 | Manipur | - | - | 15.00 | - | - |
| 13 | Orissa | 6.00 | 70.04 | 57.73 | - | 76.49 |

| Sl. No | Name of State | 1985-86 | 1986-87 | 1987-88 | 1988-89 | 1989-90 |
|--------|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 14 | Punjab | - | - | 43.32 | - | - |
| 15 | Rajasthan | 51.20 | 39.43 | 75.68 | 103.60 | 150.00 |
| 16 | Tamil Nadu | 20.00 | - | 59.97 | 48.79 | 51.52 |
| 17 | Tripura | - | - | 20.00 | - | 20.00 |
| 18 | Uttar Pradesh | 20.00 | 18.72 | 139.52 | 83.46 | 240.00 |
| 19 | West Bengal | 34.40 | 100.26 | 60.22 | 191.28 | - |
| | Total | 509.48 | 800.41 | 889.00 | 944.00 | 1000.00 |

STATEMENT II

Target for the year 1992-93 under the National scheme of liberation and rehabilitation scavengers and their dependents.

| S.No. | Name of the state | Number of Scavengers to be trained | No. of Scavengers to be rehabilitated |
|-------|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | Bihar | 5,000 | 2,977 |
| 2. | Gujarat | - | 3,800 |
| 3. | Haryana | 1,930 | 2,500 |
| 4. | Karnataka | - | 5,000 |
| 5. | Madhya Pradesh | 10,000 | 13,000 |
| 6. | Maharashtra | - | 8,975 |
| 7. | Orissa | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| 8. | Punjab | 4,800 | 3,000 |
| 9. | Uttar Pradesh | - | 20,000 |
| 10. | West Bengal | 3,888 | 3,888 |
| | Total | 27,618 | 65,140 |

STATEMENT III

The state wise allocation for the last three years under the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of scavengers and their dependents

| S.No | Name of the States | 1990-91 | 1991-92 | 1992-93 |
|------|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 0.61 | 2.00 | 2.28 |
| 2 | Assam | 1.15 | 0.125 | 2.02 |
| 3 | Bihar | 32.83 | 3.50 | 3.13 |
| 4 | Gujarat | - | 2.50 | 1.86 |
| 5 | Haryana | 0.46 | 1.50 | 1.76 |
| 6 | Jammu & Kashmir | - | 0.025 | 1.00 |
| 7 | Himachal Pradesh | - | 0.60 | 2.53 |
| 8 | Karnataka | 0.22 | 1.75 | 3.99 |
| 9 | Kerala | - | 0.25 | 0.31 |
| 10 | Madhya Pradesh | 1.35 | 4.00 | 13.36 |
| 11 | Maharashtra | 0.21 | 3.70 | 6.59 |
| 12 | Maghalaya | - | 0.02 | - |

| S No. | Name of the States | 1990-91 | 1991-92 | 1992-93 |
|-------|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 13 | Orissa | - | 3.50 | 0.58 |
| 14 | Punjab | - | 3.50 | 0.58 |
| 15. | Rajasthan | 7.61 | 4.75 | 1.01 |
| 16 | Tamil Nadu | 1.43 | 5.00 | 0.30 |
| 17. | Tripura | 1.10 | - | - |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | 9.73 | 8.00 | 14.94 |
| 19. | West Bengal | 1.35 | 2.00 | 3.63 |
| 20. | Delhi | - | 3.75 | 0.05 |
| 21. | Pondicherry | - | 0.025 | 0.05 |
| | Total | 29.05 | 50.50 | 60.73 |

Assam Oil Division*[English]*

8500. SHRI UDHAB BARAMAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is decline in profit of Assam Oil Division every year; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) the profit has declined over the last three years

(b) The decline in profitability was largely due to increasing operating costs.

[Translation]

Rally at Boat Club

8501. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the circumstances under which the Government have allowed some supporters of Ducked proposals to hold a rally at Boat Club on March 3, 1993;

(b) whether the restrictions imposed on holding rallies at Boat Club have since been withdrawn; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No rally in support of the Ducked proposal was held at the Boat Club on 3.3.1993.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Special Drive to Check Infiltration

8502. SHRI N. J. RATHAVA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Border Security Force has launched a special drive to check infiltration and smuggling in border areas of North Bengal

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a similar drive is proposed to be launched in Gujarat in view of increasing infiltration and smuggling;

(d) if so, by when, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as follows.

(i) increase in nakas and intensified patrolling-Cum-naka against trans-border criminals and infiltrates;

(ii) opening of 14 new BOPs in the Kuchlibari Hussianchar area and around Dahagram, - Angarpota to check infiltration from Bangladesh;

(iii) deployment of additional force in the sensitive areas of the border;

(iv) expansion in activities of Water Wing of the Border Security Force to cover riverine sectors of the border;

(v) provision of handheld search lights and other optical devices for detecting infiltrators; and

(vi) gearing up of intelligence machinery in close coordination with local police. Mobile Task Force and village resistance parties.

(c) to (e), a similar drive is proposed to be launched in the Gujarat frontier shortly.

Vacant Posts in A & N Islands Administration

8503. SHRI MONRORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts in Group 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' lying vacant in A & N Islands Administration as a result of imposition of ban on filing up of posts;

(b) whether recruitment rules have been prescribed and approved for all the posts created under the Andman and Nicobar Administration;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have issued instructions to review all the recruitment rules approved prior to 1985; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Donation to National Harmony Foundation

8504. SHRI LAL BABU RAI:
MOHAMMAD LAL ASHRAF
FATMI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of donation received by the national Harmony Foundation, so far;

(b) the details of this amount, State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to raise the amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) An amount of Rs. 48, 08, 717/- has been received as donations till 27.4.1993. by the National Foundation for Communal Harmony.

(b) Since the donations are received from abro Governments, Industrial Organisation, individual from general public etc. no State-wise account is

(c) Steps taken to raise donations include an by the Union Home Minister circulated to State Government Industrial Houses, Financial Institutions etc.; requite to ou Missions abroad to mobiles e donations from NRIs and other groups and organisation of a Fund Reissuing week from 19 Novmeber to 25 November 1992 as also a Flag Day on 20 November 1992. Publicity is also being given to the activities of the Foundation and 100 per cent tax benefit aviable under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act for donations to the Foundation.

[*English*]

National Leprosy Eradication Programme

8505. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has sanctioned found recently for National Leprous Eradication Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the programme drawn up by the Gov-

ernment with the World Bank assistance; and

(d) the States identified for implementing the programme?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARNAND): (a) to (d). A draft project proposal for strengthening the National Leprosy Eradication Programme with world Bank assistance has recently been appraised by a World Bank Mission. The details of the project and other formalities for obtaining the loan are yet to be finalised.

Agencies in Uttar Pradesh

8506. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRAKHADURI:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR
SHRUANAND RATNA MAURYA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrol/diesel retail outlets and LPG agencies in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of petrol/diesel retail outlets and LPG Agencies proposed to be opened during the next two years, particularly in the hill districts of the State; and

(c) the steps taken to provide LPG connections to the wait-listed persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) As on 1.1.1993, there were 1017 Retail Outlet dealerships and 455 LPG distributorships in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) In the Retail Outlet Marketing Plan 1988-93 and LPG Marketing Plan 1992-94, 362 Retail Outlet dealerships and 68 LPG distributorships have been included for Uttar Pradesh including 12 Retail Outlets in hilly

districts. It takes about 1 to 1 1/2 years for commissioning of dealerships/distributorships after the process of selection through Oil Selection Board begin with advertisements.

(c) Plans have been drawn to increase LPG availability through enhanced production, commissioning of new indigenous sources and through imports. In addition, Government have recently allowed import and sale of LPG at market determined prices by private agencies.

Activities of Pak Infiltrators in J & K

8507. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO:
SHRI BOLLABULLI RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Pakistani infiltrators have entered Jammu & Kashmir and created a terror among the people in the State in April, 1993;

(b) if so, whether a large number of houses and shops have been destroyed by them; and

(c) if so, the action the Government propose to take to meet the situations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). There are reports about the presence of some foreign national, including Pakistanis, who are involved in terrorist activities, including abduction Killing, arson etc., along with terrorists groups in Jammu & Kashmir. However, it is not possible to precisely estimate the number of such persons who many have infiltrated into the State.

Sustained pressure is being maintained on the militants, and a close watch is being kept on the possible infiltration routes. In April 1993, six cases of exfiltration/infiltration were detected in which 25 militants were killed on the border.

Fire In Ongc Building at Bandra, Bombay

8508. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI MULLAPPALLY
RAMCHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a fire broke out in the multi-storied building of Oil and Natural Gas Commission at Bandra, Bombay on 18 March 1993;

(b) if so, the causes of the fire;

(c) the details of loss of life and property

(d) whether the fire-fighting arrangements in the said building were adequate;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken for installation of fire-fighting equipments in the building?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA):

(a) A fire broke out on 18th April, 1993 in the Vasudhara Bhavan located in Bandra, Bombay which houses the headquarters of the Bombay Regional Business Centres of Oil and Natural Gas Commission.

(b) to (f). A departmental enquiry committee has been constituted by ONGC with the following terms of reference:-

(i) to look into the likely cause of the fire.

(ii) to fix responsibility for negligence, if any.

(iii) to assess the magnitude of damage/loss and

(iv) to recommend remedial measures.

Coal Project in Bihar

8509. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH:
Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether some coal produces in Bihar and particularly Pipparwar coal project have been facing problems due to agitation by the people of the area and environmental activities;

(b) if so, the reasons for opposing the implementation of that projects;

(c) how far the demand of people is justified; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (d). Representations have been received from INTACH (Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage) expressing concern about environmental related issues etc. regarding development of coal MIAs in North Karanpura area of Central Coalfields Limited.

The Pipparwar Integrated mine cum Beneficiation Project of Central Coalfields Limited is under and all measure for protection of environment are also being implemented.

Arms Vessels

8510. SHRI SANAT KUMAR:
MANDAL:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI:
RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Two arms vessels head for India" appearing in the "Indian Express" dated April 10 1993:

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

(c) whether a number of ships laden with arms and ammunition headed for India from Pakistan during April, 1993; and

(d) if so, the action taken to track these ships and seize the lethal cargo?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (c). There is no specific information in this regard.

(b) Does not arise.

(d) Government have altered all state governments as well as the concerned Central Agencies to enforce enhanced surveillance in a fully integrated manner to counter smuggling activities.

LPG Agencies out of Ministers Discretionary Quota

8511 SHRI V. SOBHANDREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who were allotted petrol/diesel retail outlets, LPG agencies and SKD dealerships out of Ministers discretionary quota from January, 1991 to January 1993; and

(b) the oil companies which issued the letters of intent during the above said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) During the period, 265 RD/SKD-LDO/PLG dealerships/district to ships were sanctioned by the Government.

(b) Letters of Intent are issued to the allotted by the four Oil Marketing Companies namely, IOC, HPC, BPC & IBP.

Complaints Against Sales Tax Officials

8512. SHRI JEEWAN SHRAMA:
SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item, captioned "Sales Tax" Taxing wait for the traders" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated April 15, 1993;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received during each of the last two years;

(c) the action taken against the erring officials;

(d) the number of dealers found concealing the amount of sales tax during the said Period and the action taken against them; and

(e) the steps taken to revamp and revitalise the Sales Tax Department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Delhi Administrations reported as under the number of complaints received in the Sales Tax Department during the last two years:

1991-92 - 68

1992-93 - 63

(c) Action taken against the officials is as under:

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Action initiated during the year</i> | <i>Officers officials suspended</i> |
|-------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1991-92 | 7 | 7 |
| 1992-93 | 15 | 1 |

(d) Incriminating documents suggesting massive evasion of sales tax were recovered from 203 dealers during the year 1991-92 and 366 dealers in 1992-93. Besides taking action against the dealers as per provisions of D.S.T. Act, 1975, FIRs have also been lodged against 64 dealers during this period.

(e) The following steps are being taken to revitalise and revisable the Sales Tax Department:

- (1) To redress the grievance of dealers, procedure of issue of statutory forms has been simplified and liberalised.
- (2) Date of payment of sales tax by dealers has been computerised on a yearly basis.
- (3) Besides a regular vigilance wing of Department, the Commissioner of Sales Tax is attending to complaints in Public hearing.
- (4) The Enforcement Wing of the Department and the Recovery Wing of the Department have been strengthened.

Child Marriage Restraint Act

8513. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PETEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Child Marriage Restraint Act as a measures to control the population growth;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the legislation in this regard is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARNAND): (a) There is no proposal at present to amend the Child Marriage Restraint act. Raising the age of marriage is sought to be achieved by increasing social awareness.

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

Smuggling of Coal to Bangladesh

8514. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal worth crore of rupee is being smuggled out of India to Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the number of such cases which have come to the notice of the Government during the last two years; and

(c) the steps taken to check the smuggling of coal out of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJT PANJA): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Representation from All India Wax Producers' Association

8515. SHRI GEOGRE FERNADES: Will the Minister of PETROLUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from All India Wax Producers' Association in regard to the problem being faced by their industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Association as raised issues concerning pricing of slack wax and stoppage of import of paraffin wax, etc.

(c) at present paraffin wax Type I and Type II are imported to make good the shortfall in domestic production. The processors of slack wax are not affected by these imports as they are predimianrly invoved in making Type III paraffin wax.

[Translation]

Reduction in import of crude oil

8516. SHRI SHIBU SOREN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is disagreement among the members of OPEC regarding reduction in the crude oil export quota by 10 lakh barrels from the month of Feb. 1993 to contain the crude oil prices and stabilising the oil market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely impact of it on India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). It is reported that an agreement has been reached at the OPEC Ministerial meeting to reduce the overall ceiling of export of crude oil by 10 lakh barrels per day from its previous agreed quota.

(c) No adverse impact of this OPEC agreement is expected on India.

[English]

Award of Contract for levelling and Dressing to EMTA by IISCO

8517. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether IISCO had given a contract for levelling and dressing to Eastern Mineral Trading Agency in 1988 with high rate of 300% project;

(b) whether the contract No. ED(W) CD/RMH-EMTA/2858 dated October 3, 1992 was given extension for two years with 25% escalation;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) IISCO awarded a contract for site levelling and dressing pertaining to Modernisation of Bumpur Works to two contractors viz. M/s Eastern Minerals and Trading agency and M/s Bhaghratha Engineering Limited. The rates were lower than the prevailing rates at Bumpur works.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The contract was extended to the firm who have vast and long experience in material handling jobs and was subsequently extended to two years due to substantial advantages. The provision for extension of contract was also existing in the contract clauses.

(d) Does not arise.

Awards Passed by CGIT Against BCCL

8518. SHRI BAJUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Awards passed by the Central Government Industrial Tribunal against the Bharat Coking Coal Limited during each of the last three years; and

(b) the number of cases still pending in the said Tribunal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) The number of Awards passed by Central Government Industrial Tribunal against Bharat Coking Coal Ltd., during the last three years, is as under:-

| | |
|------|----|
| 1990 | 43 |
| 1991 | 69 |
| 1992 | 59 |

(b) All cases are pending before the Tribunal.

the scheme "Health for all by 2000 AD" in each State?

Health for All

8519. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the targets fixed and those actually achieved so far in the area of health care under

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): The State-wise targets and achievements in respect of the disease control programmes in the health sector are given in the statement attached

STATEMENT

Details of targets & achievements in respect of national programmes covered under health sector in the National Health Policy 1985

| Sr No. | Name of the state/ Union Territory | National T B control programme | | National programme for control of blindness | | | |
|--------|---------------------------------------|---|----------------|--|---|--------|---|
| | | Detection of New T B Cases targets for achievements 1991-92 | during 1991-92 | Cataract operations performance for 1991-92 | Cataract operations performance during 1991-92 | 5 | 6 |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 88000 | 63182 | 200000 | | 129365 | |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh | 1952 | 2645 | 600 | | 242 | |
| 3 | Assam | 37500 | 11664 | 25000 | | 17252 | |
| 4 | Bihar | 196248 | INF | 155000 | | 70000 | |
| 5 | Goa | 3000 | 2796 | 2200 | | 2568 | |
| 6 | Gujarat | 145000 | 151600 | 110000 | | 122239 | |
| 7 | Haryana | 30000 | 31881 | 60000 | | 51782 | |
| 8 | Himachal Pradesh | 17752 | 12131 | 10000 | | 7824 | |
| 9 | Jammu & Kashmir | 15000 | 6260 | 7000 | | 7134 | |
| 10 | Karnataka | 83000 | 66854 | 90000 | | 65078 | |

| Sr No | Name of the state/ Union Territory | National T B control programme:- Detection of New T B Cases targets for achievements during 1991-92 | | | National programme for control of blindness Cataract operations performance annual operations performance for 1991-92 during 1991-92 | | |
|-------|---------------------------------------|--|--------|--------|---|--|--|
| | | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | |
| 1 | 2 | | | | | | |
| 11 | Kerala | 45000 | 25544 | 50000 | 24003 | | |
| 12 | Madhya Pradesh | 120000 | 57950 | 150000 | 113227 | | |
| 13 | Maharashtra | 2325000 | 255185 | 180000 | 188251 | | |
| 14 | Manipur | 3800 | 2111 | 2000 | 364 | | |
| 15 | Meghalaya | 1800 | 2719 | 5000 | 1356 | | |
| 16 | Mizoram | 800 | 806 | 400 | 171 | | |
| 17 | Nagaland | 1500 | 1495 | 600 | 76 | | |
| 18 | Orissa | 38500 | 30579 | 70000 | 18641 | | |
| 19 | Punjab | 41000 | 40121 | 70000 | 94017 | | |
| 20 | Rajasthan | 43148 | 44101 | 130000 | 80654 | | |
| 21 | Sikkim | 1300 | 491 | 1000 | 209 | | |
| 22 | Tamil Nadu | 15752 | 106008 | 160000 | 151323 | | |
| 23 | Jammu and Kashmir | 17000 | 1578 | 4000 | 2381 | | |

| Sr No | Name of the state/ Union Territory | National T B control programme | | | National programme for control of blindness | | |
|-------|---------------------------------------|---|---------|---------|---|---|---|
| | | Detection of New T B Cases targets for achievements 1991-92 | 4 | 3 | for 1991-92 | annual operations performance during 1991-92 | 6 |
| 24 | Uttar Pradesh | 291500 | 266864 | 320000 | 247083 | | |
| 25 | West Bengal | 90000 | 41672 | 150000 | 90202 | | |
| 26 | Pondicherry | 4500 | 4095 | 5000 | 2475 | | |
| 27 | A & N Islands | 376 | 464 | 600 | 177 | | |
| 28 | Chandigarh | 2500 | 1748 | 5000 | 2679 | | |
| 29 | D & N Haveli | 300 | 132 | 500 | 40 | | |
| 30 | Daman & Diu | 248 | 440 | 1000 | - | | |
| 31 | Delhi | 46124 | 46383 | 25000 | 15035 | | |
| 32 | Lakshadweep | 200 | 16 | 100 | 19 | | |
| 33 | Others | - | - | - | 7077 | | |
| Total | | 1700000 | 1279115 | 1990000 | 1512844 | | |

STATEMENT

| Sr No | Name of the state/ Union Territory | National Leprosy Eradication Programme | | | | | | | |
|-------|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|---|---|---|----|
| | | New cases detected & treated targets for 1991-92 | achieve- ments during 1991-92 | Target for 1991-92 | Discharged Achievements during 1991-92 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 46000 | 80007 | 130000 | 123542 | | | | |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh | 100 | 130 | 100 | 228 | | | | |
| 3 | Assam | 1300 | 1328 | 1400 | 1505 | | | | |
| 4 | Bihar | 23000 | 25405 | 30000 | 130508 | | | | |
| 5 | Goa | 200 | 419 | 200 | 614 | | | | |
| 6 | Gujarat | 7000 | 11082 | 15600 | 15524 | | | | |
| 7 | Harayana | 150 | 283 | 100 | 194 | | | | |
| 8 | Himachal Pradesh | 250 | 193 | 250 | 293 | | | | |
| 9 | Jammu & Kashmir | 200 | 207 | 200 | 246 | | | | |
| 10 | Karnataka | 15000 | 26266 | 46000 | 42747 | | | | |
| 11 | Kerala | 5000 | 7050 | 6000 | 20381 | | | | |
| 12 | Madhya Pradesh | 25000 | 26543 | 30000 | 35568 | | | | |

National Leprosy Eradication Programme

| Sr No | Name of the state/ Union Territory | New cases detected & treated achievements during 1991-92 | Targets for 1991-92 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|-------|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------|--------|--------|----|
| 1 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | |
| 13 | Maharashtra | 50000 | 34978 | 95000 | 123974 | |
| 14 | Manipur | 50 | 79 | 100 | 95 | |
| 15 | Meghalaya | 50 | 51 | 100 | 93 | |
| 16 | Mizoram | 50 | 29 | 100 | 61 | |
| 17 | Nagaland | 100 | 93 | 100 | 4 | |
| 18 | Orissa | 28000 | 47438 | 35000 | 40016 | |
| 19 | Punjab | 200 | 639 | 200 | 758 | |
| 20 | Rajasthan | 800 | 1551 | 1000 | 1647 | |
| 21 | Sikkim | 50 | 44 | 100 | Nil | |
| 22 | Tamil Nadu | 70000 | 102462 | 130000 | 160292 | |
| 23 | Tripura | 100 | 176 | 100 | 535 | |
| 24 | Uttar Pradesh | 40000 | 59200 | 65000 | 91330 | |
| 25 | West Bengal | 22000 | 23403 | 25000 | 28957 | |

| National Leprosy Eradication Programme | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Sr No | Name of the state/ Union Territory | New cases detected & treated targets for 1991-92 | achievements during 1991-92 | Target for 1991-92 | Cases Discharged Achievements during 1991-92 | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | | | | |
| 26. | A. & N. Islands | 100 | 140 | 100 | 362 | | | | |
| 27. | Chandigarh | 50 | 179 | 50 | 13 | | | | |
| 28. | D. & N. Haveli | 50 | 40 | 50 | 48 | | | | |
| 29. | Daman & Diu | 50 | 48 | 50 | 4 | | | | |
| 30. | Delhi | 100 | 2378 | 100 | 270 | | | | |
| 31. | Lakshadweep | 50 | 85 | 200 | 171 | | | | |

Training to Minority Youths

8520. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDINI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Uttar Pradesh Minorities Finance Corporation trains minority youths for selection in the State Police Force;

(b) if so, the number of such youths trained, year-wise since the inception of the scheme;

(c) the number of such trained youths who were selected for the police force, year-wise;

(d) whether the majority of those rejected in the physical test;

(e) whether the training included required

physical activity and whether the selection for training took into account physical standards; and

(f) the reasons for the high rejection rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is attached.

(d) and (f). Information is being collected from the state Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) Yes, Sir.

Statement Showing Training of Minority Youths for selection to the State Police Forces

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Number of Youths trained</i> | <i>Number of trained youths selected</i> |
|-------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 1986-87 | 306 | N.A. |
| 1987-88 | 183 | 01 |
| 1988-89 | 380 | 05 |
| 1989-90 | 599 | N.A. |
| 1990-91 | 608 | 29 |
| 1991-92 | 410 | 18 |
| 1992-93 | 321 | N. A. |

[Translation]

Allotment of Petrol Pumps

8521. SHRI LAL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Members of Parliament

to whom petrol pumps were allotted during the period January, 1992 to January, 1993; and

(b) the number of petrol pumps allotted on the recommendations of the Members of Parliament during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

(CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) None, Sir.

(b) Discretionary allotments of dealerships/distributorships are made by Government on compassionate grounds, in deserving cases, keeping in view the circumstances of each case, including the recommendations of MPs and other VIPs.

[English]

Gorkhaland Issue

8522. MAJ. GEN (RETD) BHUWAN
CHANDRAKHANDURI:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent demand for separate Gorkhaland State;

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

(c) whether any fresh initiatives have been taken; are proposed to be taken by the Government to resolve the issue; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d). The Gorkha National Liberation Front (GNLF) had recently threatened to launch an agitation for a separate State of Gorkhaland and rescind the concept of the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council. However, the Government of West Bengal and Shri Subash Ghisingh, President of the GNLF have held meaningful negotiations of resolving the problem amicably.

Activities of Naxalities and Jharkhand Activists

8523. DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some activists of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha and various Naxalite factions have taken away a large quantity of gelatine, detonators and igniting tape from the Bauxite mines located at Maruapat in Lohardagga district in Bihar as reported in the Hindustan Times dated April 16 1993:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the guilty persons have been arrested and the explosives recovered from them; and

(d) the preventive steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d). The information is being obtained from the concerned authorities and will be laid on the table of the House.

Hydrocarbon in Brahmaputra

8524. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any seismic survey has been conducted in the river bed of the Brahmaputra for hydrocarbon; and

(b) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

(CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). One Geophysical party was deployed in the Haldibari - Kamlabari area on the north bank of river Brahmaputra (Assam) in the field season 1986-87. Interpretation of the seismic data has not brought out any feature interesting from hydrocarbon exploration point of view.

Bomb Disposal SQUADS

8525. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to create separate specialised bomb detection and disposal squads;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any directives have been issued to the State Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, whether the State Governments have observed such directives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Bomb Detection and Disposal Squads are already available with the some Central Para-Military Forces.

(c) and (d). The Central Government have advised all the State Government to set up their Bomb Detection and Disposal Squads. many State Government are reported to have already done so

Hospitals in Delhi

852. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government hospitals in Delhi are ill maintained and there is general fall in standards; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to improve the conditions in the Government hospital in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). The functioning of Government hospitals is periodically reviewed and facilities are upgraded within the overall availability of resources.

Official Secrets Act

8527. MAJ GEN (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to amend the Official Secrets Act, 1923;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be amended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). There have been various suggestions / recommendations for amending the Official Secrets Act, 1923. However, as this matter is both complex and sensitive the issues Concerned require very careful and through analysis and examination and it is therefore, not possible to furnish details and the exact time frame for formulating the views in the matter.

Directorate General of Hydrocarbons Sector

8528. DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up Directorate General of Hydrocarbons Sector;

(b) if so, the main objectives for setting it up and

(c) to what extent it will be useful;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Its objective would be to promote sound management of the Indian petroleum and natural gas resources having a balanced regard for the environment, safety, technological and economic aspects of the petroleum activity. It is expected to be very useful for supervising the activities of the public and private sector companies which undertake exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas in the national interest.

Disciplinary Action Against Security Personnel in J & K

8529. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of security personnel against whom disciplinary action has been taken for unlawful and excessive use of force in the course of operations in Jammu and Kashmir during 1991 and 1992, separately;

(b) the number out of them awarded punishment; and

(c) the number of cases in which the proceedings are in progress?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Allotment of Retail Petrol/Diesel Outlets

8530 SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that fake Scheduled Cast/Scheduled Tribe Certificates have been produced to get allotment of retail petrol/diesel outlets;

(b) if so, the number of cases which have come to the notice of the Government during the last two years; and

(c) the action taken against the erring persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) One.

(c) Guidelines on the subject provide for suitable action, which includes termination of such dealerships after following due procedure.

Contaminated Glucose

8531. SHRI RAM NIHORE RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 190 on November 24, 1992 and State:

(a) whether the inquiry into the circumstances under which the sub-standard contaminated glucose found its way into the Government hospitals has been completed;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). The Drug Controller, Delhi Administration has informed that samples of the IV

Fluids were taken from safdarjung Hospital on 23.9.1992 and sent to Drugs Testing Laboratory, Bangalore. The report has been received and is under examination.

other archaeological artefacts which are still lying in the debris of the demolished structure.

[*Translation*]

[*English*]

Archaeological Artefacts in Ayodhya

8532. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the archaeological artefacts found in the Ram Janma Bhumi-Babri masjid Complex in Ayodhya after the demolition of the structure on December 6, 1992 have been preserved;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of the places where they have been kept, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) to (c). On 8th December, 1992 the district administration found certain archaeological artefacts lying in the open in front of Ram katha Kunj building. Soon after 8th December, 1992, these items were photographed and duly indexed by the district administration. They have since been stored in two rooms of the Ram Katha Kunj building under proper lock and key. The items found on 8th December, 1992, number 265 in all and include various architectural pieces like parts of structure, pillars, and idols. Besides, one archaeological artefact was found on 6th January, 1993 during the course of security barricading work at this location. This item has also been duly indexed and kept in the building known as the / Ram katha Kunj building in that area. The above material is under the custody of the Authorised person appointed by the Central Government under the Acquisition of Certain Area at Ayodhya Ordinance 1993 which has since been replaced by an act of parliament. Apart from these, there are

Ayodhya Issue

8533. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:
SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of talks held by the Union Government on the Ayodhya issue during the last five months;

(b) the present status of constitution of two trusts for the construction of Ram Temple and Mosque;

(c) the details of progress made so far in regard to compliance of Ordinance issued and the Bill passed relating to Ayodhya issue; and

(d) whether both the parties have refused to agree to the points mentioned in this ordinance?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b). The Prime Minister has had a number of meetings during this period with delegations and individuals on national matters, including the Ayodhya issue. These have included members of Parliament and other public figures, religious leaders, academicians, writers and journalists. The prime Minister has also received delegations from Ayodhya and Faizabad. He has also had a meeting with members of the Muslim Personal Law Board. These meetings have been a part of the constant process of dialogue, consultation and discussion initiated by the prime Minister in his effort to address all aspects of the problem and fulfil Government's resolve to work towards a just and amicable settlement which respects

the dignity and sentiments of these concerned.

(c) and (d). The Acquisition of Certain Area at Ayodhya Ordinance 1993 has been replaced by an Act of Parliament on 3 April 1993 as Act no. 33 of 1993. The Commissioner of Faizabad has been appointed as the Authorised Person to manage acquired property on behalf of the Union of India. A Claims Commissioner has also been appointed for the purpose of deciding the claims of the owner or any person whose property has been acquired under the Ordinance/Act. The leaders of Muslim Personal law Board and Babri masjid Movement Coordination Committee have conveyed their opposition to the Ordinance promulgated by the President of India. Further, the Ordinance has also been challenged in the Courts of Law.

[English]

Indians Lodged in Pak Jails

8534. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN
SINGH:
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any arrangements for providing alternative employment to the Indians lodged in Pakistani jails on espionage charges on their release;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). There are no Indian espionage agents in Pakistan.

Migration from Punjab

8535. SHRI SHRAVANKUMAR PATEL:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families/persons who have fled from different parts of Punjab in the face of terrorism;

(b) the number out of them who have returned to the State after the establishment of the democratic Government in Punjab; and

(c) the steps taken to facilitate and ensure the return of such displaced persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) According to available information, 17886 families have migrated out of different parts of Punjab to other parts of country due to the fear of terrorism.

(b) 1441 families have been brought back to Punjab from different parts of the country with Government assistance.

(c) Following steps have been taken by the State Government to facilitate and ensure return of such migrants. An ex-gratia grant of Rs. 2,000 to cover initial expenses, Rs. 5,000 per family as transport allowance and Rs. 300 p.m./ as rental allowance was provided. Bank loan facility under the priority sector scheme upto Rs. 25,000 without security was provided. The children of migrants are eligible for free education and allotment of LIG Houses residential plots/commercial sites on reserve price. They are also issued yellow Cards for grant of concessions. Permits are also granted to them for plying minibuses and allotment of fair price shops.

[Translation]

Problem of Refugees

8535-A. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 450 refugee families from East Bengal and West Punjab are living in various localities of New Delhi in the last several years;

(b) whether the Government have ever assessed the plight of these people;

(c) if so, the main problems of these families;

(d) the schemes formulated by the Government to rehabilitate these people permanently;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which the problems of these families are likely to be mitigated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) (b) and (c). The displaced persons from the erstwhile West Pakistan were resettled in various localities of New Delhi long ago under the Evacuee Property Act, 1950 and Displaced persons (Compensation & Rehabilitation) Act, 1954. Once they were resettled under these Acts, they were deemed to have merged with the national mainstream. For any grievances that these rehabilitated displaced persons faced subsequently, they were to seek redressal as normal citizens of Delhi. As regards the displaced persons from the erstwhile East Pakistan, a scheme had been sanctioned in 1961 to provide plots to a few hundred of them in Kalkaji area known as Chitranganj park. This scheme for the displaced persons from East Pakistan was fully implemented.

(d) to (f). The schemes formulated for

rehabilitation of the displaced persons from the erstwhile West Pakistan and erstwhile East Pakistan were implemented long ago. There is no new scheme for rehabilitation of any new group of refugees who might have landed up in Delhi.

12.00 hrs.

LEAKAGE OF QUESTION PAPERS IN DELHI UNIVERSITY

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the leakage of question papers in Delhi University is a very serious issue. All the newspapers have reported this matter. This will definitely undermine the faith in the examination system. Two days back also we raised this issue here. Another paper for B.Com(Pass) First year, Paper No. 503, "Economic Systems and Micro Economic Theory" scheduled for 3.00 p.m. had to be canceled and substituted with a reserve one after the leakage was brought to the notice of the University authorities. Every day these examinations are going on and every day one or the other question paper is leaking.

Sir, it is reported in the newspapers that these question papers were sold from Rs. 300/- to Rs. 500/- in the shops outside the University. In almost all the colleges, the students are agitating now. In Satyavati College and Venkateswara College and in almost all other colleges, this issue has become a very serious one and the Controller of Examinations in the Delhi University was asked to go on leave. Now, he is on leave. Now, the acting Controller of the University has not given any proper reply in this matter. The teachers of Delhi University Teachers' Association are also on 'dharma' today in Delhi University. Every day the leakage of question paper is taking place in Delhi University.

Sir, we have to preserve the confidentiality of the examination system. So, I urge upon the

hon. Minister for Human Resources Development to take up this matter with the UGC and with the Delhi University and conduct a proper enquiry so that the students will have faith in the examination system.

1204 hrs

[SHRI TARA SINGH (*in the Chair*)]

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Sir, all the Delhi University students are on strike and the teachers are also on strike. So, other hon. Members also want to speak on this issue. The issue is a very serious one and so, I want a statement from the Government (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL (Chandni Chowk): Sir, the issue of paper leakage is very serious. there is a racket behind it. It is particularly happening in Delhi University. I would like that some steps should be taken to stop this. Papers are being leaked for money. In such situation, the students who don't get the leaked papers get less marks and fail at the examination and who get those papers get good marks and pass the examination. The Central Government should make some arrangements in this regard so that this issue of paper leakage may be resolved....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this issue has been raised time and again in this House. This issue directly comes under the Central Government. There is bungling in the examinations all over the country. The state of Education is very miserable all over the country. These examinations come under the Central Government. the papers of U.P.S.C. examinations have been leaked out before it commenced in Allahabad. The C.B.I. has said that it is sure that has been bungling in this examination. Just now the hon. Member raised the issue that recently three question papers leaked in Delhi University. I wanted to

raise this issue two days earlier and wanted to raise it yesterday also. I would like to thank him that he has raised this issue. This issue is very serious and directly comes under the Central Government. This bungling is going on directly under the Ministry of Education and as a result the credibility of examinations has been damaged. The education system is destroyed all over the country. It has been said that cheating should be stopped in the examination but this bungling has reached Delhi. This university which is so famous and has credibility is being ruined. I would like to know from the Government as to why it is silent over this issue. About two lakh youths also appear in U.P.S.C. examination and now they are overage for this examination. The Supreme Court has also said that this case is suitable one. The apex court of the country said that this case is proper, despite that the Government is not ready to make a statement in this regard. Question papers are being sold in Delhi University. The Student leaders are involved in this racket. The Government should make a statement on it. I would like to submit that despite under the Central Government the education system in the country is eroding. Why Government does not make a statement in this regard. The Government should make statement in this regard. Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is not proper if the Government does not make a statement in this regard....(*Interruption*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this issue is about Delhi and Delhi University is directly under the Central Government. One question paper leaked day before yesterday. When the students took the examination for an hour and attempted one two questions, question paper is snatched from them and they were given another question paper. The university is playing with the future of the students. When the students concentrate on the first paper it is snatched away and another is given to them. In such a situation they want time to concentrate. How can you expect that they will do better. You are playing with the future of students. I came to know that Delhi police is making an inquiry into it. I would like to say that

these papers are being leaked to humble each other to dust due to party politics of university. I have definite information in this regard but I would not like to go into detail. Yadavji has rightly said that the C.B.I. had also inquired into the case of paper leakage of I.A.S. examination. I would like that the case of paper leakage in Delhi University should be inquired by the C.B.I. so that such cases may not be repeated and persons involved in it should be punished. Therefore, I would like that the Government should make statement in this regard and this case should be handed over to C.B.I.

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : It is very important subject. Government should respond to it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : It is a failure on the part of the Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. C. THOMAS: It is a very serious issue. We did not get a chance to discuss 'Education' in this House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. C. THOMAS: The question papers of the examinations are leaking for each examination. Many defects are found in the question which are given in the examinations. (Interruption) Even the translated versions of the examination paper are wrong. (Interruption) No proper attention is paid to the examination system, the question papers and education as such (Interruption) If no proper attention is paid, the primary

and secondary education in this country is bound to be doomed (Interruption)

Government should hold discussions on all these matters of education.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Sir, this matter has been raised in this House from time to time and I am sure that a statement will come from the Human Resources Development Minister. I will bring this matter to his notice and request him to respond to the wishes of the House.

I take this opportunity to point out one or two matters because these are the last two days of the Session.

There are two important measures which have to be passed in the House and then transmitted to the other House. One relates to the Bill to prohibit employment of manual scavengers in dry latrines.

The second Bill is regarding Amending Bill for the Salary, Allowances and Pensions to the M.Ps, 1954.

We can pass them so that they can go to the Upper House for passing tomorrow because tomorrow is the last day for passing them.

TADA bill is under discussion today.

I request that we will take these three Bills together because the allotted time is short. We shall try to finish before 5 P.M. or in any case upto 5 PM so that the discussion on the one-man Commission can start at 5 PM or before 5 PM, if necessary because these Bills are non-controversial and they will be over.

I do hope that the House will agree with this proposition.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I hope it has the consent of the House.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMNAIK (Bombay North): Sir, the hon. Minister has not mentioned one thing in the proposal presented by him which figures in the agenda for the day. That is about bomb blast in Bombay which also figures in the agenda for today.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Sir, if that matter can be taken today it can be taken up or else it may be taken up tomorrow. I have no objection to it.

SHRI RAMNAIK: I would like to say that if that item cannot be taken today, then the incident of bomb blast in Bombay should be the first item for tomorrow.... (*Interruption*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say that when Municipal Corporation of Delhi Bill was withdrawn the hon. Prime Minister had assured that a new Bill would be introduced. In this connection I spoke to hon. Home Minister yesterday. He said that the English version of the Bill is ready and they had sought the permission. Today in the morning I met the hon. Speaker, he said that he will inquire about it and now I came to know that no Bill has been sent by your Ministry. If the said Bill is not given today, it cannot be introduced tomorrow and tomorrow is the last day of this Session. The hon. prime Minister as well as the hon. Home Minister has assured so. The amended Municipal Corporation of Delhi Bill should have been circulated today. If it is not circulated today, it can not be presented tomorrow. I seek your protection. Please issue order in this regard because yes-

terday the hon. Home Minister told me that the Bill is ready and his Ministry has sought permission. Today, when I inquired about it from the Secretary General he informed that if permission is sought it would be given, but I was told that no permission has been sought and no Bill is circulated. I would like to say that if the Bill is not circulated, it should be circulated today so that the Municipal Corporation of Delhi Bill may be introduced tomorrow. I would like to say this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, you please sit down. I will look into it.

(*Interruptions*)

RE: THE ACUTE SHORTAGE OF
DRINKING WATER IN RAJASTHAN,
UTTAR PRADESH AND OTHER PARTS
OF THE COUNTRY

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, drinking water crisis in Rajasthan is turning from bad to worse and I demand from the Government to solve this problem immediately. With great regret I have to say that the drinking water crisis is turning horrible during scorching summer in all villages and cities particularly, Udaipur, Sijmer, Jaipur, Bharatpur, Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur. Today, the situation is that water supply is provided once in 48 hours for half-an-hour and at some places it is once in 72 hours. Work on four important schemes of water supply, Jodhpur Lift Scheme, Bisalpur Scheme, Mansibakal Scheme, Bandi-Basin Schemes for drinking water is also not in progress. Chambal Drinking Water Scheme for Bharatpur has also not been completed.

Today, drinking water crisis is taking a serious turn. Human beings as well as animals are dying due to heat wave. People are becoming victims of different diseases due to consumption of saline and dirty water. In my constituency Ajmer water supply is being made once for half an hour in 72 hours. This situation is prevailing in Beawar, Kishanganj and all other cities of Rajasthan. Water is essential for human life. I submit to the

Government to complete water supply schemes immediately, kindly issue such directions to the Government.

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) (Bharatpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Bharatpur has acute drinking water problem and the Chambal Project is not being completed. I would like to request the hon. Minister to pay attention to this problem.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the whole country is suffering from acute drinking water problem and no measures have been taken to resolve it. Consequently, people are afflicted by cholera and other diseases. If people will not get drinking water, how they will survive. So I urge upon the Government to pay attention to it.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called hon. Girdhari Lal Bhargava to speak on the issue of drinking water shortage. The House will function in accordance with the list of business.

(Interruption)

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Rajasthan constitutes five per cent of the total population of the country but it gets only one per cent of water from the rivers of the country which is quite inadequate. Today whether it is city or village wells have dried and hand pumps have become out of order everywhere and what to talk of water for human beings it is not available even for animals. This is an acute and serious problem. Eleven districts of Rajasthan are desert areas and in almost all of them there is drought and shortage of drinking water. I would therefore, like to request you to increase the quantity of water. Rajasthan's share in Yamuna water should be released immediately as it will help Alwar,

Bharatpur and Dholpur. Secondly, Rajasthan should be given its share of Ganga water Project. The third Project of Tehri Dam will benefit the districts of Alwar and Bharatpur. Fourthly, Rajasthan should be given right to control the Ropar-Harika-Ferozpur project under the Bhakhra-Beas management Board. The fifth scheme is the Indira Gandhi Canal project. The Government should provide more assistance for it and make arrangements to get financial assistance from the World bank for completion of this project. Along with that Rajasthan should be given water for drinking and irrigation from Haryana and Punjab and the Government should decide the matter of Ravi-Beas water dispute at the earliest.

All the members from Rajasthan, whether they belong to Congress or any other political party, will start a movement for solving the water problem of Rajasthan and compel the Government to provide more share of water and clear the pending schemes, so that we can get the water, otherwise people and animals in Rajasthan will die due to scarcity of drinking water. *(Interruption)*

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY, Mr. Chairman, Sir, Uttar Pradesh is suffering from acute shortage of drinking water. People are dying due to Cholera by drinking dirty water. Animals are dying for scarcity of water. Ponds and canals have dried and due to irregular supply of electricity all the schemes for drinking water have been stalled. In today's era of space technology people are yearning for a bucket of water. People, living in Sonbhadra, Mirzapur, Faizabad and Agra are yearning for water and the Government has not made any arrangements in this regard... *(Interruption)* People are being compelled to drink dirty water. The Government should make arrangements to supply clean water. The same condition prevails in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. The families of those who died of Cholera should be given compensation by the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the problem of water scarcity is same in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. People are in the grip of drought there.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to an important issue. You might be aware that people are going to Saudi Arabia for 'Haj' pilgrimage and a few days earlier you might have heard the news of Rs. eight crore scam for which the Chairman of the Haj Committee had to quit 'Hajis' are facing great difficulties because of this scam and Saudi Embassy is not issuing visas to them and it has become difficult to arrange the accommodation for Hajis in Saudi Arabia. Aged people and ladies, who are willing to go on 'Haj' have to stand and wait in long queue in Saudi Embassy, whereas earlier other persons could get visas on their behalf. The earlier restriction of 500 dollar has been increased to 1000 dollar. The Rs eight crore scam by Chairman of Haj Committee should be inquired into by C.B.I., as this scandal has brought disgrace to our country.

On the other hand officials from Ministry of External Affairs should work out details with the Saudi Embassy to smoothen visa facility to Hajis. The flights to Saudi Arabia are not full as Hajis are not getting visas. So I would urge upon the Government to reconstitute the Haj Committee and include eminent personalities in it. Besides, the news of Rs. eight crore scam should be inquired into by C.B.I. and Ministry of External Affairs should make arrangement to provide visa to Hajis in consultation with their counterpart in Saudi Arabia

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise a very important issue before you and the House. You might be aware that Lok Sabha did not get an opportunity to discuss the demands for grants of the Ministry of Commerce. The reason is well known to you. The Government is determined to make the country a slave of foreign powers. In protest the

opposition parties had raised the issue of special 301 earlier also, which the Government of U.S.A. is going to impose on India. Five-six days earlier the Commerce Minister made statement in this House saying that Government of India disapproves this special 301, which is going to be imposed on us by the Clinton administration. The session will come to a close tomorrow and the news is that the Clinton Government will impose special 301 against us on 31st May. American administration is determined to impose Special 301 even on European countries, whereas ours is a weak country from the Third World. They are going to impose some restriction against us in the end of this month, so I would like to draw the attention of the House and the country towards it. I would like to say that we are not their slave in any matter, then why the American administration is willing to do such things. The Commerce/Secretary in the American administration says that they will impose these restrictions after reporting to the Congress. At that time our Parliament will not be in session as it is coming to a close tomorrow.

In the light of what Clinton administration is doing I would like to know from the Government whether our Parliament and the country has lost its sovereignty. Why the American Parliament has launched a trade against India and is threatening that it will impose super 301 against India for not abiding by American rules. How they are imposing their rules on India, when it is an independent and sovereign country.

In my view, the Indian Government has accepted the American Government's proposal, but it is not coming out with facts before the Parliament. The Government has chugged the Patent laws of 1970. I would like to quote one of the expressions used by the American Commerce Secretary which was repeated by an American official about India.

[English]

'In case India changed its patent Law and provide for Product patent with a life span

of over ten years rather than the Indian practice of following process patent with seven years life span US may not proceed with Special 301 law."

[Translation]

I do not know whether Shri Chandra Shekar ji is listening to or not. Whenever this question is asked from the Government, it keeps silence which means the Government is accepting it. They will make changes in the patent Law of 1970. They have threatened the Government of India to make changes in Patent law of 1970. Mr. Chairman, Sir, are you listening us to adopt Product Patents in place of process patents. If we do not accede to it, America will impose Act of Special 301 on medicines and food products.

Mr. chairman, Sir, I want to submit that you also belong to a family of farmers. Previously we were used to be a slave of P. L. 480. But in 1977 we became free from the clutches of P. L. 480 with the help of farmers but now once again the Clinton administration is threatening us. The Parliament will not be in session on 31st May. Will we come to know about it through newspapers that Act of Special 301 has been imposed on India. I would like to submit to the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs that they should listen to me and express his feelings in this regard.

Mr. chairman, Sir. I am raising this point as we have continuously been demanding for the formation of a Joint parliamentary Committee as it is a very important question because you are going to sign the Dunkel proposals and it is linked with our independence as well as the sovereignty of the country. Therefore, I want that the Government should come forward with a statement in the House before it adjourns tomorrow.

SHRI TARACHAND KHANDELWAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this time no discussion was held on the Ministry of Commerce. As there is no time today. I would like to have one hour discussion

on the Ministry of Commerce in the House tomorrow. Just now, Shri Rabi Ray has raised an important issue in the House. I was expecting a discussion on the Ministry of Commerce in the House. It is an important issue and not holding a discussion on the Ministry of Commerce encourages such things. Therefore, I demand that a discussion should be held tomorrow on the Ministry of Commerce for one hour so that we can discuss the things.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Chairman Sir, I do not intend to prolong the matter but want to put two three points before the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. George, I have a list and I am following its order.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: That is correct, Sir, the question raised just now is a very important one. I want the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to stay here only for some more time.

Mr. Chairman, Sir now the question arise as to how far we have in respect of a business issue and moreover it is not the end of it. I have some documents here stipulating certain conditions on off our government by the Chairman of Assian Development bank which literally make us slaves. Shri Chandra Shekhar, the former prime Minister and the senior member of this House raised this issue on the 20th of the last month before the Finance Minister and also informed the Prime Minister in this regard that how in the name of economic development, Asian Development bank and World bank have made their own rules. According to these rules which we have agreed to flow, our Government have mortgaged our country in the hands of Americans for the next 10 years.

Mr. Chairman, Sir I want to put a statutory question before you. I am sorry to say that the House is not giving its attention properly on such matters but by quoting Article 246 of the Constitution, I want to draw your attention to this fact

that the Finance Minister and the bureaucracy are making their country a slave and the whole of the House is witnessing this drama. I fail to understand that in Ramaswamy case we heard his discussion for 7 hrs. and we spent 15-20 hours on it, but the Article 246 of the constitution says—

[English]

“Notwithstanding anything in clauses (2) and (3) parliament has exclusive power to make laws with respect to any of the matters enumerated in Last the Seventh Schedule.

[Translation]

and there is Article 13 in Seventh Schedule

[English]

“Participation in international conferences, associations and other bodies and implementing of decisions made there at”

[Translation]

After that Article 37 says:-

[English]

“Foreign Loans”

[Translation]

Foreign loans, Article 43 says:

[English]

“Incorporation, regulation and winding up of trading corporations in cladding banking, insurance and financial corporations but not including cooperative societies.”

[Translation]

You have agreed to wind up the public

sector banks of India, this fact is not known to World Bank and the Parliament. Mr., Chairman, Sir, being a member of this House I have also some rights under the Article 246. You have presented the Budget but the terms which you have accepted there were not explained to the House. Mr. Chairman, Sir, the House has a right to know each and everything in this regard. If the Finance Minister and some other bureaucrat who are selling out the country because they are taking tax free pensions from World bank and IMF to the tune of two or three thousand dollars per month are deceiving the nation and here in India, they claim that they are working in India without any remuneration, but it is a fact that they are getting tax free pensions from these organisation.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up; please close now.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I Will finish it.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: No Sir there is no question of closing it. I am on a point of order. Sir I am raising a constitutional issue before you. I would like to know from you that if any agreement has been made abroad on the law making powers of this house as enumerated in List I, then what is the dignity of the House? Under these, then we are helpless in doing any thing against him. what are our right and the rights of this House? If some Persons sitting in North Block and South Block strike deals with the World bank and make the Finance Minister to present the budget in the House, what is the use of our being present there in the House. What is this going on. We are being ridiculed. We are on a point of order. They have gone against the spirit of the Constitution. They violated all the Articles of the Constitution. What kind of point of order you are going to decide in this case, it is now for you to decide.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sir, Jaswant Singh please.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI (Sambalpur): Sir, this was never the convention. the convention of the House is that one Member from that side and one Member from this side are allowed to raise any point. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you given your name? Your name is not there in the list.

DR. KRUNAPSINDHU BHOI: It does not matter if my name is not there..... (*Interruption*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I know that my name is not there in your list. I am thankful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak in brief. The uproar in the House is the cry of Mother India. Whatever the issues we raise here in the House, whether it relates to the problem of water, delay in holding school examinations anything about Delhi etc., we raise in the hope that the Government will take note of these issues and state something on them but I think the Government has been sleeping over all the issues or it is grossly ignoring the issues being raised by us.

Shri Rabi Ray raised a question regarding Dunkel proposals I received a letter from Shri Chandra Shekhar ji and the contents of the letter are very startling and whatever is said by Shri George I agree to that. In the circumstances, I would like to submit that this is highly objectionable. The former prime Minister of India records his objection in writing but the Finance Minister and the Prime Minister do not even reply to that. The basic issue in itself is a big issue.

What words may I use to express my feelings. To whom should we address our grievances. We are not raising this issue merely for making a noise or to attract headlines in newspapers. I would like to submit that whatever we are putting before you, or whether cry you are listening, is a sign of the nation but the Government is unaware of it.

The facts furnished by shri Chandra Shekar ji yesterday evening are quite objectionable. in themselves shri George explained the points in detail but I am not going into that explanation. I do not want to take your time but on behalf of the Government, someone should own up some responsibility, Corruption, scams and embezzlements are rampant, there is neither water to drink nor examinations held. To whom should we approach in the name of the Government? If we do not ask you then whom should we ask? I do not know but Shri George says that in the name of this House we are being ridiculed. (*Interruption*)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia): Mr. chairman, Sir, I did not want to speak on this matter but because my name has been called, I would like to say few words about it. Few days back I received a copy of the report of the Asian Development bank. On 20th April, I wrote a letter to hon. Finance Minister and the hon. Speaker also. I have been waiting for a reply since 20th April but could not hear anything till now.

I have also not received any information about water till yesterday. when this matter was raised yesterday in Rajya Sabha by some of our friends, I sent a copy of my letter to some hon. Members of this House including Shri jaswant Singh, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, Shri George Fernandes and Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

It is sorry state of affairs. After the happenings of the day-before-yesterday, I am not very optimistic about it but even then such incidents happen in the country. What should we do? exclude I have been waiting for a reply for the last 22 days. I know that hon. Prime Minister and

Finance Minister are very busy but they can at least acknowledge the receipt of my letter. The report of the Asian Development Bank clearly gives the names with whom talks were held and the decisions were taken about the future course of action to be taken by the Government of India. Every thing has been stated in that report as to what report the World Bank and the IMF have given. On the basis of those reports the Narasimhan Committee was constituted and terms of reference was determined. On the basis all such things have been mentioned there. It is a question of sovereignty of India. It is not a question of Government only but it is a question of national dignity and national pride. These reports are available in the capital of every country but our Government cannot provide these reports of World Bank, IMF and Asian Development bank. If I ask for a copy of the report, the Government will not provide it. There must be some limit to every thing. From the very first day this issue is being raised and the Government says that the report of World Bank is not a secret document, then why is the Government not providing the copy of the report to the Members of the House? The report is given to government offices who go to the World bank and come back after striking a deal in the name of the country. It is an intolerable agitation. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you can yourself go through the report. I will hand over that letter to the Press so that the patriotic citizens is selling out the country. I do not know whether it will be discussed in the House or not and Government will reply to it or no but it is my national duty to bring this fact to the notice of the people of this country. there may be single voice or the voice of 4-5 persons but we will continue to raise our voice against every conspiracy of selling out the country.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Sir, there has to be a response from the Government. Why the Government is silent? This is a very serious matter. Sell out of the country has been alleged and the relevant documents have been sent to the Minister concerned. For long

similar types of complaints and allegations, supported by facts, have been made in this House. They have been discussed outside the Parliament also. What kind of impression will be created outside the country if the Government does not come forth with to make a statement in order to enlighten the House and instead do things behind the back of everybody? I do not know why the Government is silent on this.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Sir, I am on a point of order. Just now Shri Chandra Shekhar has raised a very serious matter which relates to the rights of the Members of the House. That is why I am raising this point of order. It has been clearly mentioned that there are certain policy matters which relate to the sovereignty of the nation freedom of the nation and policies of the Members in spite of their having written letters to the Government, neither such matters are being discussed in the House nor the House is being taken into confidence. The documents which relates to our sovereignty and policies of the nation are being provided to some Indian officers and some foreign officers but they are not being provided to the Members. Actions are being on them and fundamental changes are being brought about in national policies. Sir, you should give your ruling on this point of order because total changes are being brought about in our national policies, the country is being sold out without taking the House into confidence and documents are not being provided to the Members in spite of their written requests. Has the Government any responsibility in this regard or not? A question has been raised here that the report has not been provided to Shri Chandra Shekhar and we are also not aware whether any action is being taken on it or not and it has been stated by the Finance Minister again and again that no major decision would be taken by the Government without taking the House into confidence. The same assurances were given at the time when 301 and Dunkel Proposals were being discussed. Even the same assurance was given

when talks were being held with the World bank and the IMF. The Minister gives such assurance in the House and the Government takes arbitrary decisions. I am raising such important matter, which relates to the sovereignty of our country, through this point of order. Sir, you are on the Chair from where you have to protect the dignity of the House and the rights of the Members, therefore, you should give your ruling on fundamental question.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) (SHRIMUKUL WASNIK): Sir, Mr. Rabi Ray, Mr. Jaswant Singh, Mr. Chandra Shekhar, Mr. George Fernandes and several other hon. Members have raised some very important issues ranging from drinking water problem, the Dunkal Draft, the ADB, the leakage of papers and so on. I am responding to what Mr. Jaswant Singh has said. He said that several important issues were raised on the floor of the House and the Government is not responding. I am standing here just to let you know that you raise important issues which are unlisted and you expect that the Government should come forward and respond. You expect that on the spur of the moment, we should come forward and respond.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Sir, is the matter raised by Shri Rabi Ray not worth responding?

[English]

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Sir, this is totally unfair on the part of Mr. Jaswant Singh and other hon. Members to raise important issues without any notice to the concerned Ministers that such an issue is going to be raised and they expect that the Government should come forward and respond like this. I don't agree with this (Interruption)

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: He had written a letter a month ago. Does the letter written on 20th April bear no value?

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Mr. Chandra Jeet Yadav, the letter written by Shri Chandra Shekhar is not a matter of the House.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Why is it not a matter of the House? When it relates to the policies of the nation and when action is being taken on it, why is it not a matter of the House? [English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): This issue is being raised since last two weeks.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia): Mr. chairman, Sir, if the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister wants to be so technical, then I would say that I wrote a letter on 20th April to the Speaker that it is a serious matter, I am referring these documents to you so that this matter can be raised on the floor of the House any time at short notice. I think, it was the responsibility of the Finance Minister, at least, to acknowledge the latter. He should have done it. There should have been some response from the Prime Minister also. I also expected-I may be excused for saying this- some reaction from the Chair on this issue.

[Translation]

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Sir Chandra Shekhar ji, I am not going into technical aspects. I would only like to submit that if such serious matters are to be raised in to House and the Government reaction is desired then proper notices must be given. And if the issues are properly discussed..... (Interruption) However, if serious matters are raised in the House....

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: If this is the attitude then we will stage a walk-out from the House. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRISAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: He could have said it in the evening. (*Interruption*)

SHRISRIKANTA JENA: There is absolutely no assurance from the Government whether they are going to respond or not. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down, I am going to give a direction in this regard. In response to the submission of Shri Chandra shekhar ji that he expects the Chair to give a ruling in this regard. I urge the Hon. Prime Minister to reply to all the points raised.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR (Khandwa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a very important issue. Nepa paper Mill which was a well-known paper Mill in Asia once a time, is located in Khandwa district. This mill is on the verge of closure and 4500 workers of the mill are faced with the threat of unemployment. Paper stock of the value of Rs. 20 to 25 crore is lying in the mill and the mill has to recover due of Rs. 20 crore and has also to clear power tariff arrears of the value of Rs. 8 crores. Threat of closure of the mill has caused panic among the workers. In view of all this, I would like to urge the Government to pay attention to running the mill and also care for the welfare of the workers. The mill is facing closure and all sorts of obstacles are being created to running the mill. The Government should pay attention to this situation. The mill is going to be closed down due to gross mismanagement and not due to lack of sincerity on the part of the workers. In collusion with the private sector the management wants the mill to be closed down thereby opening the scope for privatisation of the mill. The workers of the mill are hard working and production is also good. Production worth Rs. 25 crore took place and there is no space left

in the godawn. The Government should intervene in the matter and streamline the management for the welfare of the workers.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Sir, I have written several times in the past about irregularities committed in awarding marks and changing of results of the examinations conducted by the UPSC in 1985-86. In 1989 a CBI inquiry was ordered to look into the complaints. A month back I was informed by the Director of the CBI that prima facie the complaints are genuine. A petition was submitted by a candidate Shri Nilam Kumar Singh in this regard. I urge the Minister of Personnel to ask for the report and also give another chance to the bright students who may secure good marks. I urge the Government to make a statement in the House giving an account of the steps taken in this regard.

[English]

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN (Barpeta): I want to draw the attention of the House and Government to the gross discrimination in payment of SDA in regard to certain groups of Central Government employees posted and serving in north-eastern region.

The House is aware that by an order in 1983 of the Central Government, special duty allowance is being paid since 1986 to the Central Government civil employees posted and serving in north-eastern region who have all Indian transfer liability.

Against this discrimination the Central Government employees, AIR, Doordarshan, P&T, railways, etc. agitated and even some went on strike during these years and demanded payment of SDA.

The P&T employees also approached Gauhati CAT. Gauhati CAT in 1989 delivered a judgment directing P&T authorities to pay SDA to all group C&D and P&T employees serving in Assam and north-eastern region.

You are aware that P&T authorities instead went to Supreme court who directed the case to be heard at principal CAT Delhi. The Principal CAT Delhi again transferred the review petition to Cuttack CAT. It is now found that the Cuttack CAT has upheld the judgment of CAT Gauhati recently in 1993.

The strange thing is that Telecom Department under the Ministry of Communications has been paying SDA though P&T Department under the same Ministry has refused till today the payment of SDA.

In view of the recent judgment of the court of Cuttack CAT, I urge upon the Government to take steps so that not only the P & T employees but also the Central Government employees serving in the north-eastern region also get special duty allowance.

[Translation]

DR LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr Chairman, Sir, consumer Protection Forums are being set up all over the country for the protection of the interest of the consumers. However, no such Forums have been set up in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. After setting up the State level Consumer Forum in Madhya Pradesh district level Forums should also be set up. In the absence of Forums the petitions filed by the consumers are not being settled even after 3 months thereby causing a lot of hardship to the consumers. I urge to set up Consumer Forums at all levels in Rajasthan and madhya Pradesh for the protection of the consumers. (Interruption)

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI (Nainital): Sir, Around 1981-82 many branches were set up in Uttar Pradesh by M/S Favourite Small Investment Company (Regd), 3-Park Street, Calcutta. Funds were sought to be mobilised by this company under various policies. The company appointed influential persons and unemployed youth as its agents on heavy commission basis. Lakhs of rupees were mobilised by promising

large bonuses on deposits. From Kumaon, Bareilly and Moradabad divisions alone an amount of around Rs. 50 lakh was collected.

Sir, in response to a petition filed in the Supreme Court, the hon. Court inquired from the Government and the RBI about the steps being taken or proposed to be taken to check mushroom growth of the finance companies and investment companies. These finance and investment companies are out to cheat innocent persons by promising high rates of interests. There is an urgent need to come to the protection of the public.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, these finance companies have defrauded laborers, farmers and rickshaw-pullers of their hard earned savings. Crores of rupees have been swindled away by these finance and investment companies. I urge the Government and the hon. Minister of Finance to ban these companies immediately and make them to pay back the savings of the depositors after recovering the crores of rupees in the custody of these companies. (Interruptions)

[English]

Otherwise, I am strictly going according to the list supplied to me.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Bombay is the industrial capital of India. Suburban railway is the life line of Bombay and 45 lakh persons commute daily by the suburban railway. On the suburban route from Bombay to Vasai there is a 64 year old bridge, which is two kilometre long on the strait. This bridge is in a very bad shape. Construction for a new bridge was started in 1985 and was completed in 1990 at the cost of Rs. 45 crore.

However, this bridge has not been made operational even after two years of its comple-

tion. (*Interruption*) Though electric and telecommunication facilities have been provided on the bridge, yet it has not been made operational. The bridge has not been declared operational because of the fear that the construction of the bridge is not up to the specified standards. No attention is being paid by the Government in this regard and it is quite possible that in the days to come no bridge would be available at all as the old bridge is already in a very bad condition.

Therefore, I urge the Government to make a statement immediately in this regard and also remove all the faults in the new bridge and declare it operational before the onset of the monsoon season. The Government should make a statement tomorrow in this regard.

[English]

SHRI A. INDRA KARAN REDDY (Adilabad): Mr. Chairman Sir, as you are aware Telangana Region in Andhra Pradesh is drought prone and every year people suffer for want of drinking water. This year the situation is so acute that in Belampally, Sirpur-Kagaznagar, Boath, Adilabad & Utnoor Taluqs due to lack of drinking water people have to use drain water from broken pipes which no doubt is very much drain water from broken pipes which no doubt is very much constaninated. The use of this contaminated water, by people is causing widespread gastroenteritis and so far about 20 people have lost their lives.

Due to lack of medical facilities in this area prompt medical care also could not be given to help the people. There is no attempt from any agency to provide drinking water to the people and provide proper medical facilities.

Unless immediate steps are taken to repair the drains/replicating the water prices, providing spraying material for drains etc. and procuring sufficient quantities of life saving drugs the situation may become worse. Already local dailies are fighting the problem and unless corrective steps are not taken immediately the

situation may become unmanageable.

I urge upon the Minister for Welfare through you, Sir, to look into the above problem and take prompt action through central agencies to proper drinking water, Medical facilities etc. to people of Bellampally, Sirpur-Kagaznagar, Boath, Adilabad, Utnoor Taluks immediately. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now the House stands adjourned for Lunch till 1410 hrs.

13.07 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till ten minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at sixteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[SHRI TARA SINGH in the Chair]

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Review on the working of and Annual Report of the Artifacts Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India. Lampur for the year 1991—92 along with Audited Accounts and Comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon; etc.,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : On behalf of Shri Sitaram Kesri, I beg to lay on the table:—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub—section (1) of

section 619A of the Comparison Act, 1956.—

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Artifices Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India, Kanpur, for the Year 1991—92,
- (ii) Annual Report of the Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India, Kanpur, for the year 1991—92 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon:
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons or delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
[Placed in Library See No. LT—4055/93]
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Rehabilitation Training and Research, Cuttack, for the year 1991—92, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Institute of Rehabilitation Training and Research, Cuttack, for the year 1991—92.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.
[Placed in Library See No. LT-4056/93]

Review on the working of and Annual Report of the Coal Mines Provident Fund, Coal Mines Family Pension and Coal Mines Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme for the year 1991—92, etc.,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): On behalf of Shri Ajit Panja, I beg to lay on the table.—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Coal Mines Provident Fund, Coal Mines Family Pension and Coal Mines Deposit Linked Insurance Schemes, for the year 1991—92, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Coal Mines Provident Fund, Coal Mines Family Pension and Coal Mines Deposit Linked Insurance Schemes, for the year 1991—92.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
[Placed in Library See No. LT—4057/93]

Review on the working of and Annual Report and Annual Accounts of the Gujarat Cancer and Research Institute, Ahmedabad for the year 1990—91, etc.,

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): I beg to lay on the table.—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Gujarat Cancer and Research Institute, Ahmedabad, for the year 1990—91.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Gujarat Cancer and Research Institute, Ahmedabad, for the year 1990—91, together with the Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Gujarat Cancer and Research Institute, Ahmedabad for the year 1990—91.
- (2) A statement (Hindi and English Versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
[Placed in Library See No. LT—4058/93]
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Gujarat Cancer and Research Institute, Ahmedabad, for the year 1991—92.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) Gujarat Cancer and Research Institute, Ahmedabad, for the Year 1991—92, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Gujarat Cancer and Research Institute, Ahmedabad, for the Year 1991—92.
- (4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.
[Placed in Library See No. LT—4059/93]
- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Acharya Harihar Regional Centre for Cancer Research and Treatment Society, Cuttack, for the year 1990—92 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Acharya Harihar Regional Centre for Cancer Research and Treatment Society, Cuttack, for the year 1990—91.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.
[Placed in Library See No. LT—4060/93]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Council for Research on Homoeopathy, New Delhi, for the Year 1991—92 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Central Council for Research in Homeopathy, New Delhi, for the Year 1991—92.
- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for

delay in laying the papers mentioned (7) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT—4063/93]

[Placed in Library See No. LT—4061/93]

(13)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the International Institute for Population Sciences, Bombay, for the year 1991—92, along with Audited Accounts.

(9) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English Versions) of the Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1991—92, together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the International Institute for Population Sciences, Bombay, for the year 1991—92.

(10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

(14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) by showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above

[Placed in Library See No. LT—4062/93]

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

[Placed in Library See No. LT—4064/93]

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation (India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1991—92.

(15)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Academy of Medical Sciences (India) New Delhi, for the Year 1991—92, along with Audited Accounts.

ii) Annual Report of the Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation India Limited, New Delhi, for the Year 1992, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Academy of Medical Sciences (India) New Delhi, for the Year 1991—92.

(12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

(16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above

[Placed in Library See No. LT—4065/93]

14. 16 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

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

- (i) 'In accordance with the provisions of rule 115 of the Rules of procedure and conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 10th May 1993, agreed to the following amendments made by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 19th April, 1993, in the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) amendment Bill, 1992:—

Enacting Formula

1. page 1, line 1, —

for "Forty—third"

substitute "Forty—fourth"

Clause 1

2. Page 1, line 4, —

for "1992" substitute "1993"

- (ii) 'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Tuesday, the 11th May, 1993 adopted the following motion in regard to the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit:—

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do elect one member of the Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit and resolves that the House do proceed to elect, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means

of the single transferable vote, one member from among the members of the House to the said Joint Committee to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Shri Som Pal from the membership of the said Joint Committee."

2. I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above motion, Shri Sarada Mohanty, Member, Rajya Sabha, has been duly elected to the said Joint Committee.

14. 16 1/2 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

Seventh Report

SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): Sir, I beg to present the Seventh Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Petitions.

14. 17 hrs.

RECOVERY OF DEBTS DUE TO BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS BILL* 1993

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of Tribunals for expeditious adjudication and recovery of debts due to banks and financial institutions and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto

MR CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of Tribunals for expeditious adjudication and recovery of debts due to banks and financial institutions and for matters connected therewith

or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

DR. ABRAR AHMED: I introduce the Bill.

MATTER UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to upgrade AIR station at Sambalpur, Orissa and set up regional news unit there**

[English]

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI (Sambalpur): All India Radio, Smbalpur is one of the oldest Radio Stations in the State of Orissa. It is located at the nerve centre of Western Orissa. The State has one Regional News Unit at Cuttack only which has failed to cater to the needs of Western Orissa. As such there is a need to set-up a Regional News Unit at Sambalpur. With the infrastructure facilities at A. I. R., Sambalpur, the availability of PTI Agency service and modern telocm network there is quite possible to set up the Regional News Unit. This is possible if the A. I. R. Station at Sambalpur is upgraded to a high power transmission. If this is done, the commercial potential and rich heritage of a vast neglected region can be properly protected.

I request the Central Government to upgrade A. I. R. station at Sambalpur with the opening of the Regional News Unit.

- (ii) **Need to take steps to solve acute drinking water problem in Bilaspur region of Madhya Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI BHAWANI LAL VERMA (Janjgir): Nearly 8,000 villages in Bilasput, Raigarh and Sarguja districts in Bilaspur division of Madya Pardesh are in the grip of severe drought. As a result of insufficient rainfall an acute problem of drinking water has developed in the region. The problem has worsened further due to the decline

in water level as a result of which handpumps in 75 per cent of the villages have become nonfunctional. The Hon. Prime Minister visited village Pardriya in Bilaspur division on 17-4-93 for an on the spot assessment. The Hon. Prime Minister gave necessary instructions in this regard, yet no improvement in the situation is evident. Summer has just started and if the drinking water problem is not solved then 60 lakh persons will face deep crisis.

Therefore, I urge the Centre to take concrete steps immediately in this regard.

- (iii) **Need to provide adequate railway facilities at Chandrapur Railway Station of Central Railway**

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE (Chandrapur): Sir, people from Chandrapur and Gadchiroli districts are agitating for providing adequate facilities at Chandrapur Railway Station, Central Railway, including stoppages of Super and Super Fast trains there.

Chandrapur is a fast developing Industrial business centre and district headquarters in Maharashtra State and the facilities provided by Railways like stoppages of trains and reservation quota etc. are inadequate considering industrial expansion of the area with a population of more than 24 lakhs. I request the Ministry of Railways to consider stoppages of Ganga—Kaveri Express, Tirupati—Banaras Express, A. P. Express and Tamil Nadu Express at Chandrapur. Proposed Jabalpur—Nagpur superfast express may be extended upto Ballarshah which is a terminus of both Central and South Central Railways.

Hon. Prime Minister had recently inaugurated the function of broadening Chanda fort to Gondia narrow gauge at Wadsa—Desaiganj/. The terminus at Chanda Fort which has historical importance and is in the interest of commuting people.

Hence, I urge the Government to take action so as not to disturb present face of the Railway Station at Chanda Fort.

(iv) Need to provide Karbi Longpi Hydel Electric Project in Assam

SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA (Silchar) : Sir, the Karbi Hydel Electric Project situated in the district of Karbi Any long of Assam was sanctioned in three year 1979 and the work started from 1980. The Project is the only Hydel Project in the state of Assam. The work of the Project was delayed due to the six—year Assam agitation, the initial schedule commissioning of 1988 was delayed due to failure on the part of the contractor to carry out work in the main dam. The contractor was changed and the work was entrusted to M/s. N. P. C. C. Ltd., a Government of India Undertaking.

Though the dam work of the project was delayed which caused serious time and cost overrun of the project, the other area of the project was progressing well with almost 90% work already completed. during the first part of 1992, the contract of NPCC Ltd. was suspended by the ASEB on a plea of not carrying out the work as per schedule and the work on Dam site got terminated since then. The estimated project cost was Rs. 35 crores in three year 1976 and same was enhanced to Rs. 145 crores since 1990. Suddenly, the Government and the ASEB have taken a decision to hand over the project to a private party. Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 25. 3. 93 between Government of Assam, ASEB and M/s. Subhas Engineering.

The above steps have created doubts in the minds of the people. The MOU should have been only signed after getting the clearance from Central Government's Power Department as the Japanese credit by way of supplying turbines to the project was involved in the project.

I, therefore, urge upon Central Government to take up the matter with Government of Assam and take appropriate measures.

(v) Need to take steps to overcome drinking water problem in Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRISHYAM BIHARI MISRA (Bilhaur) : Mr Chairman, Sir, temperature is rapidly increasing in Uttar Pradesh and on the other hand, water level has drastically gone down. Kanpur city and rural areas of Kanpur in enternal Uttar Pradesh and Bundelkhand are facing hard times. Wells have gone dry and water in some wells is unfit for drinking. Handpumps have also gone dry due to fall of the water level. Situation in Kakavan, Bihaour, Maitaha, Bhognipur, Rajpur and Chatampur blocks in rural areas of Kanpur is quite serious. People have to walk 1 to 2 kms for fetching drinking water. As a result of low water level in the river Ganges situation in Kanpur city is also bad. Hundreds of people que up at each and every handpumps and public hydrants. Even in public hydrants is available for only one or two hours a day.

In view of the severe water crisis I would like to urge the Government to start work on war footing. The Government should separately allocate funds for the installation of India Time handpumps in rural areas of Kanpur and Kanpur city and for the permanent solution of the dam on Ganges should be immediately started.

(vi) Need to provide more facilities to public telephone booth operators

SHRI P. C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Sir, ghost bills are causing great threat to telephone subscribers especially for phones having S. T. D. facility. Public telephone booth operators, many of whom are very poor and / or physically handicapped, are forced to give up the job as they get highly inflated bills. Their meter readings should be checked daily by Telecom staff and got approved so that inflated bills could be avoided. They must be provided computerised billing units by the Department

at the Cost of the Department itself. They cannot afford to buy such machines as their cost is very high. The commission for public booth operators should be increased. They must be given facility of incoming calls by providing a separate telephone. These operators have serious problems. The department must hear their grievances periodically and solve them. Multiplicity of booths at one place should be avoided. Even in small villages, new public phones are opened near the existing ones which put the operators in loss. Minimum distance criteria should be fixed so the unhealthy competition is avoided.

(vii) Need to release money from Central Road fund to Uttar Pradesh Government and clear pending proposals of the State

[*Translation*]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Breilly): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to bring your attention under rule 377 that the Central Road Fund was set up by the Government of India for the maintenance and construction of roads which is being funded by the cess imposed on petrol and diesel. Grants are made available from this fund for the construction and repair of roads in the country. On 13th May, 1988 a resolution was passed by the Eight Lok Sabha to bring the cess levied on diesel in the pervue of this funds and thus the contribution to this fund was raised to 5 per cent. As a result of this important decision, Uttar Pradesh was to get annual grant of Rs. 31.09 crore from the Central Road Fund against which the State Government got the amount Rs. 1.60 crore, Rs. 3.15 crore and Rs. 2.50 from 1988-89 to 1990-91 respectively. Whereas in the year 1991-1992 and 1992-93 the state has not received any amount from this fund.

The States have to experience a lot of difficulties in fulfilling the expectations of its populace within its limited resources. In view of the increase in the Central Road Fund and on the

basis of sanctions released up to 1 April, 1991 an amount of Rs. 13.88 crore is payable to Uttar Pradesh by the Government of India. It is obvious that if the funds are made available at the rate of Rs. 2 crore or 2.5 crore per year, it will take 8 or 9 years to complete the sanctioned projects.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to release the amount payable to Government of Uttar Pradesh immediately. Moreover, in the light of the increase in the grant of the Central Road Funds, 43 proposals for constructing roads and bridges incurring the expenditure of Rs. 129.60 crore should be sanctioned at the earliest.

(vii) Need to resume air—bus service from Delhi to Trivandrum via Bombay

[*English*]

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Sir, the recent strike in the Indian Airlines has totally disrupted Delhi—Trivandrum direct flight. It was owing to three persistent demand of the chief Minister of Kerala and the M. Ps. from that State that an Air—Bus was operated from Delhi to Trivandrum, halting at Bombay. This was a very convenient flight. But this was temporarily discontinued at the time of the strike. After the strike, instead of resuming of this flight, Indian Airlines has simply extended the Boeing from Cochin to Trivandrum. Delhi—Goa—Cochin—Trivandrum was the earlier flight operated in this sector and it is because of the great inconvenience felt by passengers that an air—bus was operated via Bombay. Trivandrum is the only State capital so neglected.

I, therefore, urge the Central government that the air—bus from Delhi to Trivandrum via Bombay may be resumed forth—with. If that is not at all possible immediately, at least an air—bus A—320 may be operated daily from Delhi to Trivandrum via Bangalore till the operation of an air—bus from Delhi to Trivandrum becomes possible.

(ix) Need to modernise proposed civil Aerodrome at Bhubaneswar

SHRIBRAJAKISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri) : After formal allotment of an area of 68. 319 acres of land by the state Government for the expansion of Bhubaneswar Civil Aerodrome, the foundation stone for New terminal Complex was laid on 17. 3. 1993. The scope of modernization programme includes extension of the airports runways from the existing 7441 ft. to 9000 ft. But in order to upgrade the airport to receive international flights, it will need further extension to the standard length of 11, 000 ft. In view of favorable geographical location, highly rich tourist potential and growing industrial importance, immediate commencement of modernisation work and extension of runway length in this airport may also be taken up.

The Vayudoot Services between Bhubaneswar—Jaypore—Vizag and Bhubaneswar—Rourkela—Calcutta Sectors and Delhi—Bhubaneswar—Port Blair service plane should be reintroduced immediately.

Therefore, the Union Government should take all necessary steps to mitigate these problems of the traveling public and for the sake of development of tourism in Orissa.

14.32 hrs.

MR CHAIRMAN: We will now take up the employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Bill.

EMPLOYMENT OF MANUAL SCAVENGERS AND CONSTRUCTION OF DRY LATRINES (PROHIBITION) BILL

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS

AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): Sir, on behalf of Shrimati Sheila Kaul, I beg to move:*

"That the Bill to provide for the prohibition of employment of manual Scavengers at will as construction or continuance of dry latrines and for the regulation of construction and maintenance of water—seal latrines and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the prohibition of employment of manual scavengers as well as Construction or continuance of dry latrines and for the regulation of construction and maintenance of water—seal latrines and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

SHRIDAUDAYAL JOSHI (Kota): I beg to move:

That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 17th August, 1993. (1)

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVEI (Maharaj Ganj): I beg to move:

That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 25th August, 1993. (2)

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): I beg to move:

That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 16th August, 1993. (4)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Shyam Bihari Misra may speak

*Moved with the recommendations of the President

[Translation]

SHRISHYAMBIHARI MISRA (Bilhour):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, we welcome the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Bill, 1993 presented by the Government open—heartedly. Actually this Bill should have been brought much earlier. Today, we have marched from the year 1947 to 1993 and have undertaken many big projects and development works. We even dreamt of landing on the moon but could not eliminate the inhuman practice of employing persons for carrying Night soil on head even after 46 years of Independence.

Even today in spite of too much efforts, discussion and framing laws, we are finding the prevalence to the practice of manual scavenging in the country. The practice of manual scavenging is very common today and it is very much in practice in big cities, towns and villages. We are not doing justice to the proper development of human being. We are playing with the dignity of man in the world as well as in India.

The Congress Government which has ruled the country for the most of the period made promises to uplift the citizens belonging to the Scheduled Castes but in fact, it did not take any measures to eliminate this inhuman practice. Unless we take measures to eliminate such inhuman practices, it is useless to think over or even imagine to promote the standard of living of the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes. When we are banning the employment of persons for manual scavenging and the construction of dry latrines through this law, we will have to consider other aspects of the problem and chalk out certain other programmes as well

Even after passing of 46 years we have not been able to make arrangements of latrines for our sisters and mothers who want to lead their lives with honour in this country? The women living in villages have to ease themselves in open fields. I have been elected from a rural area and when I go on a visit to my constituency and

other places then I see that the womenfolk of our society have to go to ease themselves on the roadside or in the open field and that is very embarrassing for those honorable ladies. When a passenger—by passes through the road, they have to stand up to protect their honour. After witnessing such a scene, can we claim that this country has made any progress and heading towards any development?

We have accomplished many research works, but we could not make any arrangements even for latrines for our people living in villages, slums and for the farmers and labourers so that they are not compelled to ease themselves in open fields. We shall have to make arrangements for it.

It has been mentioned in this Bill that the legislation will come into force only in the States of Government of Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tripura and West Bengal because the Governments of these States have passed such laws in their respective States but in other states this law will come into force only after they also pass such resolutions. Today the State Governments are facing financial crunch. They are not in a position to provide such facilities on large scale. I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to make some amendments in this regard and make arrangements for providing funds to the State Governments. It should chalk out time—bound programmes for the States so that every state Government may be able to pass a law in this regard in two years, five years or ten years we will do this, until it is implemented in other states, the general public of the country as a whole will not be able to derive any benefit.

In order to solve this problem, we should provide adequate funds in the Eighth—Five Year Plan and forthcoming Five—Year Plans. Under the provisions of this Bill which is going to be on. We will have to make arrangements for Public Latrines, Community Latrines or common Latrines in villages and towns. It has been mentioned in this Bill also. Such kinds of latrines should be constructed and when we ban the

[Sh. Shyam Bihari Misra]

construction of dry latrines, the common people who cannot construct water seal latrines, will also get relief from it.

Some schemes have been formulated by HUDCO but these are not sufficient. These have been provided in three States only. In the light of the present situation in the country—side especially the launching of schemes in villages by HUDCO in those three States alone cannot be considered sufficient. Therefore, it will be essential to construct public conveniences all over the country on a large scale and such Justice should percolate down to the Panchayat level, and Gram—Sabha level. So that people living in rural areas and slums also may benefit from these schemes.

One more thing has been mentioned here and attention will have to be paid to it. This issue is that there is acute shortage of latrines in villages. Therefore special attention will have to be paid to construct water—seal latrines in villages. For this both economic and technical facilities will have to be made available. Moreover, we shall have to accomplish research works on such issues, the latest and the sophisticated equipments will have to be provided so that men are not directly involved in cleaning of water—seal latrines, because even today when the sewers are blocked in big cities, they are cleaned by scavengers manually. We have not been able to make available equipments in sufficient quantity. We will have to pay attention to it.

It has been proposed that some fee will be charged for using the Community latrines. I would like to make a request that India is a poor country. This facility should be provided to people free of cost and the responsibility of maintenance and cleaning these latrines should be entrusted to local bodies. These local bodies should be provided financial help by the State

Governments or Central Government. The fees fixed for using International Sulabh Sauchalaya in Uttar Pradesh and other places is too much and general public and other people who live below the poverty line are unable to pay that fees and thus they go in open fields or other places. They are unable to use those latrines. Therefore, I request that a small amendment may be made in the provision of duty for which the State Government has been given rights. The local bodies should be entrusted with their maintenance and sanitation.

No provision should be made to charge fee from users. I would like to submit that when the Government bans the system, the workers already doing this job will become jobless, so it should also make arrangements for their rehabilitation. There is a reference to rehabilitation in this Bill but it has been left to the State Governments. They can't be made dependent on the State Governments for their rehabilitation. The Governments should make such arrangements and frame rules that workers engaged in doing scavenging work manually may be rehabilitated and provided jobs when they become jobless.

I would like to make another submission that one thing has been mentioned in this Bill that a Government machinery has been made to provide them employment. It is good and it should be done because unless we do so, it will not be implemented. The Government has made a provision in this Bill for constituting three committees. One Committee will evaluate the schemes of water—seal latrines... The other Committee will oversee the progress of these schemes. My suggestion is that a committee should be constituted which will ensure that after this law is passed, whether these schemes are working properly in those states where it is implemented or not. The Government will have to constitute a Committee to monitor the working of the scheme to ensure that the states, where such law is not in force, should implement this law in those states.

In the end, before concluding I would like to say that it has been stated in the survey conducted by the Government that an expenditure of Rs. 10,000 only will be incurred on this scheme. I have said earlier that more funds should be allocated for this scheme so that we may provide such facility all over the country. This law will be implemented in those states only. It should be implemented all over the country. It is written on page 1 that this law will be implemented in Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tripura, West Bengal and all Union territories and the remaining states have been left in darkness. The Government should make such arrangements so that this law may be implemented all over the country. When this inhuman act is abolished in the country and system of cleaning night soil manually or carrying it on heads is abolished and country moves on the path of progress, then we can say with pride that such system does not exist in India.

With these words I support this Bill and hope that it will be implemented soon. I would like to thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to make a small announcement. It has been decided in the meeting of the leaders of various political parties that today by 5.00 p. m. when we are going to start the discussion on the Verma Commission report, before that we will have to pass this Bill as well as the Bill on Salary and Allowances of the Members and the Bill on the Tezpur University. So, I would request that before 5.00 p. m. we have to complete these three Bills.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill presented by the hon. Minister with some amendments.

The system of carrying night soil on head is a glaring example of how dangerous the caste system in this country is. This system has been continuing in the country even after 45 years of Independence. What can be more shameful than this. I would like to cite an example that I was in jail in 1971. I was lodged in Bhagalpur jail and I remained there in 5—6 jails. When I was put behind bars, I did not know how long I would have to live there. I thought that the prisoners should be asked under which section they had been lodged. There was a prisoner. I asked his name. He said name is Hitler. I asked him for how many days he is there in the jail. He replied that he had been there for twelve years. Then I asked what was his crime. He replied that he did not know what was his crime. Then I went through his papers. I found that sections 109, 110 and 1BL in his papers. I asked him what post he held in jail. He replied that he had been in the jail for four years before these twelve years. I asked him as to what is the reason. He said that earlier he had been put behind bars and nothing was stated to him. He was released after four years and when he was arrested again, the policeman replied that he was helpless. Nobody was available in the jail to do scavenging work manually and cholera had broken out there, so they were lodging him in jail. He was kept behind bars without any crime. He was put in jail only because he was born in the Valmiki community and since nobody could manual scavenging night he had to do so. Hence, he was put behind bars. A person who did not do that work, who did not face those tortures cannot understand such suffering. That is why, I am saying that this law is being enacted after 45 years of Independence while it should have been enacted at that time. I am glad that we are going to do these things. I would like to say that this work should be completed as soon as possible.

[Sh. Ram Vilas Paswan]

How this thing should be done is a serious issue. The Planning Commission has priority for other things but it has no priority for humanity. We talk of development, the development of the country should take place but we are seeing what development is taking place. Though developmental activities are taking place in Delhi roads are being constructed and fountains are being installed but the greatest thing is that something should be done on human consideration which is not being done. We are going to enact this law but even after the law is enacted, what is the guarantee that they do not engage themselves in this work again? What scheme is being formulated for this purpose? Sir, at the time when we were in power, we had formulated a scheme earmarking a sum of Rs. 50,000 crore through the Ministry of Welfare in consultation with Works and Housing Ministry and the Planning Commission. I had said that when people engaged in this work are liberated, in that case arrangements should be made for their rehabilitation with this amount. Cottage industries should be set up and arrangements for their training made. Just now one of my colleagues has said something about Sulabh Shuchalaya. What is Sulabh Shuchalaya? In fact, it is an instrument of fleecing people. There is a person by the name of Bindreshwar Pathak in my constituency. He is a great fraud and I know this thing well. My constituency comes under Ghazipur.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur): Oh ! he hails from that place, naturally.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : You may say what you like. I am telling you about it. You please find out as to what was his property 15—20—25 years ago and what is it today. He appears on T. V. daily, undertakes works in foreign countries that involve billions of rupees besides the works in the country. What is he doing. He has made the 'Safe Karmcharis' bonded labourers. He gets works done by them for longer periods up to three months and six months

and when these workers demand their wages, he gets them beaten with stick and get their hands and legs fractured. Despite that, he is sitting unharmed. Nobody hears complaints. In such a situation, how can this contract system be abolished. In order to abolish this system the Government may open training centres and provide finance to those youths of daily classes whose parents are engaged in this work and hand over Sulabh Shuchalayas to them. But that too is not done and contract system continues. Under this contract system, this thing is not likely to come to an end. I would like to tell you that nobody does scavenging work manually on his own. In fact, he is helpless to do so.

Suppose, tomorrow if they face starvation, then what will they do, they will again begin to do that work in some form or the other. Therefore, you will have to make alternative arrangements for them. You may even provide them with Government jobs. You are going to pass this law but what will be its fate in Municipality. A sanitary worker, who works in Municipality and all those who sweep roads in and around the Parliament are not permanent. Nobody is permanent. Why it is so? The plea that is made is that they work for only one hour and so they cannot become permanent. But they work during the prime time of the day for 1 hour and rest of the day they are idle. I had given a suggestion that a sanitary worker should take care of his children in the morning and should do his job in the evening. The job of sanitation should be undertaken once in 24 hours. If he does cleaning during evening time then he can attend to the study of his children but what happens actually that while he does his job in the morning his child also accompanies him, as a result of it, his child remains illiterate because he cannot take proper care of his children.

Sir, I have a suggestion, that Government should prepare a comprehensive scheme and large scale rehabilitation on work should be undertaken socially for scavengers. They should be provided with a Government job to the extent possible. Those who are working on temporary

basis or on casual basis in this field should be made permanent because you cannot employ them on contract basis as the job is of permanent nature. The contract system has already been abolished. You cannot get this work done on daily wages. You must regularise such persons. They should be given a class III status. Now people will oppose it saying why class—III, why not class—IV? Can anybody do this work even for a day unless we attach dignity of labour to it, I feel we cannot do justice to them.

Sir, I want to submit that we had made a provision of Rs 5000 crore but the Government has reduced this amount to Rs. 500 crore. But I do not think that this amount will be sufficient. This amount will be spent on bureaucracy only. Therefore, you should prepare an extensive scheme in consultation with the Planning Commission and the Prime Minister which may ensure toll ban on scavenging and do not let them take up such jobs thereafter. If you have made any provision for reservation, they will get it. Similarly you have given one relaxation in this clause. I spoke to the hon. Minister and he said that he has seriously given thought to that and this clause says that he would be given some relaxation in some areas "The State Government, through ordinary or special order published in the official gazette and on such terms, if there are any, which it considers proper to impose, will be able to give relaxation to any area, or individual or group of persons from a prescribed requirement of any rule, order, notice or scheme formed under this Act or any clause of this Act." Sir, I want to submit to you Mr. Minister, that as and when you provide this relaxation, he will start availing this relaxation after paying the whole amount. As you know, another Bill has been introduced in the House. That is related with a National Commission on scavengers. You should remove this clause from that Bill and provide in the rules that if there is any problem Suppose the Railways require such persons for cleaning purpose and if there is any problem in this regard, then this commission and representatives of scavengers can de-

cide about it but if you leave it, as it is, then I feel it will be an injustice to him.

15.00hrs

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you should write to the State Government in this regard. You have made a mention the Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tripura and West Bengal have given their consent and rest of the States have not given their consent in this regard as yet. Such a big task cannot be left on the State Governments, if some States have not given their consents then you may write to them, hold press conferences and tell the people that these State Governments do not intend to put a ban on such inhuman job done by Dalit and poor. It will exert pressure on those Governments and they will take up it seriously.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not want to take much time and conclude after drawing your attention to two—three points which I have mentioned earlier. First of all, the Government should take it very seriously and monitor it. Maximum funds should be arranged in this regard not from the Ministry and Planning Commission should make provision for it. The States, which have not given their consent, should be pressurised to do so through negotiations. You should abolish contract system for good. There should be a legislation by which scavenging worker may be considered as scavenging employee and some alternative arrangements made for the people engaged in such jobs. The abolition of scavenging needs greater infrastructure. I visited some of the cities where this system was abolished but in absence of alternative jobs those workers have returned to this job again. Therefore, an arrangement in respect of a alternative job is very essential.

If these points are taken seriously only then we can for hope the fulfillment of the objectives of this Bill.

[English]

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN (Barpeta) : Mr. Chairman, I welcome the present Bill. I have to thank the five State legislatures namely, Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tripura and West Bengal for passing the necessary resolution in pursuance of Clause 1 of article 252 of the Constitution empowering Parliament to undertake legislation.

The Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines Prohibition Bill should have been brought forward earlier. This legal measure is sought to be brought into force now after 46 years of independence. In think that is a very great stigma on our society and it is also an epitome of great social injustice. This section of people the scavengers, are not considered as human beings. They come mostly from downtrodden and deprived section of society, I mostly the tribal and SCST. They are discriminated against as if they are born to carry human excrete and this practice is still continuing in our society. They have no housing, no education and they are suffering like anything.

I think this section of our society is suffering not only from the present but also from the past. This is the section which is deprived for a long time and it still continues as a remnant of our age—old caste—dominated society. Even today they are being thought of as offsprings of *chandal*. The belief goes that because of the sin they committed in their previous life, they are born as *chandals*. Now, they are treated as scavengers and they are being used for carrying the human excreta. This practice of considering them as *chandals* still continue in our society. They will continue to suffer. We have to take measures to uproot such practice.

Sir, at the same time, they are also suffering from the present capitalistic society. They are suffering from the price rise, unemployment problem etc. All these things are there. As they happen to be the downtrodden people and de-

prived section of our society, there is no alternative but to continue this practice. In spite of the social reform and in spite of the steps being taken for their upliftment, they are still working as scavengers. All these things are there. So, I think, this practice should end for ever. At the same time, what we have seen in our society is that they are neglected and deprived in such a way that they are suffering. They are not having any housing facility. Even in some States, they are not allowed to rent a house. People are neglecting them in that way.

In this Bill, the Government has proposed measures to provide for the regulation of construction and maintenance of water—seal latrines etc. We have seen in different villages and towns not only in the East and in the South but also in different parts of the country that there is no proper latrine facilities. People are also not educated about hygiene. As they are poor people, they are not in a position to construct such latrines. Now, the programme for the construction of water—seal latrines is there. If this programme is properly implemented, there is scope for elimination of the manual scavengers. All these things should be taken care of.

In this Bill, the States and the Central Government are allowed to form Committees at the State and Central level. They are also given the right to make the rules. But, what I think is that there should be a time—bound programme not only at the State level but also at the Central level it should be there. Necessary funds should be allocated for them for the construction of these latrines. There are so many laws. But they are not effectively implemented. Mere making a law will not do. If the Government is not rendering financial and technical help as also the other help, this problem cannot be solved. At the same time, I am of the opinion that there should also be a movement and popular education of the masses. For that, not only the Governmental agency but also the other social, voluntary organisations should involve themselves so that this age—old practice can be abolished for ever. If that is done, the people not

only in the towns but also in the villages can have an opportunity to make India not only strong but also enlightened. With these words, I conclude. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI (Gazipur)
: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Bill. This Bill should have come forward much before Mahatma Gandhi, launched a movement of cleaning the latrines himself during National Movement in order to pay respect to this job and the persons engaged in it. After a long period this Bill has taken shape, which is a welcome step. But merely enactment of law does not ensure social justice. Five State Governments have given their acceptance to ensure justice to Dalits and neglected people of society and the rest of the States should also be asked to follow it. As you know, there are no arrangements of flush latrines in district jails under State Governments. Some of the tribals who are called Mushar are arrested under section 109 and they are made to clean latrines in jails, although it is not their profession. They are replaced by other Mushars after 1 or 2 months' period. You should take steps to do away with such practice.

Generally, it is seen that in comparison to local population, less number of scavengers are appointed by Municipalities. Due to which their number is decreasing day by day. This Bill can be effective only if it is aimed at providing employment to them, adopting strict methods may help you to some extent but actually we should try to make them conscious through public awareness. Voluntary organisations should be involved in this process and by providing employment and training and making alternative arrangement we can achieve the aim of this Bill. If we do not take such steps then we will have to satisfy ourselves by merely making laws but we cannot achieve our aim.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRIGIRDHARILAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur)
: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Bill which has been brought for the upliftment of the workers. There is no opposition to this Bill.

Sir, earlier such Bill was brought to benefit the scavengers but only 8 per cent people could be benefited. At present there are about four lakh workers who are engaged in carrying night soil on head all over the country. They are engaged in a dehumanising practice and the step taken by the Government to convert dry latrines into flush latrines is a welcome step. The persons who want to do some other alternative jobs should be given loans from Nationalized Banks. The Central Government should also provide special grant for this purpose. The Municipality is proposed to introduce fresh taxes in lieu of special ban imposed on construction of dry latrines. Therefore, if the Government provides some concession to people, they would construct flush latrines and financial assistance would be given to them by the State Government. They can repay their loan in installments with water bills otherwise due to financial constraints they will not be able to convert dry latrines into flush latrines.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, people talk about pit system for constructing flush latrines but in that case the dirty water gets mixed with drinking water. In Jaipur people are facing such problem and it causes many diseases particularly abdominal diseases. Therefore, I would like to say that Sulabh Souchalayas should be constructed at different places and minor fee can also be charged from the users. In Eighth Five Year Plan a provision of Rs. 464 crore has been made for this purpose. The Task Force has given information about it. I also would like to say that construction of dry latrines and employing scavengers for them should be declared as a crime

[Sh. Girdhari Lal Bhargava]

under law. It is the duty of the Central Government to provide loans to such workers for their rehabilitation or alternative jobs should be provided to them. The conversion work of dry latrines into flush latrines should be carried out within a specific period of six months to one year.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, arrangements should be made to provide subsidy, marginal money and Bank loans for this purpose. It can be done only if the State Governments take interest in it. The Central Government should make water arrangement otherwise converting of dry latrines into flush latrines will be of no use. Therefore, besides drinking water, the Central Government has to make water arrangement for flush latrines also. In some areas of the country people are facing water problem. As one of the hon. Members was saying that only one per cent population of Rajasthan are getting river water whereas it consists of five per cent of the total population of India. The water level of the wells has gone too down and people are not getting even drinking water there, so the conversion of dry latrine into flush one will not prove to be fruitful. Therefore, the Government of India should provide grant and training to the people and arrangement of drinking water should be made for them. If the Government provides water to the Sulabh Souchalayas along with drinking water only then this scheme can be successful.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, if it is not done and law is enacted for awarding punishment for constructing dry latrines that would not be helpful. First of all alternative jobs should be provided to the workers and the law should be enacted later on. If it is done by the Government, it would create public awareness among the people. Secondly I would like to say that neither the scavengers nor the public like this dehumanising practice of carrying night soil on the head so, we should adopt a balanced approach to this problem. Therefore, I think the Government should implement the scheme being announced by the

Government for constructing Sulabh Souchalayas and declaring the construction of dry latrines as crime. Public awareness is must for this purpose and the Government should create such awareness among the people and we all are with the Government in this endeavor. A good Bill has been brought in the House and I on behalf of myself and on behalf of my party thank the Government for bringing this Bill and welcome this Bill.

SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR (Motihari): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I would like to thank the Government for bringing such a Bill and there is no dispute over this Bill. Till now, it was a blot on our society and on our country. Even today many people in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Tamilnadu and many other states are compelled to engage in dehumanising practice and the steps taken by the Government to abolish this practice should be whole heartedly welcome but we have certain apprehensions about this Bill.

The apprehension is that the Centre will enact this law but what would be the guarantee of its implementation by the State Government. So long as such guarantee is not given, we would not be able to achieve its objectives.

Sir, I hail from Bihar and the condition of Bihar Government is not good. I am not defending the Bihar Government but would like to say that in Uttar Pradesh the conditions in this regard is worse than the Bihar. Therefore, my first suggestion is that with a view to improve the condition, a conference of the concerned Ministers of the States should be called and it should be made mandatory for the states to eliminate this malpractice within a specific period.

My second suggestion is regarding Sulabh Souchalayas that such Souchalayas should be constructed all over the country. One hon. Member was saying that Shri Pathak ji has made enough money. It may be correct but he has also given a new directions to the society by innovating Sulabh Souchalaya system and we

should admit that fact also. He was a simple man and I know him but by innovating Sulabh Souchalaya system he has earned fame all over the world and has given a new directions to the society. Therefore, this Sulabh Souchalaya system should be expanded to all over the country.

Thirdly, I would like to say that the local self Government and Municipality create hurdles in the implementation of this law. I know that Mahatma Gandhi ji went to Champaran district in 1917 and launched an agitation against the malpractice of carrying night soil on the head and at that time that agitation was similar to a National movement but this malpractice is still prevailing in that district. The condition of Municipal workers is pitiable. They do not have houses to live in, drinking water facility and they do not get their salary on time. They are not being treated as human beings even today and it happens because ours is a capitalist and feudal society.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you know the plight of this community. All are equal in the eyes of Almighty. The Caste system in our country has divided our society in many parts and as a customary one particular community is being encouraged from generation to generation to carry night soil on their heads. Such social customs came into being that some people, who are called Shudra, have been sent by the God on earth for this particular work. That is why we would like that the Government should make it mandatory under the law to the State Governments to improve the condition of these workers, provide training to them and try to rehabilitate them. Under the caste—system, which is prevailing in our society for the last thousands of years, Brahmin is at the top, then comes Kashatriya and vaish and the Shudra comes in the last to serve the above three. This conception has to be changed through social movement only then this law can be fully enforced in the real sense. With these words I welcome the Bill.

SHRI MOHANSINGH (Deoria): Mr. Chair-

man, Sir, I rise to support the Bill introduced in the House to ban manual scavenging. Scavenging is the result of social evils and is a blot on India.

Recently a conference of Parliamentarians of the world was organised in India. Along with the delegates of the conference I too visited Agra. In the morning on both sides of the rail track people were seen squatted in large numbers to attend the call of the nature along with pots. On being inquired by an Australian delegate what were the people doing I informed him that they were performing yogic exercises. except this I could not give any other reply. We can very well understand the disgrace being brought to the country all over the world because of this practice. I thank the Government for having introduced such a well intentioned Bill in the House.

In 1968, during the centenary year of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi, the State Governments were directed to enact laws to ban scavenging. However, I am sure that many State Governments have not enacted laws in this regard. This issue is connected with the social awareness.

In my town the great saint and social reformer Baba Raghav was born. I remember that during my childhood at a meeting convened by the officials of the Municipality Baba Raghav Das was informed that it is not the job of a particular caste and we all are prepared to undertake the job. Thus even in the early days an environment against this social practise was sought to be created. After independence movement against this practice was started by Baba Raghav Das in Eastern Uttar Pradesh. As a result of this in 1955 scavenging was banned by the local Municipality. I would like to submit that only by creating social awareness this unhealthy practice could be totally done away with

It has been mentioned and even I have seen that roads in Patna are illuminated by the power generated with the use of Sulabh Sauchalayas.

Scavengers and Constitution of Dry

[Sh. Mohan Singh]

Power supply in Patna is erratic but the bulbs connected to power supplied with the use of Sulabh Sauchalayas continue to illuminate the roads. Ministry of Railways had also prepared a programme to use the energy produced from human night soil etc. for cooking purposes. For the absence of social awareness people still are not prepared to accept this change of scenario. If passengers are informed that the tea had been prepared with the gas supplied from the Sulabh Sauchalayas then they would start throwing their cups. Therefore I want to submit that there is the need to create awareness in this regard. This energy is the alternative source of energy and has got many uses. Social change should be brought about in a manner that it is largely accepted and we are able to liberate the people engaged in the menial task of scavenging. It will be nice if this objective is achieved.

Sulabh Shauchalayas have been constructed all over. I fully agree with the contention of Shri Ram Vilas Paswan that the people employed with the Sulabh Sauchalayas do not generally belong to the caste which was traditionally engaged in scavenging. People employed with the Sulabh Sauchalayas used to consider scavenging menial and degrading.

Therefore, I would like to suggest that with the Sulabh Sauchalayas only the persons belonging to the caste traditionally engaged in scavenging should be associated as this will open for them the new avenues of employment. The Government should pay all attention towards the social upliftment of these people through education etc. I once again support this well intentioned Bill, introduced by the Government, with these suggestion. To propagate it further a massive programme should be launched. I support this Bill.

[English]

SHRI P. C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) :
Sir, I am congratulating this Government for

having brought this social change and this legislation which is of great importance. It is also in tune with the declared policy of this Government to uplift the downtrodden in all its faces. I am happy that this has been taken very seriously by the Government of India.

This is a State subject. So there are some difficulties. Being a State subject, as per article 252 of the Constitution, it is necessary that the States should pass necessary resolutions. But it is disheartening to note that only six State Governments have so far passed such resolutions. It is for the other State Governments to do so.

A reading of this Bill would show that the major thrust of the Bill is the implementation of this policy by the respective State Governments. These laws have to be implemented by the State Governments. The State Governments must pass the notification. But the State Governments cannot pass the notification if they do not have enough facility to provide for change of dry latrines or areas where there are dry latrines to the water—seal types. So the question of finance would come. I think the Centre should take up the responsibility of declaring that the State Governments will be given due aid. Of course the world organisations also would be helpful here.

I know one scheme which has been put a for ward by the Government of Kerala. It is a grand scale housing scheme in the name of our beloved late Prime Minister Rajivji, the Rajiv Gandhi Ten Lakh Housing Scheme. In that the most important thrust that has been given is on the very poor and the downtrodden. In Kerala where One lakh Housing Scheme was started earlier, unfortunately could not be completed. At that time 60 thousand houses were constructed for the poor. But now all those houses are in a dilapidated condition; there are no latrines and there has been no provision to provide latrines for them. Under the new policy the Government of Kerala has sought the Central Government's help to give a massive help because this is a

very massive programme where all these 60000 small houses given to very poor people which are all in a dilapidated condition are to be renovated for which at least Rs. 5000 or so per house is necessary. The voluntary organisations are staring it. But the Government of Kerala is in a very poor state; it cannot provide funds. So I plead with this Government for help for this grand scheme which has already been promulgated and the work of which has already been started, which will be of great help to the downtrodden, to the SC, to the Government of Kerala in this regard. I also plead that if this Act is really to be implemented in its proper perspective as thought out by the Central Government, I think the Government should find proper schemes to fund the State Governments.

I once again congratulate the Government. I am happy that this legislation has been brought without waiting for a long time.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI (Mharaj Ganj)
I rise to support Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Bill, 1993 introduced in the House which concern a particular class.

It is a bit painful that after so many year of independence, in the land of Mahatma Gandhi, the need for introducing the Bill prohibiting manual scavenging has been felt. Equality has been enshrined in the Constitution of India. However, on the basis of birth some are born kings while other are handed over the basket to carry night soil. Till date we have not broken the shackles of India and also has the premonition of things taking place in independent India. This is the reason why in Phoenix Ashram he started the practice of cleaning latrines by one and all. This is not only the principle being followed in India but all over the World. In the land of Gandhiji dry latrines are still seen everywhere.

India has celebrated centenary year of Gandhiji and Dr. Ambedkar. Though many

resolutions were adopted yet no law till date has been enacted for the liberation of Safai Karamcharis. Even in the President's address mention is made of the heart moving plight of the backwards of society. When all this could not be done for all these years so how it could be done within a short time by simply setting up a commission to formulate and implement programmes in this regard that too in a few states. Constitution empowers the Government to impose Emergency and enact TADA etc. yet nothing is being done to stop serious crime of asking others to carry night soil. Often persons refusing to carry night soil are severely punished and even put in jails under the law. In this scenario I doubt whether the objectives of the Bill could be achieved, even if passed.

There is the need to create social awareness and it could be early created if persons holding senior posts come forward to clean their own toilets. All the hon. Members present in the House should resolve either to clean their own toilets or if employing others for the same to vow to have tea in the company of these persons. Then only social awareness will be created. Mere passing of Bills will serve no purpose. Just on the lines of National Commission for Women if another Commission for Weaker Sections is constituted then a new system of exploitation will start on the plea that the recommendations of the commission cannot be overlooked and exceeded. Scavengers liberation work cannot be taken beyond the recommendations of the Commission.

In view of the urgency I support the Bill but cannot resist myself from expressing my viewpoint. Earlier Rs. 500 crores were allocated for the liberation of manual scavengers and concrete steps could have been taken in this regard. However, nothing was done. If 5 to 7 thousand crore rupees are swindled away in scam and other scandals then allocation and spending of Rs. 500 crore could have speedily improved the lot of scavengers all over the country.

A little while ago Shri Mohan Singh praised

[Smt. Girija Devi]

the power supply scheme from Sulabh Sauchalayas. I hail from the same place and very well understand the amount of power that could be made available through this source. Night soil is naturally a good manure. However, if the example of Patna regarding power supply could be imitated upon all over the country i. e. at railway stations and at public places then awareness level in the country will improve and a conducive environment for the liberation of scavengers will be created.

Review of reservation made for the backwards in jobs should be undertaken and after survey the reservation limit should be increased. Gandhi ji once remarked that true democracy will dawn in India only when the daughter of a scavenger occupies highest office in the country. Not to talk of girls even boys of these castes rarely come in Government service.

Therefore, I request you once again to conduct a survey and also provide protection to them. There are no light and water facilities in their 'Basties'. Arrangements should be made to provide Sulabh energy and Kutir Jyoti to them. Being untouchables, their children cannot study in schools, in which our children go. Schools with all facilities should be started for the children of these scavengers and the castes engaged in scavenging job. Only then, this Bill can be effective. With these words I conclude.

SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA (Guntur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome this Bill which has been brought for the welfare scavengers. Actually this Bill was have been brought long back. It will certainly provide relief to scavengers.

The Central Government prepared a scheme for my constituency and provided Rs. 1 crore for it. Under this scheme, Rs. 1200 was earmarked for each family. The Municipality run by the Congress, misappropriated funds. Out of Rs. 1 crore, funds worth Rs. 70 lakh were misappropriated and only a sum of Rs. 30 lakhs

was spent for the construction of latrines. An inquiry commission was set up in this connection. The findings of the commission also confirmed the misappropriation of Rs. 70 lakh. In fact, it is necessary to frame some rules in order to implement a scheme. The amount which is sanctioned for such purposes is not used properly.

In my constituency, ladies have to go out of their home at night in order to ease themselves. There are no arrangement for latrines there. This is something very humiliating for them. Latrines in that area should be constructed immediately. Water shortage is another problem. Special sources should be generated to provide water in latrines. The Central Government should put in all efforts. The manual scavengers should be provided with good facilities like banking, education for their children and others.

With these words, I welcome this Bill and conclude.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL) : Sir, I am grateful to all those members, who have expressed their views on this subject. We are seized of this problem since long. This is a stigma on our society. Today, we wish to remove this stigma. All of you have given your valuable ideas to which we will have to give serious thought. I want to tell you that we have covered a number of things which we want to complete. I want to say that.....

[English]

I am indeed grateful for the keen interest shown by all sections of the House in discussion on this very important Bill which will be historic in the sense that we are banning an occupation in this country which we recognise as being dehumanising as well as providing conditions which would eliminate this practice and has set into motion a process which was so close to the heart of Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi.

Some of our Members have given their viewpoints for certain things. I would like to thank especially Shri Shyam Binary Misra, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Shri Uddhab Barman, Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava, Shri Madhukar, Shri Mohan Singh, Sri P. C. Thomas, Shrimati Girija Devi and Shri Laljan Basha.

[Translation]

Shri Shyam Bihari Misra, Shri Ram Vilas Pwaswan, Shri Uddhab Barman, Shri Bhargava, Shri Laljan Basha have expressed their views which are very important. Everybody has analysed this problem in his own way. Shri Shyam Bihari Misra has expressed the need to rehabilitate them. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan also stressed on it. In this connection I want to submit that the rehabilitation programme is being looked after by the Ministry of Welfare, for which it has allocated huge funds. I have said that those who get scavenging work done manually will be penalised or even sent to jail. If you have gone through it attentively, you might have read that we have made a provision.

SHRIRAMVILAS PASWAN : If a Government gets such work done manually, will that Government also have to go to a jail ? For examples some Municipality.....

SHRIMATI SHIELA KAUL : I am telling you. The hon. Member has asked why some States have been exempted in respect of some matters. I want to submit in this connection that sometimes there is a very unusual situation. We have to send police forces to some States. For them, latrines etc. cannot be constructed immediately. In that case, pits are dug up. Similarly, when a train stops at station, we need scavenging services because there are no containers fitted beneath the latrines in compartments. Only in few countries there is the facility of such containers. So, in such cases we have to exempt the States. Paswanji one thing is there. I have written to the Minister of Home Affairs to do away with the dry latrine system in jails. When we are helpless to do something, only then we do so. I

think your doubt might have been cleared now.

I have gone through your suggestions given to me in this connection. I wish to submit that you will be happy to know that Planning commission will not withhold funds for the purpose. But we need some concrete programmes in this regard. I have written to every State to implement it. As I have told you earlier that 5—6 States have given their acceptance. Acceptance in respect of this programme is awaited from rest of the States. I wish this programme reaches every nook and corner of our country. This is a comprehensive programme. As all of you know, this is the programme of Mahatma Gandhi. I want that this dehumanising practice is abolished as soon as possible. Paucity of funds should not come in the way of this mission. If you insist, I shall go with you to Planning Commission to get funds for this purpose. But I need your cooperation.

SHRI SAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have to make a submission to the hon. Minister. She has said that she will leave no stone unturned to get funds to make this scheme a success. But I want to ask that during 1991—92 a rehabilitation scheme was launched with an aim to rehabilitate 20,000 persons and to impart training to them. When the Scheme Was reviewed, it was found that only 1678 persons were provided with jobs. The Central Government had already released a sum of Rs. 22 crore 93 lakh for that purpose. Does the Government want to liberate the scavengers in this fashion ? How will the hon. Minister be able to regulate this programme ? Today the Government has presented this scheme. If the Government proceeds with good intention, then something can be done. Mere passing of a Bill is not going to help.....

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SHIELA KAUL : Why is the hon. Member doubting the intention ?

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Only 1678 persons were rehabilitated out of 20,000 persons. It was an ambitious scheme of the Government. If this scheme works in this way, how will it succeed then.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: What Girija Devi and Lal Pashaji had said

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Please reply to my question.

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: I have asked as to why is she doubting my intention.....*(Interruptions)*.....

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Sir, in Uttar Pradesh.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: This topic is not in the list of business for today.

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Sir, I would like to tell you that in Uttar Pradesh only.

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: I am not yielding.

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: You should say that you would conduct an inquiry into it or the action would be taken against the officers involved in it, otherwise your scheme will remain on papers only. It is not good to play with the sentiments of manual scavengers like this...*(Interruptions)*... Your are making such announcements.....*(Interruptions)*....

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: Sir, I am not talking to her. How are you allowing her to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please continue.

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: A good thing is

being done but you are repeating a thing which happened twenty years back. What is the use of talking such irrelevant things which happened long ago.... *(Interruptions)*...

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record without permission.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: What I wanted to tell that this law would definitely be enacted and the one who should violate it would be punished. He will be fined also. After the enactment of this law, there will certainly be restrictions on the people and they would think before they violate it.

I am grateful to the hon. Members who participated in the discussion on this Bill and hope that it will be passed. I hope that all the hon. Members would support it and pass it... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions) **

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. *(Interruptions)* No cross—questioning.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No. 1 to the consideration, motion moved by Shri Dau Dayal Joshi, to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 1 was out and negatived.

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Sir, I seek leave of the House to withdraw my amendment to the consideration motion.

317 *Re: Employment of Manual Scavengers and* VAISAKHA 23, 1915 (SAKA) *Constitution of Dry* 318
Latrines (Prohibition) Bill
MR. CHAIRMAN: Has the Hon. Member *Clause 2 was added to the Bill*
leave of the House to withdraw his amendment? MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

"That Clauses 3 to 24 stand part of the Bill

Amendment No. 2 was put and negatived

"That motion was adopted

[*Translation*]

(Clauses 3 to 24 were added to the Bill.)

SHRI GIRIDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) Sir, I am satisfied with the reply of the hon. Minister. She has brought a good will and therefore, see leave of the House to withdraw my amendment.

Clause 1 Short title application and commencement

Amendment made:

[*English*]

Page 2, line 1,
after "States of
insert "Andhra Pradesh" (9)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Has the Hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw his amendment?

Page 2, line 6,
after "States of"
insert "Andhra Pradesh" (10)

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

Amendment No. 4 was, by leave, withdrawn

(Shrimati Shiela Kaul)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the consideration motion to the vote of the House. The question is:

"That Clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

"That the Bill to provide for the prohibition of employment of manual scavengers as well as construction or continuance of dry latrines and for the regulation of construction and maintenance of water-seal latrines and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration"

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Enacting formula stand part of the Bill

The motion was adopted

The Motion was adopted

Enacting Formula was added to the Bill

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Amendment made: **Preamble**

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

Page 1, line 24.
after "of"
insert "Andhra Pradesh

"That Clause 2 stands part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

(Shrimati Shiela Kaul)

319 *Re: Employment of Manual Scavengers and Constitution of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Bill* MAY 13, 1993 *Re: Tejpur University Bill* 320

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Question is:

"That the Preamble, as amended stands part of the Bill"

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is;

"That long title stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted

The Preamble, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Long Title was added to the Bill

The Motion was adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister may now move that the Bill as amended, be passed.

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed"

MR CHAIRMAN: The motion moved- "That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

{*Translation*}

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to give one suggestion that in the proposed important committees, more than 50 per cent representation should be given to the people belonging to these sections of the society only then the objective of the Bill could be fulfilled.

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: All right, it will be taken into consideration.

{*English*}

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended be passed."

The motion was adopted

SHRI GIRIDHARILAL BHRGAVA (Jaipur):

*Moved with the recommendations of the President.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, now-a days all the Member are facing the problem of receiving electricity tails of excessive amount. Some Members have received the bill of Rs. 13, 000 and Rs. 26, 000/ I would like to know the reason if issuing bills of such excessive amounts. The Members have been given exemption in the payment of electricity Bills upto Rs, 3600 in a year but the bill for s. 26, 000 is being issued for one month only. On the one hand the Government is paying some extra amount by increasing pay and allowances of the Members and on the other the Telephone and Elctricity departments are recovering it from the Members thorough their Bills.

Therefore I would like to say that the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should also pay attention to it so that in future such bills excessive amounts are not issued and the previous bills should also be corrected.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right please sit down

{*English*}

MR CHAIRMAN: We shall new go to Item No. 13

{*English*}

16.04 hrs.

TEZPUR UNIVERSITY BILL

As Passed by Rajya Sabha

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUAMRI SELJA): On behalf of Shri Arjun Singh, I beg to move.*

"That the Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching and residential university in the State of Assam at Tezpur and to provided for matter connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching and residential university in the State of Assam at Tezpur and to provide for matter connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI K̄ABINDRA PURKYASTHA (Silchar). Mr Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching and residential University in the State of Assam at Tezpur and to provide for matter connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Sir, this Bill was to come before the Parliament long ago. It is unfortunate that after a few years, the discussion states and now the Bill has come before the Parliament for passing. In this connection I must say that I am totally doubtful about the intention of the Government regarding the establishment of the University. I will tell you why such although had come to my mind. I must make it clear that just to bring before the Parliament such a Bill and making an Act will not serve any purpose. Perhaps, the House is well aware of the fact that in the year 1998-89, another Bill viz Assam Central University Bill, was passed in the House by the Government. Since 1989, till today about four years have elapsed, but practically, no action was yet been taken for setting up this University at Silchar in the State of Assam. The Government had to take or the Government took several years to finalise this site for the University after dilly-dally activities by the Government. Only in the year 1992 this site for the University was finalised. This is not enough. After finishing the site, the Government simply appointed for this University, the Office on Special Duty but this Officer on Special Duty—fortunately, he was my classmate told me that he had been put there and no task had been entrusted to him. He has no work. He is sitting at Silcher and doing nothing.

Perhaps you may be knowing that the people of Barak Valley, since 1971, had been

launching movements. There are many activities for the university. Ultimately, the Bill come before the Parliament and an Act was made. After this, it was found that the Government—although an Act had been made—had not allotted any fund for this University for the construction of the building. You will be astonished to know that I have had discussions with Mr. Arju Singh, the Minister for Human resource Development several times and he had assured me that the classes in the University would be started by 1993. But, later on the Government or the Minister had decided to start the classes from 1994. I had given a proposal to the Government or to the Minister that pending construction of the University building, classes should be started in some other building as was done in the case of REC, Medical College etc. earlier. But except giving assurance, the Government did not do anything. They have not kept up those assurances. That have not kept up those assurances. That is why I doubt whether the Government is very much active in this respect. The University must be set up, the Government should take up some definite programme for training of students. I am very much doubtful about the intention of the Government. They, first make an Act, befool the people by not allowing the Act to materialise.

As regards this Tezpur University Bill, it is good that the Government has brought forward this Bill before this House and I hope, definitely, this Bill will have the support from all sides and it will be passed. But I am doubtful whether this Act will ever materialise. I am sorry to say that when I talked about the Central University to be set up at Silchar, the Minister for Human Resource development told me (1) that the Prime Minister disresist that both the Universities should be started at a time.

For one University, the Act was made in the year 1989, but, at that time the Bill for the Tezpur University was not brought in the House. In that position, the Minister was telling me that the Prime Minister desired that both the University should be set up at the sometime. What was the

[Sh. Kabindra Purkayastha]

reason behind it? The people of Assam would never demand that the Assam Central University should not be started so long as Tezpur University was not started. That was the intention of the people of Assam; because the whole population of Assam is one; and the people of Assam want that one by one these Universities should be started. There was a proposal as regards starting a university at Silchar.

In this connection, I must say—even if the Bill has been brought by the Government in the House. I am doubtful whether it will be implemented after passing it. That is why I would like to draw the attention of the Government or the Minister to this aspect that before passing the Bill the Minister should assure that House that actually the desire of the State to set up the University would be fulfilled as soon as the Act is made. Only making an Act will not serve the purpose of the Government. Again I must say that the fund should be allotted for the Assam Central University for which the Act was made in 1989; and arrangement should be made for construction of the University building and starting classes from the year, if not from 1994. At the same time, as soon as this Act is made, funds should be allotted for the construction of the University building; if possible, classes, for the Tezpur University should also be started in due time. There should be no delay on the part of the Government in doing it and the Government should come out with a concrete decision and the University should be set up as early as possible.

With that, I support the Bill.

SHRI PROBIN DEKA (Mangladci): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to speak in Assamese my mother tongue. I extend whole-hearted support to the Tezpur University Bill, 1992. On this occasion I pay my humble tribute to our departed leader, the ex-Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, who had the noble idea of establishing an University at Tezpur in Assam. Today his dream is

being translated into reality by passing this Bill in this house. Earlier, the same Bill has been passed by the Rajya Sabha.

Sir, it is great pleasure that on the north bank of the river Brahmaputra the Tezpur University is being established. So long there was no University on the north bank of the river Brahmaputra. The establishment of this University will fulfill the long cherished aspirations of the people of that region. This will benefit the students of Arunachal Pradesh also.

As it has been rightly pointed out in the objects and reasons of this Bill that to promote motional integration and the study of the rich cultural heritage of the region and in particular, the diverse ethnic, linguistic and tribal clusters of the State. This will provide in remote and rural areas, to upgrade the professional knowledge and skills of in-service personnel, in particular school teachers, medical personnel and extension staff and to provide opportunity for life-long learning for adults.

I hope, this University will not the local and regional aspirations and the developmental needs of the State of Assam.

In this regard I would like to request the Union Government to allocate adequate funds for setting up the University and work should be started as early as possible.

I think you very much for giving me an opportunity to support this bill. With these words I conclude my speech because there are so many other Hon. Members who would like to speak.

SHRI BIJOY KRISHAN HANDIQUÉ (Jorhat): Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the Tezpur University Bill. The people of north-eastern region, particularly Assam, are happy to see that the Bill is being brought forward in the House today.

It meets aspirations of the entire north—eastern region, particularly Assam. On this

happy occasion let us remember the then Prime Minister, the late Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Actually, it was he who meted the idea that there would be two Central University one at Silchar and the other at Tezpur. After a long time, say, five-six years, we are happy to see that his idea is being materialised. Sir this particular university has another aspect. I agree with my colleague Shri Probin Deka that the northern side of the river Brahmaputra is quite undeveloped particularly educational institution wise. There are no engineering colleges, in medical colleges. etc. So actually the choice of this place, Tezpur on the other side of the river is really a wise one and the neighboring States like Arunachal Pradesh will get the benefit of Tezpur University. But I would like to request the hon. Minister of human Resources Development particularly our lady Deputy Minister Kumari Selja, who has introduced the Bill not a let this university be just like any other university. Let it be specialised university with new subjects. Even if we introduce science and technology as a subject let it be in tune with the modern development of science and technology of the whole world.

I have another suggestion. I would like to see that this university develops a well laid distance education system so that the entire North Eastern Region, the people of region can take advantage of this distance education.

I hope this unvesities Bill will be commissioned within two years and Government will take steps so that it can be started immediately and if necessary classes can be started in rented houses.

However, I would like to tell you that I am not like one of the doubting to one like our hon. feign Shri kabindra purkayastha. I do not know why he has got the suspicion that the Silcher University will not come up. It is not case of one upmanship. It does not matter. Both will whether Tazpur precedes Silchar or silcher precedes Tazpur. Both will come up at the night time.

SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA: My

doubt was only that e Act was made in the year 1989 and till today no action in this regard has been practically taken to finales the site of the university. Therefore, this dobut arose in my mind.

SHRI BLOJY KRISHNA HANDIQUE: This idea was imitated in 1987 and to today it is 1993 but it does n ot matter. Now the bill is being any it brought forward and we are looking forward tose a new university coming up at Tezpur and along with this another central university at Silcher,

With these words, I support this Bill.

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : (Barpeta): Mr. Chairman Sir, I support this Bill. It was the long standing demand to construct a university at Tezpur particularly to meet the needs to develop human resources in the North Eastern Region, so that it an help in the development of that area economically socially and cultura byl. It is good that this Bill is being token into an Act.

Sir, while welcoming this Bill, I want to draw the attention of the House and also of the Government towads the development of democratic atmosphere in this proposedd Tezpur University. Naturally autonomy has to be there but democracy should also be there. A university not only comprises its teachrs and students but its employees also.

In respect of higher education there were two Commissions Gahebndra Gadkar Commission and Kothari Commission which recommended that here should be a democrat management in the Board of Management there should be respersatives fro different sections comprising the university community and elected member should be the more than nominated members there in the Committee. If there are only ex-office members or some officials on the Board of Management then they will not be very scent to the promises expressed in this Act. The will be very such during the tune of bureaucrat

[Sh. Uddhab Barman]

here, much to the neglect of the socio, political and cultural needs of that area.

I therefore, urge upon the Government to see that in the II Scheduled, it is added that on the Board of Management Academic Council students Union, etc. election principles dominate and the should be representatives in Management form different sections like teachers, student, etc.

At the same time I want that the students union or council be constituted not by nomination but through elections and in the case of Academic Council also the principle of elections should be there. With these things, I feel that democratic atmosphere in the university will prevail and it will help not only the democratic functioning but also the autonomy of the University.

At the same time, I urge the Government to see that Silcher University also starts along with the Tezpur University so that both these universities can help in the development of manpower, human resources in the North Eastern Region.

With these words I again thank the Minister for bringing this Bill in this Session itself.

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome and support the Bill brought by the Government.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

16.24 hrs.

It has been stated in the objectives of the Bill that for the education and training of the people, for the improvement of social and economic conditions and for the intellectual, educational; and

cultural development of the people of Assam, special attention has to be paid. Therefore, the objective which the Government is going to achieve through this Bill, is in fact a welcome step.

I think this University should have been established much earlier. One of the hon. Members was saying that the idea of establishing this University was mooted by late Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi. What has been stated in the objectives of the Bill proves that the efforts which should have been made for education training and intellectual development of the people of that State have not been made during 40-45 year of independence. Though it is a late step yet I would like to say that as the Government has now taken it up so the Government should take effective steps to fulfill its objectives. It should not happen that even after passing the Bill, its implementation takes another two to four year's time. What I want to say is that the people of that State may remain no more neglected. With these words I support the Bill and congratulate the hon. Minister for bringing this Bill.

[English]

DR. C. SILVERA (Mizoram): Mr. Chairman Sir, I rise to support the Tezpur University Bill. I would like to congratulate the Assam State also for having the second Central University and fourth University there.

I am very grateful to the Central Government for understanding the problems and the difficulties faced by the North Eastern States. This manifests that the Center is caring for the welfare and development of the North Eastern areas. It is being said number of time in this very House also that North Eastern States are neglected. True. Most of the North Eastern States are backward and under developed and there are no industries in some of the State at all.

I am very glad that the Central Government has come out with this Bill. I am sure that this

university will bring lot of improvement in the welfare of the people in that area.

Sir, this Tezpur University Bill has been brought and passed in Rajya Sabha. It is mainly because it was the promise of the late Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi. prior to this a Central University was granted in the Kachar District of Assam in Vraakh valley and I would urge upon the Government to implement that Bill.

In North Eastern Region, there are about 5-6 States and almost all the States are having universities of their own. There was a University, the North-Eastern Jilla University which was shared by four States, namely, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Arunachal and Nagaland. But the Arunachal State and the Nagaland State have each a university of their own. The only State which are sharing the Nehru University are the Mizoram State and Meghalaya.

As we all know, Mizoram had been under the spell of insurgency for about 20 years and when the Accord was signed one of the Clauses of the Memorandum of Settlement was that a University should be established in the Mizoram State.

Paragraph 12 of Section 2 stated:

"It is open to the State to move for establishing a separate university in accordance with the prescribed procedure"

The Central Government have been approached a number of times for this, but the answer we got is that due to financial constraints it was not possible at that moment. I would like to remind the House that this Memorandum of Settlement was signed during the time of Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the Minister of Human Resource Development was very much involved with that settlement. I would like to urge upon the Central Government to look into this matter and fulfill the promises made by the Central Government to Mizoram State by giving a Central University to Mizoram. Once again I would like

to support the Tezpur University Bill and I congratulate both the Assam State and the Ministry of Human Resource Development for bringing this Bill.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOHMOHAN DEV): Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the very outset I must convey my heartfelt thanks to the Government of India and specially to the Human Resources Development Minister and to the hon. Prime Minister. The Tezpur University Bill has now been introduced and it is going to be passed in Lok Sabha. This Bill has already been passed in Rajya Sabha.

Sir, this year all Members of Parliament from Assam met the hon. Prime Minister and requested that this Bill should be passed in this Session so that we can have a beginning to both the Universities - the Assam University in Silchar and the Tezpur University in Tezpur - with temporary classes by June-July. The Prime Minister gave his blessings. Subsequently, during our discussion with the Minister for Human Resources Development, the Minister said that if the cooperation of the State Government is received, there will be no difficulty in starting makeshift classes.

Sir, in the Assam Accord, various clauses - IIT, Central University and other things - are there. With the blessings of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, we got the Assam University in Silchar. But there was unhappiness from the people of Brahmaputra Valley and they said that this University should have been in Tezpur. When we find that the sentiment of Brahmaputra Valley people is quite high and justified, we appealed to the present Prime Minister to agree to this. Shri Rajiv Gandhi also at a later stage said that we should have another University at Tezpur.

My good friend, Shri Rajesh Pilot, who is here, was not against having a University in Silchar but he was very much for having a University in Brahmaputra Valley. Ultimately all of us had agreed that we should have another University

[Sh. Santosh Mohan Dev]

in Tezpur and start the classes of both the Universities simultaneously. This is one of the reasons why the Assam University Bill, which was passed earlier, has not implemented so far.

My good friend, Shri Purkayastha, who represents Silchar constituency, has expressed his unhappiness very rightly so over the delay in starting classes in Silchar when the Bill was passed in 1989. I would like to remind my hon. friend that after 1989, we were not in power and the Government in power was with your support. The then Congress Government tried their best to be a University in Silchar. Unfortunately, the then AGP Government took a stand that no land was available in Silchar for a Central University and land was available in Tezpur and hence it should be there. Fortunately by the verdict of the people, the AGP Government is no more there now and the Congress Government is there. The Congress Government has already made available land for the Assam University as well as for the Tezpur University. Lands have been identified. The UGC's money is available for the help of certain Universities. I have spoken to the hon. Minister Arjun Singhji and he said that there will be no dearth of money and classes for both the University buildings. The only condition they have laid down, which the Assam Government has agreed, is that the infrastructural facilities like roads, electricity water supply, medical aid to the students and employees to start with in a University campus shall have to be provided by the State Government and that has also been agreed to. The Chief Minister and I personally met the hon. worthy Human Resource Minister and we were given the assurance that this will be done. Two OSDs are going to be appointed very soon for both the Universities and class will start.

One point has been raised by Mr. Das. Yes, the Bill has not been given consent by the President only for the reason that according to the status of the Bill, the moment this Bill is given the consent, from that very moment all the

colleges in the Barak Valley come under the University. So, the University must have an infrastructure to take up the work and this is the only reason for which it has not been done. If you go through the Bill and read it very carefully, you will see that cause. So, there is nothing to be afraid of. This is a long-felt desire of the Assam people to have the two Universities, this is the triumph of the people of Assam because irrespective of political parties, all supported both the Universities and today the Government of India has accepted it. So, on behalf of the people of Assam, I convey my heart-felt thanks to the Government of India for getting it implemented.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it was a long-standing demand of the people of Assam to have a Central University in that State and on the eve of the Assam Accord our late Prime Minister, the then Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, on his visit to Assam, announced the setting up of a Central University. So, the background has been explained at great length by Shri Santosh Mohan Devji.

Sir, I would only like to point out that though the Bill was passed by Parliament in May 1989, but after that there were some reservations by the Assam Government and in June 1989 the Legislative Assembly of Assam adopted a Resolution that we should amend the Assam University Bill and they wanted that immediate steps should be taken to establish a Central University at Tezpur and the University should be made unique.

Apart from this, there were some problems about the location of the University also and it was decided in our CPPA Meeting held in 1990 that perhaps we could have two causes of the Assam University. But that is also not agreed to by the State Government. So, ultimately it was decided that perhaps instead of one we should have two Central Universities in Assam, one in

Barak Valley at Silcher and another one at Tezpur in the Brahmaputra Valley.

Sir, this University will meet the longstanding demand of the people of Brahmapuratra Valley also.

Sir, some of the Members have raised a few points. I would like to respond to them.

Mr. Purkayastha wanted to know about some of those points that I have just explained. Mr. Probin Deka wanted to about the finances. I would like to inform him that we have set aside Rs. 15 crores for the Tezpur University.

SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA: How much for Barack Valley?

KUMARI SELJA: For Assam University we have Rs. 70 crores in the Eighth Plan.

SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA: Why is this difference?

KUAMRI SELJA: Sir, the difference is because the University at Tezpur is going to be a compact University and non-affiliating, though they have a compact campus it does not really require that amount, as much as the Assam University, which is going to be an affluent University.

Also, Sir, Mr. Handique raised a few points about the specialization of this University. I would like to inform him that the University would offer mainly post-graduate courses and it would also offer courses in remote research in areas which are of special and direct relevance to the region, namely tea petroleum, agro-industries, non-conventional sources of energy, minerals, forestry, earth sciences, water resource management, environment and like science and crises in management studies, computers and electronics and emerging areas in science and technology will also be offered.

Mr. Barman raised a point about the elected

persons in the University bodies and students' unions. Sir, his suggestion can be considered at the time of formulating the statute.

Sir, Dr. Silvera wanted to know about the Mizoram University. May I point out that even the the time of Mizoram Accord it was nowhere mentioned that we are going to set up a Central University in Mizoram. It was only mentioned that the Central Government would help the State Government in setting up a University and there has been some.

DR. C. SILVERA (Mizoram): Was the agreement between the Center and the MNF to have a Central University in Mizoram? But unfortunately in the Memorandum of Settlement, 'Central University' was not mentioned. Only 'University' was mentioned. But he idea was to have a Central University and that was the idea of Rajivji to get a Central University to the State of Mizoram.

KUMARI SELJA: Then Sir, there has been some correspondence between the State Government and the Central Government, and I think we are sorting it out with them.

Sir, I would like to thank all the Members who have welcomed this setting up of this University cutting across party lines and I would like to inform them that as soon as this Bill is passed, the notifications for both the Universities will be issued. And as far as the Assam University is concerned, the site has already been finalised at Durgapona and the Meeting to work out the Notification and other operational problems has been fixed for 25th of this month and I hope everything will be sorted out by then. with all the Members. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is'

"That the Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching and residential University in the State of Assam, at Tezpur and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental

[Smt. Kumar Selja]

therein as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill. There are no amendments to the clauses.

The question is;

"That clause 2 to 44 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clauses 2 to 44 were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is

"That the first Scheduled and the Second Schedule Stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted

The First Scheduled and the Second Schedule were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: the Question is:

"That Clause 1, the Enacting formulae 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

KUMARI SELJA: I beg to move;

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MR CHAIRMAN (Shri Shared Dighe): We put off it, no. 11 for some time and now we are taking up item no. 12.

16.45 hrs.

CENTRAL LAWS (EXTENSION TO ARUNACHAL PRADESH) BILL

As Passed by Rajya Sabha

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the extension of certain Central laws to the State of Arunachal Pradesh, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The Bill seeks to provide for extension of certain pre-construction Central laws to the State so far.

Arunachal Pradesh is most composed of the hill areas earlier known as North East Tracts inhabited by several tribes. These areas were separated from the then Darrang and Lakhimpur district of the Province of Assam in the year 1914, under the Assam Frontier Tracts Regulation, 1880. In the year 1937, the said Frontier Tracts came to be known collectively as the "Excluded Areas" in the province of Assam under the Government of India (excluded and partially Excluded Areas) Order, 1936 issued under the provisions of the Government of India Act, 1935. The Central laws would apply to these areas in the pre-Constitution days only if specifically extended by the Governor.

When the Constitution of India came into force on 26th January, 1950 these areas were covered by the provisions of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution, which provided for considerably greater autonomy to Tribal Areas within the State of Assam. The North-Eastern Frontier Agency. The status of Union Territory was con-

ferred on Arunachal Pradesh on 21.1.1972 under the provisions for the North-Eastern Areas Re-organisations Act, 1971. On 20th February, 1987, the Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh became a full-fledged State of the Indian Union

Some pre-Constitutional laws were also extended to Arunachal whenever occasions arose. However, a number of Central laws still remain to be extended to the State.

The Government of Arunachal Pradesh requested this Ministry to initiate action to enact legislation to extend various Pre-Constitution Central Acts, to Arunachal Pradesh. The reasons given by them are as under:-

"Since our request is for extension of 18 pre-Constitutional Central Acts, about 10 Ministries have to be moved for extension of these laws. This course of action would be repetitive exercise by each Ministry to move the Parliament for extension of each law which may perhaps be a long time drawn porches and may even take years. It would be more convenient and easier if the Home Ministry could coordinate and move the Parliament for extension of the proposed laws."

164E hrs.

(Shri Peter G. Marbaiang - *in the Chair*)

The pace of planned economic development in Arunachal Pradesh has been accelerated over the years and consequently, greater activities are taking place in the fields of trade,

SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYSTHA (Silchar): Mr. Chairman, Sir I rise to support the Central laws (Extension to Arunachal Pradesh) Bill. Really, it is a matter of happiness that the Government of Arunachal Pradesh requested the Government of India for extension of certain Central laws to their State. I am sure by this extension of Central Laws, the development and progress of the State will be easier and there will

be other favorable factors too. In that respect it is very much essential that the Bill be passed and the Central Laws be tended to the State of Arunachal Pradesh.

In this connection, I would like to draw the attention of the Government and of the House that the northeastern states of the country are the most backward States and unfortunately, most of the State are hill States and communication gap is very much there. As a result of that, the development of the North Eastern States are very slow. So, there is a sense of alienation in the North Eastern States. I, therefore, request the Government to look into the interests and further development of the North Eastern Region while passing this Bill.

I would like to say one more thing in this connection that it is very unfortunate that there is a sense of difference among the population of different States. I feel that this inner-line permit might be one of the premier causes for that. Whenever a person goes to any hill State, particularly to Mizoram, he has to take this inner-line permit and unfortunately, we all know that in all the North Eastern States thousands of crores of people are leaving the plain areas and when they go to other areas, they are treated as outsiders. We all belong to the same country. The sentiment to separation should not be there among the people of this country. Mizoram is there adjacent to my constituency and I must say that the businessmen and the plain people who have been residing there since long and doing their business, they have been harassed in many ways. As regards the business permits etc., there are not being renewed and they are being asked to come again as a result of this. I have seen there is a feeling among the people that if we are not allowed to stay in Mizoram why should Mizo people stay in the other States. This sentiment is very much there. This sentiment will daintily create spitoon among the population of this country which is not at all desirable. I am not speaking against Mizos. I am simply telling what sentiments are grown which is unfortunate. I am surely Member of this House is of the

[Sh. Kabindra Purkayasha]

opinion that there should be this kind of sentiment in the minds of the people. This is not desirable. But this is what is happening.

I know Mizoram very well from all aspects. I have to make a request to step this kind of attitude. So many times I had discussions with the Ministers of Mizoram saying this kind of feeling is not good. I am the resident of the State of Assam. I have every right to go to Arunchal Pradesh, Mizoram or Meghalaya and to stay there. If the activities are against the interest of the State, then only the question of cussing from the State will come. But so long as this is not there, residing and working in the interest of the State, why should this sentiment be there?

I am of the opinion that the Central Government is aware of the situation there. I have been writing letters to the Minister of Home Affairs, the Minister of defence/pointing about these facts. The Government should look into this matter. This is all the more important in the region like the North east. Northeast region is surrounded by foreign countries. There is a danger of attack at any moment. All the terrorists of Northeast are given cover, shelter by Bangladesh. They are going to Burma and coming from there. They are making continuous attack on the people of this country. Infiltration is going on. All these problems are there in the Northeastern region.

In this situation, extension of Central laws to any State of the Northeastern region is very much appreciable. It is the interest of the people and in the interest of the unity of the people and the masses of this country.

I do not want to take much time of the house in going to the subject in details. I request the Government that this Bill be passed and it should be extended to that region. Every steps should be taken to see that this type of sentiment among the people in particular State only the people belonging to that State should stay in the Northeastern region should go and the people

who are living in each State should be allowed to live in peace so long as their activities are not against the interests of that State.

16.59 hrs.

DR. C. SILVERA (Mizoram): Sir, the hon. Member has said about Mizoram and about the inner line permit and all that.

As you know, Mizoram is one of the most undeveloped States in the country. Insurgency is there for the last 20 years. It used to be part of one district of Assam, undivided Assam. Being in the remotest corner of the country, during the British time itself, this inner line permit has been introduced which is still carried on till today. In the memorandum of settlement between the Central Government and the M.N.F. this clause is still continuing. The people of Mizoram are not against the Plan people or people from outside the State. The business people are mainly of non-Mizos and we are grateful to them.

17.00 hrs.

The Congress Government in Mizoram is trying its bet to bring the people of Mizoram into the national mainus tream. That is exactly the reasons why Shri Laldenga, who was underground leader, was given the chief Minister ship of the State. This is to bring Mr. Lading into the national mainstream.

But I am very sorry to state that the people who are trying to dive out the non-Mizos from Mizoram are the opposition party people. During the insurgency period, it used to the Mizo National Front and now it is Mizo National Front and Janata Dal. It is very unfortunate that the people who are supporting the Opposition parties are the people who are trying to send non-Mizos from Mizoram. The congress Government in Mizoram is trying its best to stop this activity. I would like to assure the hon. Members that as long as Congress Government is in power in Mizoram, we will try to stop that. But if some other Party comes into power, I cannot say that

would happen. But as far as Congress is concerned, we are trying our best to stop all these activities and to bring the people of Mizoram into the national mainstream. (interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: That will not go on record.

SHRI LEETA UMBREY (Arunachal East):

Sir, I thank you very much for giving me time to speak.

As the hon. Minister has said, Arunachal got Union Territory status in 1971 and full-fledged Statehood in 1987.

I must say that Arunachal is lagging behind in economic development because we got the Statehood very recently. After Arunachal achieved full-fledged Statehood, we could see all round development of the State.

I could not understand the motive behind the Central Government for keeping so much of lacuna in the Arunachal Statehood Bill. Firstly, I must register protest as a representative of Arunachal that in article 371 (A), you have given a special power to the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh in respect of law and order. I hope the hon. Members in the House will share my sentiment because I have been telling as and when I got the chance that this is the only State in the country where there is no law and order problem. We used to call it an island of peace in the ocean farmer. I do not understand this. What has warranted the Central Government to do it? While giving the Statehood to Arunachal, this special power has been given to the Governor. Nowhere in the Statehood Bill has this provision. It is because Arunachal Pradesh is surrounded on all the three sides by the international borders, that is, China, Myanmar and Bhutan? Or, do you suspect the people of Arunachal Pradesh because all the other neighboring States have undergrounds or secessionist forces? You are not doing justice by including this Article. You have given special power to Mizoram. What you have given it to Mizoram should have been given to Arunachal Pradesh also. I do not say that you should not have given to Mizoram. Under Article

*Not recorded

371G, you have given special provision with respect to the State of Mizoram. It says: Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution:

(a) no Act of Parliament in respect of

(i) religious or social practices of the Mizoram,

(ii) Mizo customary law and procedure,

(iii) administration of civil and criminal justice involving decisions according to Mizo customary law,

(iv) Ownership and transfer of land,

Shall apply to the State of Mizoram unless the Legislative Assembly of the State of Mizoram, by a resolution so decides.."

Why said that this provision should have been given to Arunachal Pradesh. The point is that Arunachal Pradesh has got population of about 8.5 lakhs. But we have so much of diversity among the tribals. We have got more than 20 major tribals sects. We have so many different spoken languages. But, unfortunately, instead of giving the special provisions in respect of Arunachal Pradesh, you have given the special power to the Governor, which I must object.

The hon. Minister was telling that this proposal has come from Arunachal Pradesh Government. I do not know how the Government of Arunachal Pradesh would face the situation without these laws not being extended to Arunachal Pradesh. I am citing a small example like the Railways Act of 1941. So far as I know, I do not have an inch of railway line in my constituency. Of course, in other constituencies, there is only about 6-7 km. of railway line. Perhaps just by extending the Central law to Arunachal Pradesh, you wanted to show that Arunachal Pradesh has also been brought to the mainstream of India. I have no objection as such. I also fully support the Bill.

[Sh. Laeta Umbrey]

Sir, I am sorry to say that I could not be here in the House when the hon. Minister introduced the Bill today. But I was going through the bill introduced by the hon. Minister Shri S. D. Chavan in the Rajya Sabha. He had all administration for the North-Eastern Council. You know, the Home Ministry is the maddal agency for the North-Eastern Council. You must be aware of what is happening in the North-Eastern States. On the 7th, there was a meeting of the 36th Session of the North Eastern Council at Tanager. Normally, the Home Minister or some Ministry attend the meeting. Also, the amount of money that you have allocated to the NEC is so meager. It is only Rs. 265 crores. It is not enough for other on-going schemes what to take of new schemes. That is why, the Chairman of the North Eastern Council this year has warned - I understand he also written a letter to the Prime Minister - that he will resign, he cannot function as the Chairman without has meager amount. I do not understand how the Home Ministry has totally neglected the North Eastern Region, where as are fed up of hearing onething. Whosoever may be here in the power, they all say that there is special thrust. special category and special stages given top the next states. But I don't see any change while being called a special category State, why the North Eastern region should be given a special category state in later and spirit

As far as Arunachal Pradesh is concerned, we are poor and perhaps, the poorest. Not that we do not have anything. If you see the natural resources, perhaps we have got the highest natural resources. If you see the natural betray, we have the most beautiful landscape. We have everything. Even we have uranium, coal, oil etc. We are very fertile land in Arunachal Pradesh. And with the identified petemial as for we can generate 30000 megawatts of electricity. You can very well understand where is the special attention or special grafts given by the Central Government. Arunachal is called by the planters as the home of tea. Its climatic condition is good. soil is good. Its climate and soil has been found

better than that of even Darjeeling and Assam. But unfortunately, nothing has been given to Arunachal Pradesh.

I have a sincere request to make. I am sure the hon. Minister may have an earnest and sincere intention for the socio-economic development of Arunachal Pradesh. But my request is mere please extension of laws will not do, please give please give enough to Arunachal, enough fund to Arunachal Pradesh for its infrastructural development so that we can also be pound of having a share in the nation. building

With these words, I would like to sport the Bill and thank the Minister for brining the Bill.

Last but not least, I would like to mention another draconian law that you have already extended without even the request of the Arunachal Pradesh Government, that is, the Armed fortes special power Assam and Manipur Act, 1958. I do not want to elaborate this Act. I hope, the hon. Members know that this is the most direction law that you have imposed on any State. I do not understand why this law and special power to the Government has been given to Arunachal. I must say that you do not trust the people. But I challenge that the people of Arunachal are no less Indians then any other Indians. I challenge that you cannot question about the integrity of the people of Arunachal Pradesh.

I hope the hon. Minister will do something positive in order to withdraw this special power, that is the Special Armed forces Power Act, 1958 and Special power given to the Governor.

With these words, I once again support the Bill and I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURYA NAYAYAN YADAV (Sharasa), Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support Central laws (Extension to Arunachal Pradesh)

Bill introduced in the House. I support this bill because we frequently visit Eastern States, including Bihar. At present the law of the jungle is prevailing in that area. Parallel Governments have been formed in those States. Whenever the leader, along with his gras of followers, passes through the area in his vehicle shouting 'Khokha Khokha' all the persons including traders and local people go into hiding in their houses for one hour. If the people do not go into hiding then there is threat to their life. Such conditions are prevailing in that area.

During my 5 you 10 days a stay there. I have myself noticed that this group passes through the area twice around 6.00 P.M. 7.00 P.M. If anybody is found loitering on the road at that time then this group these bullets or the person has to take refuges in some house.

Therefore I fully support the bill introduce in the House by the government yet would like to know the reasons for which the situation as come to such a pass. What are the reasons for which the people of those states are feeling negated? In all the North Eastern states whether it is Arunachal Pradesh or Meghlaya similar conditions are prevailing. One of the reasons for it is the though texes are being collected and natural resources being exploited yet the youth are unable to find employment. If and when anybody feels being neglected then he taken law into his own hands. Therefore, I urge the hon. Minister that besides formulating most stringent laws regaling the Eastern States all attention should also be pad regarding the development of these States. Whenever such conditions prevail the local people have their own contribution.

[English]

SHRI LAETA UMBREY (Arunachal East): The hon. Member must withdraw his words. He is alleging that the North-Eastern people are taking law into their hands. It is not comparable with Bihar. It is a heaven. (*interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI SUHYANARYAN YADAV: Sir, if the factually representation of things about the country has hurt the feelings of the hon. Member then I withdraw my words. However,

[English]

SHRI LEATA UMBREY: A Committee of the Members of the House can vista North Eastern states and Bihar. (*interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Yadav, let us not bring in any controversy.

[Translation]

SHRI SUHYANARYAN YADAV: In my submission I just wanted to know the reason for the need for enacting such a law. Only in case the situation demands the laws are enacted by the Government and Bills are introduced in the House. The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh has been conferred upon with special powers. These special powers must have been conferred upon for one reason or the other. I would like to submit that the special power conferred upon the Governor should be withdrawn all the powers should be conferred upon the democratically elected Chief Minister of the State. The Chief Minister should be extended all cooperation in the governmental activities. Other wise mere enactment of laws will not sever any purpose. With a view to ensure maximum support for the Bill in the House maximum assistance should be given to the State.

With these words I support the Bill and request Shri Pilot to take the House into confidence and out the factual position before the House.

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Chairman Sir, as I have said in the beginning, this is on the request of the State Government, as my colleague from Arunachal Pradesh has mentioned

[Sh. Rajesh Pilot]

It is in the interest of the State. I would like to draw the attention of the whole house to this fact. Fortunately I had been also associated with this State because. I served for nearly seven to eight year in the Air the Force. My colleague would recollect that in 1964. nearly 29 years back, there were no roads there was no ration. We used to stoak the ration by the end of March for six months. If the rainy seasons extended up to September, it was very difficult to let the ration reach they people. There were droppings on Tooting. Varying, Tailing, Ilog. The Central Government policy has brought Arunachal Pradesh to this stage where there is no more dropping of the ration. We have a road going up to Tooting, etc., we have road which is appreciating Valuing, Haylong. These are the steps the Central Government has taken under the policy of the last Indrajit which has brought this

In must also bill the House that the people of that State, as my colleague has said, is misunderstood. This is the reception given we you go to there house. this is how they receive you: it is not that they scare you. But their section looks like that they are scaring. I have gone to their houses. This is how they receive you. If you have gone their house, you would have seen their hospitality. Their Headman comes, he salutes you he respects you, he offers the cultural way of welcome and looks after you. They are very lovable people. I totally agree with my colleague that low and order has never been such a problem there because they are so attached to their culture. Why have we given special power to the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh or for that mater Mizoram, Nagaland? It is because knowing the sensitivity in the border areas' requirement. There are certain requirements in these border areas which have to be kept in mind in the national interest. There are the border areas. Their problems are peculiar. There is peculiarity in each State. Mizoram has a different problem, Arunachal Pradesh has a different problem. You have to bear with the Government that these power have been con-

ferred on the Governors, considering so many factors in the national interest.

My colleague from Silchar has pointed out about inner permit. That is one of the forecast retain the culture of those areas. You will excuse me. What I used to happen in 1970 for the national permits? I was a flying officer there. People from the plains used to go there because there used to be a quota on the population basis. Mizoram had got 200 national permits, Nagaland had got 30 permits, Arunachal Pradesh had got 150 permits. People from Punjab, UP, Bihar used to go there and buy their national permits from them and they used to come here and use those national permits. That is why when I become the surface Transport Minister, I liberalised the national permit saying that there is no limit on national permit and there is no quota on national permit.

These were slightly exploited initially in the northeastern States. That is why we wanted to maintain the culture of these areas. They have very peculiar clutter and peculiar way of life and we are Proud of that. As my colleague from Arunachal Pradesh has said, whole country is around of the people of those areas and the culture that they have retained for centuries. I have already mentioned that the intention of the Bill is to have further development. You want to have development in the railway sector. You want to have the Railway Board Act implemented in that area. Similar is the case with banking sector, industry sector and mines sector. This is nothing which we are doing from here. I would like to clarify the doubts that my colleague from Arunachal Pradesh has. It is the State Chief Minister who has requited this in the interest of the State Government, for the development of the State.

With these words, I thank all the hon. Member who have shared their views on this. Let me assume that what is being done by the Government is in the interest of Arunachal Pradesh and in the interest of the nation.

MR CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the extension of certain Central laws to the state of Arunachal Pradesh, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration".

The motion was adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up clause by Clause consideration of the Bill. The Question is::

"The Clause 2 to 5 stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted

Clauses 2 to 5 were added to the Bill

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is

"That the scheduled class 1, the enacting female and the lone tile stand part of The Bill"

the Motion was adopted.

the Schedule, Close I the Eating Foam and the tile were added t to the Bill;.

SGHRUI RAHE PILOT: is, I beg to move

"That the Bill be passed".

Mr. Chairman : The question is

"That the Bill be passed"

the motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Shri Peter G Marbaning):: The House shall now take up item no. 11 of today's agenda Shri Vidyacham Shukla.

1727 hrs.

SALARY ALLOWANCES AND PENSION OF MEMERS OF PARLIAMENT (AMEDEMENT): BILL *

THE MINISTER OF WATER RE-

SOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFARIS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the salary, Allowance and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954, be taken into on consideration."

Sir, the Joint Committee on Salaries an Allowances of Members of Parliament had been making various recommendations from time to time for increasing the salaries , allowance and facilities to the Members of Parliament and allowances and facilities to the Members of Parliament and pension to Ex-members of Parliament, After examining all the recommendation, acceptance of these recom- mendations have been decided upon. It will certainly involve expenditure to the exchequer but, looking to the onerous work and the duty of Members of Parliament, the expediter that is involved is not disproportionate to the require- ment of the hon. Members of Parliament. The proposals that we intend to accept would involve a recuring expenfiture to the tune of Rs. 11.48 crores; and the rulers that we would amended to give certain facilities to the hon.,. Members would require about Rs. 57 lakhs; and these will be given thorough the amended of the rule

Several recommendations have not been accepted because, of the financial stringency. In short,, the aims that the Bill seeks to achieve are as follows:-

- (1) We will rises the daily allowance of Hon., Members from, Rs. 150 to Rs. 20 subject to the condition that the members sing the register on all the days of the Session of he House for which the allowance is claimed;
- (2) To increase the read mileage from,

[Sh. Vidya Charan Shukla]

Rs. 3 to Rs. 5 per km, subject to the minimum of Rs. 120 from Delhi Airport to the reined in Delhi and vice versa;

- (3) To increase the minimum amount of pension for Ex-MPs from, Rs. 500 to s. 1400 per month; and condition of the minimum period of eligibility for pension to far years or two terms which-ever is applicable.

The original Bill, that has been circulated to hon. Members, does not contain this provision, But I intend to move an amendment to this effect so that many hon. Members who were leected to the Sixth and Ninth Lok Sabha and who would have not been able to take advantage of the pension. with the amendment they would also be included in the list of beneficiaries. They will be able to get he pension. For their tenure in six and Month Lok Sabha also.

The condition of ex-MPs is such that the amount of pension that we intend to give to them will be hardly enough for them to subsist. Therefore, this is something which should be welcomed all sections of the House.

Again, we have provided in this Bill to increase the additional pension from s. 50 to Rs. 250 per month for each year in excess of the five without any ceiling on the amount of pension. The pension that will be paid to hon. Ex-PMS will be irrespective of any other pensions. If they are receiving pension from other sources that will not deducted from the pension that they will be entitled to receive from Lok Sabha Secretariat.

The two facilities that are proposed to be allowed by the amendment of the rules are to entitle the MPs to 7. 200 units of electricity -3. 300 units measured on light meter and s. 600 units measures on power meter and 1. 000 kls of water free instead of the present entitlement of free water and electricity to the extant of Rs,

3. 600 per year. This will cost the exchequer approximately Rs.. 57 lakhs.

The second facility that we intend to allow through our measures is to allow MPs it adjust their excess telephone calls over and above the present entitlement of 50,000 free local calls in the next year's quota.

This simple Bill has been presented to the House after consulting leaders of various parties

SHRI SOMNATH CHATERJEE (Bolpur):
With different type of respnses.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Yes. But all of them are good responses some are very food; some are not so good.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: No, no; wrong assessment. You are going to create two classes of MPs clause 5. How can you retain it?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Let me explain the whole thing. Then your can raise your point. There is a clause to which hon. Shri Chatterjee was referring. There have been off-and-on criticism that we are increasing various facilities to ourselves. Some of these frills after offering criticisms in the House accept all these things or sometimes they seem, to be forced by the law to accept it. We wish to give them option. If they do not want to avail of this opportunity, if they do want to bail of these facilities or increasing daily allowance, they can write to the Speaker. They can make a sacrifice if they so wish. It is not classifying MPs into two classes. It is only a matter of belief of they believe that it is not necessary, they may not utilise it. But those people who think that it is necessary, they can avail of it. I have no hard and fast view on this. If the House feels that this differentiation should be there, we are prepare top reconsider this matter. But I leave it to the House to consider and give their suggestions on this particular matter. I hope that the House will find it acceptance. I personally find it acceptable. Therefore, I have

proposed it. I would like to have the views of the hon. Members on this so that we can go ahead with this. (*Interruptions*) I will commend this Bill to the acceptance of the House.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, this is the point I want to make. It seems from what the people are saying, the obvious comment is being made that the MPs are giving themselves the raise in their salary, perquisites and emoluments. This is something because are most interested it. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

What is the matter?

[*English*]

Sometimes you do not think when you should think.

[*Translation*]

At that time you abstain, and then remain absent medial right prespective.

[*English*]

This is a very serious matter. (*Interruptions*)

17.33 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: First of all listen please

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: we are only saying does, it look nice that we are deciding for ourselves what should be our salary, what should be emoluments perquisites, etc., etc. At the moment, there is no other mechanism. There is no other method to decide that. Therefore, it has to come to Parliament. Unless Par-

liament passes the law, these things cannot be decided even if there is reasonable proposal. That cannot be decided by anybody else except the House. Whatever you do, it would be treated that we are trying to ingratiate ourselves, trying to help ourselves. Here I find generally there is a good deal of support from all sections of the House. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEKAER, Mr. Nayak, it is not always necessary.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You think, you are too clever. This is your trouble .some sort of solemnity should be there in this Parliament. There, what I am requesting you as constodian and also to all the hon. Members of this House is that a mechainsm should be found out, a body should be created from the Houses. It may ultimately come to you as a recommedation of soembody for a formal approval. But somebody other than the Membes of the House should apply their mind to it as objectively as pssossible. They should do it, not

This is the demand which is being made every time. Hon. Rashtrapatiji On one occasion did not occasion did not even agree to sign to Bill because it was passed without discussion. This did not reduced to the credit of the Parliament: or redound to the credit of Members of Parliament. Rashtrapatiji felt that it was unseemly improper and he did not approve of it. Therefore, Sir, certainly there is a need, nobody has all the facilities here, but we would like to have more facilities of Physical nature, in the sense that at least secretarial services should be given to all the Member. Thus will solve the problem of unemployment also. I think every Member would welcome the secretarial service.

One of the main jobs of a Member is to deal with the correspondence, meet people, keep records of our things and to pursue matters. Nowadays, I hope I am not mistaken or misunderstood, 'Tadbeer' has become one of our main

[Sh. Somnath Chatterjee]

jobs. We are always trying to persuade the Minister; keep him happy with a smile on his face. Therefore, somebody should help us also. This is what we want.

We know we cannot do wonders. We have very very severe limitations and our limitations are greater while sitting on the Opposition. This is one matter where very serious though can be given.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: (Mavelikara); It is a privilege to sit in Opposition.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You will soon have that pleasures.

I can say this looking at the way you are working.

Secondly, Sir, the other question is about postage. I do not want to have money in my packet. Let the Government arrange for providing the postage. Sir, I am just giving some suggestions. (*interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Will you kindly cooperative by not interrupting because we have other issues also to discuss?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You given us so much of money which we take and out in our pockets. It is utilised by us but it gives the impression that there is an increase in the salaries of Members, in the name of perquisite or in the name of allowing any other thing. We are looking to our own interests. There is some technical difficulty. I do not know who all these complications have been created.

Members have to sometimes attend very important jobs. As quary Members of Parliament they may have to go to their constituencies, attend political meetings, demonstrations, etc. We may have to attend the place where some natural calamity may have take place or where

riots have taken place. It is our duty to go and attend those places; go by the sight of the people and try to learn their difficulties and problems. So, for going to such a place when parliament is in Session, you do not pay. You can get it only as an intermediary base. I do not know whether it is right or wrong. I leave it to the hon. Member to decide. The hon. Minister who is now piloting the Bill seems to be an expert as to how to get money by different methods. If you can get it directly for attending, you can get it as intermediary journey also. It does not leave good taste in the mouth according to me. Some infirmities are there and I request the Minister not to go by the option. It seems that it goes to create an impression that two classes of MPS are there.

Sir, the other thing is about the quantum of pension. There are very serious reservations. It seems to be going up by leaps and bounds. On principle, this is not the appropriate time. We are not yet out of the woods. Mr. Sontosh Mohan Dev knows that a very big industrial undertaking in our country could not be revived because the Government had no money. The Finance Minister said that he can provide us with everything but money. This is the situation of our country, therefore, when money cannot be given for reviving sick industries; money cannot be given for the purpose of drinking water, then how are you giving money here? Shrimati Sarojji, our lady Member was crying today and she said that what is happening in independent India, when people are not having money. Let it not be treated as, giving lectures. This is the hard reality of life. Unemployment is increasing. Another lady Member said about how the BIFR is killing the sick industries for which no money is forthcoming.

Therefore, priority has to be decided. We have our very serious reservations about the timing of this Bill. We would request, Sir, for a mechanism to be thought of. As I mentioned earlier, some sort of Secretarial service etc. should be given. We can also think of some other such facility. A Committee may be constituted for this. I don't mind, if other members are also

included in it. Sometimes, we Members of Parliament think Members of Parliament know everything; they are always right. They may not always be right. That humility should be there. Let a proper procedure be adopted; proper approach may be made so that nobody can say that the Members of Parliament are looking after themselves very well. These are my submissions on this Bill.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore):
On this Bill I want to say something.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it necessary that you should say on everything? We have other items on the Agenda. It has come from the Government side and also from the other side.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: On this, I have some points to make. I want to put forth my arguments here. Before joining politics, I was a lecturer. I feel that it is very inadequate. It is very difficult for me to manage with what I am getting now. If I want to be honest; if I don't take any bribe and so on, then I cannot manage.

Secondly, I have no other alternative in future. I am not taking anything.

MR. SPEAKER: You are entering a very dangerous area. Please don't speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Hon. Speaker, Sir, the Bill to amend, a few amenities, pension and Daily Allowance to the Members of Parliament was long awaited. Last time also, there was almost a consensus among the Members, now again the exercise was gone into and there is also almost unanimity on this point that whatever was being given earlier viz. ten years or so, is inadequate. The price spiral is there, almost in different spheres, whether it is labour or the Government servants or the Class-I Officers and so on. Everywhere, on account of inflation the prices have gone up. The members of this House merely on account of embarrass-

ment, which certainly is there, when one sits for thing about the salary and allowances - should not oppose it.

There is no way out, so far as the present Bill is concerned. After passing the Bill, which we are supporting wholeheartedly, a permanent mechanism should be evolved - not like the Pay Commission - consisting of the hon. Speaker, C&AG and one eminent person. They can review the conditions after three years or five years or after the session starts every time they can go into the matter and revise it so that embarrassment would be saved; and there would be a logical basis and sound foundation for it. The price index can be gone into, it. Therefore, I would suggest that some sort of a forum must be created permanently by a legislation. If, today, it cannot be done by way of an amendment, then I would request the hon Minister to do it in the next session after having mature considerations and consultations with the Leaders of the House and other persons. How we can have a permanent forum; and that forum must seize of the matters which are referred to it by the Committee which is there and make very objective assessment of it.

There is a lot of strength and force in what has been said by Shri Somnath Chatterjee that the Members of this House, in order to perform their duties towards the citizens and their constituents, which are mostly 15 lakhs, 20 lakhs, 10 lakhs, require some sort of a secretariat. At the moment, you can very well observe that members are going to the typing pool here to get something typed; they are standing in a queue to get their turn for getting something typed possibly from the staff which is there. Then they have to mail their letters. There are various other requirements.

In the morning, by 10 a.m. one has to send a Special Mention and all other motions are to be given by the Members. So, they require some sort of a small secretariat; and it is not possible for a Member, at the moment, to have a secretariat here, because even a Stenographer - Hindi

[Sh. Guman Mal Lodha]

or English, would cost Rs.3000 or Rs.2000 in addition to other stationery and mail.

Since the Minister has said that some response or some sort of a reply or recommendation should be given, I would suggest that next time, after passing this Bill today, this matter must be considered very objectively.

Before finally recommending it to be passed, we, as Members of Parliament, are entitled to just certify various things: it may be a passport; it may be a certificate for getting ration card, character certificates and so on and so forth. A very anomalous situation has arisen here by this amendment. We are required to give our certificate to the Accounts Branch that we have attended the session will not be enough. Now, our signatures are required to be given every day. It is slightly anomalous, slightly undignified, cumbersome and complicated. So, in future, if the hon. Minister is not able to apply his mind to this aspect, he may apply his mind in the next session and see that this requirement of giving our signatures every day, which is very undignified for Members of Parliament, who certify for others, is dispensed with.

It is true that there will be a general criticism after the Bill is passed, but that criticism, I may submit, is not well-founded on facts, on statistics. If a comparison is made objectively of the prices, of the salary, of the allowances, etc. the Members are not getting even what the Class II Services are getting in the country. In many Assemblies, Legislatures, Members are getting much more than what we are getting here.

Therefore, there is no justification for the criticism except that embarrassment is there and for that a permanent commission should be appointed. With these words, I recommend that this Bill as amended may be passed. Thank you very much, Sir.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK

(Phulbani): I have a very honest submission, Sir. In my constituency, in order to go from one end to the other I have to cover almost 300 kms. Just imagine this fact. This is the state of condition of a Member of Parliament. My constituency is a very hilly.....

MR. SPEAKER: We are not considering your constituency. We are considering the entire nation.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: You please understand my point, Sir. There are some members who are well to do and there are some Members who are rotting. It is a fact Sir. Therefore, when we are making a law we are not going to discriminate one person from the other. For your information, the state of condition of the people in the constituency is so miserable that when we move around we spend for their food and sometimes we give money for their medicines also. I am speaking very honestly. It is a hundred per cent fact, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: We all agree on that point. Please take your seat. Have you seen the list of Business? What other Business we have to do today? Please take your seat.

18.00 hrs.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, over the past years every time the upward revision of salaries, allowances and pensions for members has been voted in this House, some of us have consistently been pressing for a bias being introduced in favour of not of monetary increases, but of other facilities, which are necessary for our work and every time we have been told, "Yes, this will be favourably considered". But it has never been done.

I am of the opinion that this Committee which is at present functioning here, the Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament, which is composed entirely of members of Parliament, should be done away with. This Committee should be abolished and

a new Committee or Commission — whatever you like to call it, we can discuss how it should be done — should be constituted. I do not say that no Member of Parliament should be included in it, but all of them certainly should not be Members of Parliament. It should cover facilities also, Salaries, Allowances and other facilities which would cover questions of secretarial assistance, postage, traveling facilities in the Constituencies which the hon. Member who spoke before me just now rightly mentioned, specially for members from far-flung rural constituencies there is need for some conveyance facilities to be given, for members to do their work properly.

I personally do not mind having to sign the register every day. It may not be dignified as Shri Guman Mal Lodha said. But it is no more undignified than this practice of voting increases, monetary increases to ourselves. We will see what the Press will write tomorrow about us. I do not understand why I should submit myself to this indignity every three years or four years — being voted by the Members here for having voted ourselves certain benefits which are not available to people outside.

So, I think we should not do this, and this Committee should be abolished. A new commission or somebody should be fixed, which will be some sort of an impartial or neutral body and let them take into consideration all the different practices which are followed in different Parliaments all over the world. There is no scientific basis at all to what we do here. It is just an *ad hoc* thing which is done from time to time. Whenever some pressure mounts that we should get some further increases, then it is done without any scientific basis or rationale behind it at all. I am not in favour of this kind of a thing.

Secondly, the hon. Minister should tell us what the additional cost is going to be. What is the cost to be incurred by the exchequer by this increase? I should like to know that because at every instance we are told repeatedly as Shri Somnath Chatterji has pointed out here espe-

cially now-a-days, that there are no funds available and everything has to be cut down. Then, why should we go on like things, I do not understand, unless it is examined by a commission which is the proper authority to do that?

Finally such a Commission should be impartial. If it is headed by Mr. Justice Ramaswami, it might be of some advantage to us. I do not know. But it should be an impartial body with some neutral people on it and people who have experience also.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Normally, only such people — of such character — are appointed.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Of course, that is obvious. So I want an assurance from the hon. Minister that the present type of Committee will be replaced by an entirely different type of commission or committee. Thirdly, the question of facilities, providing secretarial assistance, providing PAs should be examined. PAs should be provided for every Member of Parliament. It is done in many Parliaments. Franking system for postage, conveyance facility in constituencies, all these matters will have to be given priority and importance.

If you go on increasing the money, I do not personally mind it because this money will go to my party. It is contribution to my party fund. I do not mind if you go on contributing to my party fund. You are welcome to do so. You should know the system by which we work. But I think it does not look good at all. Therefore, we should try to think of something more and by a better rationale or in a better manner the whole system has to be changed.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Sir, an impression has been created that this side of the House is in favour of it. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is not like that. If you say so, that will be the impression.

SHRI A. CHARLES: I fully share the sentiments expressed by Shri Somnath Chatterjee and Shri Indrajit Gupta. I also feel embarrassed that we are put to some sort of a position in which we are trying to benefit ourselves.

(Interruptions)

There was a Bill which has not been assented to by the President. I request you to remember that the Bill was passed when we were in the Opposition and when they were in the ruling side. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Why do you want to divide the House when there is no diversion? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI A. CHARLES: They were in the ruling party. They brought out some amendments. We opposed it. If a new committee is appointed we will also support it. We do not want to make a claim for us or which will benefit us. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL (Erandol): I want to clarify some points, made by Shri Somnath Chatterjee and Shri Indrajit Gupta. I would take only three minutes.

Whatever increase as it seems today is not an actual increase in terms of money given to members of Parliament. The amount of Rs. 300 given for electricity, so many years ago, is equivalent to cover 600 units.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Patil, it is you who suggested all these things and the Minister considered and accepted it. Why are you taking the time? It is your recommendations which are accepted. I am giving the credit to you.

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: I do not want any credit. I just want to say this. They say that no rationale was there. Everything was considered on merits *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please, we have other

business to do. If it is absolutely necessary, I have no objection. If it is not necessary, you do not have to speak just for the sake of speaking.

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: I do not mind saying it myself; but somebody should be there for considering the increase in emoluments.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister will speak on this.

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: I do not want to say how the Committee works.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not want your committee proceedings to be discussed here.

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: It is not the question of committee; Whatever we did, we worked on a scientific basis. That is all I want to say.

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling): Sir, I will take just half a minute. An impression is being given that we are voting ourselves more money. We are being practical. For instance, we are given an allowance of Rs. 1,000 per month for having a Research Assistant. For Rs. 1,000 a month today you cannot even get an unskilled labour. Therefore, it is only fair that we revise these allowances in the light of practical necessities. A wrong impression - gets created as though we are going on voting more and more money. Who can get a Research Assistant for Rs. 1,000 per month? Therefore, we need to be practical. I am mentioning this only to set the record straight so that a wrong impression is not created among the public.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members for their valuable suggestions. I would like to be as brief as possible while dealing with the suggestions.

The scientific basis is provided by our own

experience. I am sure, Shri Chatterjee and others are all anxious that we, as public representatives, should be able to function effectively and properly without depending on others to give us facilities. So, as many facilities as can be provided by the public exchequer should be given to public representatives. And the Members of parliament should be functioning on the basis of the facilities that are provided to them either by the Central Government or by the State Government, wherever necessary. Therefore, after consulting all sides of opinion in the House and after consulting various members of Parliament and also going through various figures that were made available to us from various sources, we came to a conclusion that this is the least that we can do. It is not that any MP is making earning out of it. But these are all necessary for proper and effective functioning as Members of Parliament.

I would like to make a brief reference to the facilities given to the Members of the State Legislature, who has smaller constituencies to look after. Some of the State Legislatures get much more facilities. But I am not depending on that. I am just mentioning it only to prove the point that public representatives do require various facilities and various means to function in an effective manner.

Sir, as far as pension is concerned, I would request the hon. Members sitting here to be more indulgent because they must have seen the conditions of many of our ex-colleagues, ex-Members of Parliament, and most of them, I would say, all of them have been honest Members of Parliament and today they are living in a very pitiable condition. If we have done something to give them a little more pension so that they can lead a dignified life without depending on others, I think, we are doing our duty towards our predecessors who have been serving this House. I am sure that nobody, even press or others, will grudge this increase in pension to ex-members of Parliament.

Sir, the mechanism that has been sug-

gested by the hon. Members is a welcome suggestion. I would request you to kindly consider the view points of all the leaders of this House to devise a mechanism. We could also request the Chairman of the Upper House to consider the suggestions from the members of the Upper House in this regard. I would personally prefer automatic mechanism to be connected with the cost of living index or something of that kind. I would not like to go into the details of it and it could be discussed while we go into this matter. But if an independent commission is constituted, it can go into the matter from time to time. On certain fixed basis, we decide about the emoluments to be paid to other sections. If this is linked with that, I think it would be a welcome move. I would request you to kindly consider this matter.

Sir, some small points - intermediate journey, etc. - have been made. They are not being changed. All those facilities will be available to the hon. Members as they have been available so far.

We have been very receptive and very sympathetic to the demand of postage, franking facilities being given and secretarial assistance being given. We have to work out the various implications of this. I must say that you have been very co-operative and very sympathetic to these demands of hon. Members and you have made certain suggestions in our meeting. I am sure with your co-operation and under your guidance, we will be able to do something about this matter. Therefore, without taking any more time of the House, I would request you to put the Bill to the House, so that we can proceed to other Business.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954, be taken into consideration"

The motion was adopted

[Sh. Vidyacharan Shukla]

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2 - Amendment of Section -3

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: I beg to move:

Page 1, line 13,-

for "on the day of"

insert "once in fourteen days during"(1)

SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI: I beg to move:

Page 1,-

omit lines 9 to 14 (6)

Amendment made

Page 1, line 13,-

for 'on the day' substitute-

"on all the days (except intervening holidays for which no such signing is required)"(7)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, I will put amendments number 1 and 6 moved by Shri Nawal Kishore Rai and Shri M. Ramanna Rai to the vote.

The amendments were put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted

Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 3, stand part of the Bill

The motion was adopted

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clause 4, - Amendment of Section 8A

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN; I beg to move

Page 2, line 23,-

for "four years" substitute-

"three years or two terms(2)

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: I beg to move:

Page 2, line 23,-

add at the end-

"or has served only one term of any of the 4th, 6th or 9th Lok Sabha"(14)

SHRI S. S. YADAV: I beg to move:

Page 2, line 23,-

for "four years" substitute "three years (13)

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put amendment number 2, moved by Shri Chhedi Paswan to the vote of the House.

The motion was put and negatived

SHRI S.S. YADAV: I seek leave of the House to withdraw my amendment number 13.

(The amendment No. 13 was by leave withdrawn)

[Translation]

"provided also"

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, term of Ninth Lok Sabha was of 15 months and after dissolution the railway passes of the Members were cancelled. I would like to submit that if the Prime Minister indulges in corruption and a No Confidence Motion is moved and the Government is defeated then what is the fault of the members. The term of the House should be considered as full.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 4, as amended, stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted

Clause 4, as amended, was added to the Bill

MR. SPEAKER: You are speaking on any issue without giving it a thought. Please don't do so.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put clause 5 to the vote of the House. Shri Somnath Chatterjee (Bolpur): No, no. About deletion of clause 5 he has agreed.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put amendment No. 14 moved by Shri Chhedi Paswan to the vote of the House.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Sir, while placing this Bill before the House, I said that we have free mind on this and if the hon. Member does not want it, I do not insist on this.

The Amendment No. 14 was put and negatived

MR. SPEAKER: I think let us not have it. It can be negatived.

Amendments made:

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: It can be just deleted.

Page 2,-

MR. SPEAKER: No, let us negative it, it is to be done by agreement.

after line 29, insert -

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: If the House agrees.....(Interruptions)

"Provided further that where any person has served as a Member of the House of the people twice for its duration as provided in clause (2) of article 83 of the Constitution whether consecutive or not, and who is not entitled to any pension under the foregoing provision of this sub-section, he shall, with effect from the commencement of the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Act, 1993, be entitled to a pension of one thousand and four hundred rupees per mensem;" (16)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no scope for withdrawal. You can negative it: this is not a policy matter.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: It can be negatived.

Page 2, line 30,-

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 5 stand part of the Bill"

for "Provided further" substitute -

The motion was negatived

[Sh. Vidyacharan Shukla]

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 1, the Enacting Formula 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 VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we take up the discussion under rule 193 listed at No. 14. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar.

10.20 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

DISCUSSION RE: REPORT OF ONE - MAIN COMMISSION OF INQUIRY RULE 193 RE : ASSASSINATION OF SHRI RAJIV GANDHI

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (Sivaganga): Mr. Speaker, Sir, before my friend Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar initiates this discussion, I must with deep regret record my protest at the cavalier and almost contemptuous manner in which we have relegated this subject to this hour on the last but one day of this Session of Parliament. The report was submitted by a Judge of the Supreme Court who was invited by the Government to conduct the inquiry. He gave the report in June,

1992. The action taken note was placed in December, 1992 and almost as an after-thought, an amendment was placed in this House on the 28th April, 1993. This discussion was stated at 5 p.m. we are commencing this discussion at 6.20 p.m. Are we serious about discussing this subject? It is a subject involving the assassination of the former Prime Minister of India. If it indicates the scale of priorities of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs that another subject should be taken up at 5.00 p.m. jettisoning this subject to 6.20 p.m., I must record my protest against the scale of priorities of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chidambaram, what is your suggestion? We would like to accommodate your suggestion.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, we must discuss this matter at 1200 Noon tomorrow.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roseria): We have no objection. Let this be taken up in the afternoon tomorrow.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): Sir, we are faced with the problem that tomorrow is the last scheduled day of this Session. If Zero Hour is permitted at 1200 Noon, one just cannot tell when it will end and if it is only then after lunch that we take up this issue, then we will find ourselves at 3.30 p.m. obliged to stop the discussion and deal with Private Members' Business. If, therefore, there is agreement in the House that we can actually take up this subject by about 1230p.m. and then we can continue this discussion until it comes to its natural end, then I, for my part, am willing to have this discussion taken up tomorrow as the first act of business after the completion of Matters under Rule 377 by about 12.30 p.m. If that is possible and if everybody in this House agrees to that, then we can take it up tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Is the House willing not to have the Zero Hour business tomorrow?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Tomorrow is the last day. How can we forego the Zero Hour? It is not possible.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Immediately after the Zero Hour, we can take up this discussion.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roser): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I heard with rapt attention the submissions of Shri Aiyar and Shri Chidambaram. For tomorrow Private Members Business is not scheduled as the session of the House has been extended. Therefore, this issue could be taken up tomorrow immediately after 'Zero Hour'. Both the treasury benches and the opposition are taking up the issue with all seriousness. In fact the opposition is more serious on this issue and has got much more to dwell upon than the treasury benches. Now the House can take up the other matter under rule 193. Tomorrow, immediately after 'Zero Hour', this issue can be taken up for discussion.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, discussion on Verma Commission's report is absolutely must and after that discussion on Bombay bomb blasts should be held. For shortage of time I would like to submit that..... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK (Phulbani): Sir, this is an item in the agenda.

MR. SPEAKER: If you speak like this every now and then, I take very serious objection. You are not understanding what he is saying. He has not made any wrong suggestion.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: The issue pertaining to Bombay bomb blasts must be dis-

cussed in the House. I would like to submit that according to the agenda discussion on this issue should start today itself. The House will adjourn sine die tomorrow. When will the discussion be held and reply to the debate be allowed regarding the Bombay bomb blasts? Therefore, discussion on Verma Commission's report should start today itself.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): I am very surprised to hear the observations made by Mr. Chidambaram on this matter. He being a very experienced member and lawyer should know that the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs does not allot any priority. These are done in the Business Advisory Committee where all the leaders and all sections of the House are represented. We do attach highest importance to this discussion. It is not that wilfully this has been brought up late or the time has been slid by us like this. We have seen the entire proceedings of the House right from February onwards where how many important and urgent business we had to deal with, even sitting late at night, even sitting late into early morning the next day. We have done all that only to accommodate all the discussions.

I wish we had two days of discussion because the matter to which we are not only emotionally attached but we want a proper and very reasonable conclusion to emerge from the discussion so that such mishaps, such tragedies do not recur in our country. If any suggestions are made here in the House and if any insinuations are meant to be given, I strongly protest against those. I would like to say from the side of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and the Government of India that there has been no negligence, no relegation of this discussion and we would like to again emphasise that we attach highest priority to the discussion and consideration of this report by this House and the other House and I hope that both the Houses will

[Sh. Vidyacharan Shukla]

be able to discuss this matter in a dispassionate and proper manner.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): My only difficulty is that enough time should be given for this discussion, I have no objection to it. But the time should be allotted in such a manner that I am able to take up this issue because in Rajya Sabha also, it is coming tomorrow.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): As a matter of importance, if there is no Zero Hour tomorrow, we can discuss it after 12 O'clock. After this matter, we can discuss the bomb blast also.

SHRI R. PRABHU (Nilgiris): Sir, the report of the Verma Commission of Inquiry was laid on the Table of the House of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on the same day in December. But the Members of Rajya Sabha were given the report on 24-3-1993 and we were given this report at 7.30 onwards on 10-5-1993. Why are we being treated in a partisan manner? You could have discussion in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on the same day and you are worried about what happens in Rajya Sabha. They have got the report three months before. It is not fair. We should have an opportunity to discuss this matter. As our friend has said, this matter is very dear to our hearts. The darling of our masses has been assassinated. We would like to have a proper discussion and you must give us proper time to discuss this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: I do think that this matter can be taken up today. I do think that now we have time at our disposal. We can sit for four hours, five hours, six hours, if we like. If it becomes necessary to continue this discussion tomorrow at 12 O'clock, if there is no other kind of discussion, we can continue for a short time. But tomorrow also, we have to take up the discussion on the bomb blasts also. There is one more discussion which we have decided to take up

tomorrow. If we do not take up this discussion today, the time available tomorrow will be so short that the Members could not have an opportunity to discuss. Now that we have completed everything which is on the list and because on this matter the people have emotional attachment and because the time is unlimited, at least 12 hours time is at our disposal, we can utilise the time. I think, on a matter like this, it is not the momentary convenience of the Members sitting in the House which should be uppermost in their minds but whatever they want to say on this point, they should be able to say on this.

I think the discussion should continue. Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar will start the discussion

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): Mr. Speaker, Sir, In my maiden speech in this House which was my tribute to the assassinated former Prime Minister and former President of my Party who had given me the opportunity of becoming a Member of this House, I had said that for six years, Shri Rajiv Gandhi had walked in the shadow of death and I had walked in his shadow. It is this thought that comes back to me as I look at the Report of the Justice Verma Commission of Inquiry.

For five years of his Prime Ministership from March, 1985 when I joined the Prime Minister's Office as Joint Secretary till October, 1989, when I resigned from the Indian Foreign Service to join Rajivji in the political world, it was my duty personally to look after the travel arrangements for him when he travelled outside Delhi. Those five years were, for me, five years of a running a battle with security. The reason for which I was embattled with security for five long continuous years was that while it was my job to protect Rajivji, it was Mr. Chidambaram's duty to protect him. There was a considerable amount of tension between the two of us, but a creative tension, a tension designed to discover what is the right balance to strike between a Prime Minister of democracy who is obliged to be out among the people and the Prime Minister of a democracy which is threatened by the

possibility of the assassination of that Prime Minister and ergo the head of that democracy. It was not a conundrum which we could easily resolve. Yet the fact remains that despite the fact that we never could quite resolve that conundrum, it did not stand in the way of Rajiv Gandhi visiting the most dangerous places during the time when he was Prime Minister of India.

My own very first visit with him anywhere outside Delhi was on the 23rd March, 1985 when I accompanied him to Hussainwala in Punjab, a Punjab that was impregnated with terror. Subsequently, I had the opportunity on some occasion to travel with him as he went from Sangrur in the South to Hoshiapur in the North, from Ferozepur in the West to Patiala in the East, fighting the election to the State Assembly of Punjab, in an atmosphere which was surcharged with tension and violence. It was during the course of that election that Sant Longowal with whom Rajivji had signed an accord on the 24th July, 1985 was assassinated, the sensible course would be to stop the election so that nobody else get killed and that, above all, the Prime Minister, the son of an assassinated mother, be not himself assassinated. It was not a piece of pusillanimity that Rajivji was willing to accept and, therefore, he travelled extensively in Punjab during that period and after the elections were over and an Akali Dal Government had been installed in Punjab, it was again my privilege to travel with Rajivji to the Thien Dam in the North-West corner of Punjab and from there right across to Patiala in the south East corner.

I went with Rajivji to Govindwal which is in the heart of the Mand area where terrorism was at its peak. We drove from the Airport several hours to reach Govindwal. Rajivji would stop on the way; get out of his car. He would be surrounded by hundreds and thousands of people. I had been in my earlier capacity as Information Advisor to the Information Minister to the town of Kartarpur which houses - in a Bedi family - the *Adi Granth*. The temper of the time was such that the head of that family infuriated at seeing a representative of the Government of India in his

house in Kartarpur in December 1984 had categorically refused to let me look at the *Adi Granth* or to film it for the film for which I had been sent to Punjab at that time. I was petrified when Rajivji completely spontaneously stopped his vehicle and stood in the middle of the road in the same town of Kartarpur.

That was not the end of it. We traveled through vast segments of Punjab before the floods there which you would recall. After the floods, Rajivji went back into the area. How dangerous that was can be gauged from the fact that the Brigadier who was the head of the Bhakra Dam Authority was assassinated for no other reason than that to save the Bhakra Dam he had allowed some more water to be released into the Sutlej and the Beas. As a result of the flow of that water, some houses had been damaged and some people had been drowned. So, that was why he was assassinated. It was in that atmosphere that Rajivji travelled in these areas.

I am not talking only of his visit to Punjab. We went to Mizoram in July 1986. An insurgency of 20 years had been brought to its paper-end, just the paper-end. A document had been signed here in Delhi Mizoram Accord. We drove for four days around hairpin bends: up the mountains and down into the valley.

Sir, I went with him to Darjeeling in December 1986 at the height of the Gorkhaland agitation when the temper of the people of the Darjeeling Hills was so against Rajiv Gandhi that in the public meeting there was a total of 186 persons present. Just 186 persons for the Prime Minister of India. That was the extent to which the local people of Darjeeling were dis-affected with Rajivji. Yet, he went there.

I was with him when we travelled in Tripura in 1987 and 1988. Bijoy Hrangkhyal was at large. The TNV insurgency had by no means ended. I was with him in Kashmir in 1988.

After the IPKF operation had started in Sri Lanka, there was an imminent, persistent threat

[Sh. Mani Shankar Aiyar]

to his life more in Tamil Nadu than in any other State of India because of the activities of the LTTE in my home State of Tamil Nadu. I had the privilege of making arrangements for Rajivji to visit Tamil Nadu. 13 times.

How was it possible? How was it possible to take the man under the greatest threat in India everywhere? No other individual in this country was anywhere near the degree of threat that Rajivji was under. How was it possible to make this individual the most widely travelled Prime Minister that independent India has had the privilege of having? There was one reason and one reason only. That reason was not Shri P. Chidambaram; that reason was certainly not I. That reason was the Special Protection Group, the SPG. That was the body specially trained, specially raised. Why was it specially raised? Why was it specially trained? It was because no other Body of police or security officials in India could possibly have provided the degree of protection that a man under the kind of threat that Rajivji was under, required. It was essential to have an absolutely top-notch security organisation, so top-notch that no previous Prime Minister of India would have required it and if we were to succeed, perhaps, no future Prime Minister of India would need it because the times were out of joint. What happened in 1984 October 31st, the assassination of a Prime Minister, has never before happened. And it was essential that it never again happened and to stop it from again happening, we said, "no security force in India, no body of police is capable of handling this job. Let it be handled by a specially raised and specially trained force. And as that force went into operation, Shri Rajiv Gandhi said, "my security is not my responsibility. My security is the responsibility of professionals. I put them under a newly created Department called the Department of Internal Security in the Ministry of Home Affairs. "He picked the gentleman who he considered to be one of his top-notch civil servants as the civil service head of that Department, in charge of his personal security, not

other jobs, just in charge of his personal security. And he picked a Minister whom he regarded as being of exceptional competence, my honourable friend and senior colleague Shri P. Chidambaram as the Minister of State for Internal Security to look after his security. And at the same time, he picked on me to throw me against the combined weight of Shri T.N. Seshan and Shri P. Chidambaram. We fought it out, we fought it out for three years. I do not think, we ever found really how to strike the right balance. I do not think, we ever really did discover what was the faction optimum. But I do say with the lump in my throat, but pride in my heart that Shri Rajiv went to Punjab, he did not die; Shri Rajiv went to Mizoram, he did not die; Shri Rajiv went to Darjeeling, he did not die; Shri Rajiv went to Tripura, he did not die; and Shri Rajiv went 13 times to Tamil Nadu, he came back, a living human being. And all that was possible only because he had this top-notch highly trained, extraordinarily efficient and totally dedicated set of about 500 people who constituted the Core of the SPG, and its auxiliary wings. All the mistakes that Shri Chidambaram made, all the mistakes that Shri Seshan made, all the many many mistakes that I made were covered up because we had this SPG.

I remember once when I was trying to take Rajivji to Punjab, it was one of his earlier trips, Mr. Seshan was so angry with me that he said to me, "Mr. Aiyar, if one hair on Rajiv's head is touched, you will be hanged" I said, "that is a rather difficult target for any assassin to get at. In any case, you cannot hang me because I travel in an open jeep in front of him and before they can get him, they have to get me" But still, we managed, we came out of it.

What was the role of the SPG? How is it that they were able to be so effective? Two reasons. One, they were experts in proximate security. They used to throw almost invisible concentric circles around him. I say, "almost invisible" because very often on the television screen or in photographs you can see one or two people, who were obviously security men standing very very close to him. But it was by no means true

that those one or two or three or four personal security officers, PSOs were all that the SPG was about. There was a series of circles and most of these circles were invisible not just to the naked eye but they were invisible even to me, whose job it was to travel everywhere with him. So, that proximate security was of the highest order available anywhere in the world. That was one task of the SPG - proximate security through concentric circles.

And the second, Sir, was advance liaison. SPG teams would go out in advance, fan out all over the country side, wherever Rajivji was supposed to go and I ran a battle with the Director of SPG because Rajivji's programme would keep changing and when they changed, there were people out in the field who would find themselves today in Kanyakumari and tomorrow in Mizoram - I am not joking, it actually happened once or twice - and they were out there checking minute by minute, second by second, what needs to be done to protect him from himself because if Rajivji was to be the leader of a democratic country, he was obliged to go out to the people, he was obliged to throw himself into the crowds, he was obliged to hug people, he was obliged to accept garlands from people, he was obliged to accept burfies. If a school girl comes and gives you a burfi and you are the Prime Minister of India, you are obliged to accept it. And it happened; with my own eyes I saw it in no place other than Naxalbari. When our minds were full of the Naxalite movement, he was sitting in Naxalbari and a 12 year old girl gave a burfi to Rajivji. He had put it into his mouth and poor Shri Seshan who was also along with him almost had an apoplectic fit.

But to guard against every possible such contingency we had these people out in the field advance liaison - with total authority and total responsibility. They could overrule anyone; although these officers were very often young men in their twenties or their thirties, because they had to be extraordinarily physically fit they were very often junior as IPS officers to the IPS officers who were serving in the State adminis-

tration. And yet, such was the ethos of the SPG, a relatively junior officer of SPG going out on advance liaison could overrule anyone. He could overrule a PCC president. Sorry, Sir, I should explain what PCC means - Pradesh Congress Committee. PCC presidents for five years were constantly ringing me up to say what kind of rude people have you sent out, who is he, what does this chap know about where meetings are held, has he ever got elected and I would then quarrel with Shri Chidambaram and Shri Chidambaram would then have to pacify his customers. But at the end of the day, the authority finally rest with the man on the spot who overrule the PCC presidents, who overruled the State administration whether represented by the District Magistrate or Collector or even by the Chief Secretary of the State, who overruled the State police officials even though he was in the same service as these State police officers was junior to them. It was this total authority and total responsibility in advance liaison work that made it possible for Rajivji to commit, what Shri Chidambaram regarded as excesses in running too many risks with security and what I regarded as lack of excesses because as I said, after all he was a democratic leader, he was not going to be elected by this SPG ring that was around him, he was going to be elected by the ring that is big beyond. So, sir, there were these two major functions - proximate security and advance liaison.

And my submission to you, Mr. Speaker, is that the Sniperumbudur incident would never, never have happened had the SPG been detained to Rajivji's security on the 21st of May, 1991. Advance liaison by the SPG would never, never, never have permitted inadequate barricading, inadequate lighting, crowding at or near the rostrum, the collapse of access control which have been listed in the Verma Commission of Inquiry Report as among the contributory causes to the assassination, at paragraphs 11.14, 11.15, 11.27 and 11.29. Yes, these lapses did take place; yes, barricading was inadequate; yes, lighting was inadequate; yes, there was crowding at the rostrum, near the rostrum; yes, there was a total collapse or virtually a total

[Sh. Mani Shankar Aiyar]

collapse of access control. Could any of this have happened if the SPG had been in position? If it could have happened, why is it that never, never, never while the SPG was in charge that any of these charges were brought against either Shri Chidambaram or me or any of our colleagues in the State capitals?

I would imagine I undertook a million miles of travel with him, five years of travelling with him; not hundreds of journeys, but thousands of journeys; not scores of meetings but hundreds or thousands of meetings with him. We saved him in all this because there was an SPG. An SPG which could tell both Shri Chidambaram and me to mind our business because their business was so important that while a potential assassin could afford to miss a thousand times, the SPG could not afford to have their enemy win even once.

At Sriperumbadur had the SPG been there, there would have been a ring of experts as PSOs around him; indeed a series of concentric rings. What did we have at Sriperumbadur by way of proximate security? One solitary PSO. One man; even he was without a weapon. We would have had a ring of experts; not an Inspector General of Police whose normal job was to look after forests. Shri Raghavan was not IGP Security. Shri Raghavan was in charge of chasing after Veerappan, the sandalwood man. He was the other concentric ring around Rajivji then. And the third, the poor man who lost his life there, was the SSP of that district who had never, never, never been inside a school for the training of the SPG. I - who did not even need him - had as my SSP from SPG in Thanjavur District from where I was fighting my election. If this administration could have thought of picking on at least one SPG man to come in, maybe something could have been done to save the situation. Rajivji was due in my constituency exactly to the minute, eleven hours after he was killed. Because this ex-SPG SSP was in charge of security in Mayiladuturai, nothing of the problems

that we saw in Sriperumbatpur was permitted to be done there. Despite the fact that I was standing for election for the first time. My colleagues were all assuring me that if Mr. Sawani continued his activities, I was going to lose the election. Because there was an SPG mindset and that mindset remained with the man even after he ceased to be an SPG man. There would not have been an IPG of Forests and a non-SPG trained SSP around Rajivji, if the SPG had been permitted to be there there would have been a highly trained a posse of security men around him.

Against this background I wish to draw the attention of the House to the statement made by the hon. Minister of Home Affairs in this House a few days ago where he said that the V.P. Singh Government in withdrawing SPG cover from Rajivji had "a contributory responsibility" for the death of my friend and my mentor. My question is this. It is not addressed to Shri V.P. Singh; it is not addressed to the opposition; it is addressed to the Minister of Home Affairs of my Government. If Shri V.P. Singh's responsibility was a contributory responsibility, then, would the Home Minister please tell us, what was the root cause of the tragedy? What was the root cause of the disaster? In other words, if the SPG had not been withdrawn, would the Minister of Home Affairs agree with me that the tragedy of Sriperumbadur would not have happened? And if he agrees with me that had the SPG not been withdrawn, the tragedy of Sriperumbadur would not have happened, then would he agree with me that the withdrawal of the SPG by the V.P. Singh Government did not amount to a contributory responsibility for the assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi? It was the root cause, the root cause of the death of the man who would have been sitting there, had the SPG not been withdrawn. And if it was the withdrawal of the SPG that was the root cause for the assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, will the Minister of Home Affairs fix responsibility for the person who took this decision?

Sir, I am a Member of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the Scam. In that Committee and generally in public opinion when it is consid-

ering the issues before the Committee, we are told repeatedly that it is not enough to identify the systems failure that led to the scam. We are told again and again that we must establish the culpability of individuals and not merely the culpability of junior individuals, we must establish the culpability of the top individuals who are responsible for the scam. I say, Sir, let us apply the same principle to an issue which is even graver than the scam. I am not suggesting that the scam is not a grave issue. But, to the best of my knowledge, no one has died as a result of this scam. But, as a result of what happened when Shri V. P. Singh decided to withdraw the SPG, one man has died. Yes, in a sense, he is no more than one man. But, in another sense, he is a man who mattered very specially to very many of us. He is a man who was, as I said, at one stage, the head of our democracy and looked set at 10.20 pm on the 21st of May 1991 at Sriperumbudur to once again become the head of that democracy. Let us apply the same principle. I accept, as I accept in respect of the scam that there was a systems failure. I also accept that if those systems failures had not taken place, there would not have been the culpability of the individual. But, just as it is necessary to add to systems failures, the culpability of individuals in respect of the scam, so also is it here in this extremely serious matter where a great son of India was quite unnecessarily sacrificed. To not only identify what went wrong in terms of the system, but also to identify who were the individuals and above all, who were the top individuals who were responsible for allowing this ghastly scenario to take place? I want to know from the Home Minister his opinion on four points:-

First: Why was the SPG withdrawn?

Second: Is it a fact or is it not a fact that when SPG was withdrawn from Rajivji, the Congress party or its authorised representatives protested?

19.00 hrs.

Thirdly: Could the withdrawal of SPG have been

forestalled? Fourth: Who personally was responsible for the withdrawal? I will quickly repeat; why was the SPG withdrawn; was the withdrawal protested; could the withdrawal have been forestalled, and who was responsible for the withdrawal.

Sir, I will be the first to admit that the SPG Act did not provide for SPG protection to ex-Prime Ministers. And, this is the common ground of everyone in this House from the Union Minister of Home Affairs to the Leader of the Opposition. There is no quarrel on this score. We all agree that the legal position, as it obtained on the 29th November, 1989, when Rajivji with great dignity left the Office of Prime Minister, was that the SPG Act talked only of the Prime Minister. It did not deal with the ex-Prime Minister. Let me also admit that during the period that Rajivji enjoyed, if that is the right word, SPG protection there were two living Prime Ministers; Shri Charan Singh and Shri Morarji Desai, who were not afforded the privilege of SPG cover. Nothing untoward has happened to them and I do not think any same person would suggest that the threat under which either Shri Morarji Desai or Shri Charan Singh was, was even approximately of the same order as the threat under which Rajivji was which led to the creation of SPG. I admit it.

I also admit to the arrogance that was in the mind of the Congress Party when at the time of framing the Act it did not envisage the possibility that Rajivji would cease to be the Prime Minister and would still be in need of SPG protection. I confess that. Yet, when the SPG Act on the 29th November, 1989 did not provide for SPG cover to ex-Prime Ministers, the fact is that SPG cover for an ex-Prime Minister was continued from the 29th November, 1989 to the 30th of January, 1990, for a period of two months. Does this mean that Shri V. P. Singh was culpable of breaking the law? No, he was not. Despite the fact that the SPG Act did not provide for the protection of ex-Prime Ministers, Shri V. P. Singh was not guilty of breaking the law by extending SPG cover to Rajivji for an additional two months because the high Powered Committee in charge of security,

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under the Chairmanship or leadership - it would appear from the records - of the Cabinet Secretary and comprising every single official of the Government of India, I think it is the most senior level, who could be dealing with question of security or intelligence, come to two very important conclusions. These conclusions are all based upon what is reported in the Verma Commission of Inquiry Report paragraphs 9.14, 9.15 and 9.16.

What were the two conclusions? They were that the threat to Rajivji remains, I quote the word 'undiminished' in spite of his ceasing to be the Prime Minister. And second that; what was needed was to undertake "a fresh threat assessment". So, it is because the High Powered committee held that his need for that level of security remains undiminished and that they must undertake a fresh threat assessment to determine what is the nature of the threat that Rajivji is under and until it is done, SPG cover may be allowed to him, that Shri V.P. Singh provided for SPG cover to Rajivji for the additional two months.

My question to the Minister of Home Affairs, Sir, is was a fresh threat assessment ever undertaken by the V.P. Singh Government? Justice Verma Says, "No, no fresh threat assessment was undertaken by Shri V.P. Singh Government." Does the present Government, the Government of Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, I ask this question through you of our Union Minister of Home Affairs, does our Minister of Home Affairs agree with Justice Verma that no fresh threat assessment was ever undertaken? If he does agree with me, and can see, no way in which he cannot agree with me that no fresh threat assessment was ever undertaken, how can he describe Shri V.P. Singh's action as tantamount to contributory responsibility, "when clearly this was the root cause of the tragedy that was to overtake us?"

There was no fresh threat assessment. But the Cabinet Secretary, who had either headed or led, that is a technicality, the High Powered Committee which had looked into this issue was removed summarily long before his term expired and a classmate of Shri V.P. Singh was brought in as the Cabinet Secretary. I have personally the highest respect for that classmate. He was, along with me, one of the co-authors at the drafting stage of the Panchayati Raj Bill. I venture to suggest that that classmate was a closer personal friend of mine than he was of Shri V.P. Singh's. But on that basis, on the basis that.

I know that classmate better than his own Prime Minister know him, I also know that his experience of security, his Professional experience of security was zero; his experience of SPG level security was zero; in contrast to his predecessor's who had, by then, become the country's biggest expert at the Civil Service level on security and more especially SPG level security for the head of our democracy. Yet, this new boy, this *anadi* walks into the Cabinet Secretariat, assumes the high office of the Head of India's Civil Service and reverses the decision of his predecessor, without making a fresh threat assessment.

Sir, we have, in the Verma Commission Report, at Annexures XXI and XXII the full text of the documents produced by the High - Powered Committee, under the Chairmanship or leadership of Shri T.N. Seshan and immediately after that is a kind of tragic *zuxta* position, we have, at Annexure XXIII, the note recorded by the new Cabinet Secretary for the benefit of the Prime Minister. It is a note that was put up on the 30th of January, 1990. The document is there for any one of us to see. I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs - because it is really he who matters - through you, Sir, to this point. The rest, I regard as spectators at the ground. I want to ask him whether he has noted that in the note prepared by Shri Vinod Pande, the new Cabinet Secretary, there is not one single reference to the documents included

at Annexures XXI and XXII of the Verma Commission Report? There is no reference whatsoever to the Reports of the High Powered Committee. Yes, he is dealing with such a serious matter. Second, not only, does it not make any reference to the documents prepared by the high-powered Committee and reproduced at Annexures XXI and XXII, it begins by denigrating, what had been done earlier, by saying that "the earlier orders were both verbal instructions". It is a pity that Pande Sahib went to Allahabad University rather than St. Stephens. I think what he means is that there were only "oral instructions". He ignores the written instructions in the opening paragraph of his note for the Prime Minister. We are not talking here of an LDC, we are talking about the highest civil servant in the land. He ignored the written documents and referred only to what he called the verbal instructions of the Cabinet Secretary. He then went on to claim that personnel deployed on SP duty could not be spared for Shri Rajiv Gandhi. And then comically I say this, advisedly I stress that Vinod Pande is a very close personal friend of mine comically, he says, that he has reservation about the high profile visibility of the SPG. What has that to do with security? And whose security are you talking about? It is Vinod Pande deciding to play Mani Shankar Aiyar. It is I who used to decide whether we should show or not show too many security people on the TV. Are we to undertake security for the sake of publicity?

But the Cabinet Secretary on the 30th of January, 1990 was looking into the withdrawal of the SPG, which was the key to Shri Rajiv Gandhi's survival; and instead of dealing with the security question, he told us that one major reason why he wanted to withdraw it was "The high profile visibility of the SPG".

And then what I can only call the atrocity in that same memorandum to the Prime Minister; and this is from the high civil servant in the land. He says, there is "Criticism even from the State Governments". Who are the State Governments to have any view at all about whether SP

protection is or not required for Shri Rajiv Gandhi? Is it a zoo? Is it a circus? Is it a gimmick? Is this the way in which the VP Singh's administration viewed the role of the Special Protection Group? Did they think that these were planquin bearers. That we were living in a feudal society? Did they have no understanding of whatsoever of the threat to this country and therefore the threat to the person who was in charge of the destiny of this country?

You have a Cabinet Secretary a Head of the Civil Service replacing the SPG while denigrating his predecessors decision actually telling the Prime Minister of India that because some State Governments - I presume this must have included some of the rather peculiar new State Governments we got as a result of the 1989 election - had complained, we had to listen to them about SPG for Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

And that note reproduced at Annexure XIII dated 30th January 1990 ends with the following words "PM may kindly see for approval." PM is the standard bureaucratic term for Prime Minister. It was when the Prime Minister of the time Prime Shri V.P. Singh approved the note of the 30th January 1990 that was put up to him by the Cabinet Secretary that the countdown to the end began - Shri Rajiv Gandhi had only 477 days to live. I want to ask the Home Minister through you is this a contributory responsibility or the root cause? Does the Home Minister agree with Justice Verma?

I refer now to paragraphs 16.01 and 16.02 of the Report. Does our Home Minister agree with Justice Verma that (1) the reasons advanced by the VP Singh's Government even for withdrawing SP cover for Shri Rajiv Gandhi were "tenuous"? (2) Does our Home Minister agree with Justice Verma that the action was "prompted by lack of proper perception"? Does he agree that Shri V P Singh's Government was prompted by lack of proper perception? (3) Does the Home Minister agree with Justice Verma that Shri V P Singh's Government lacked the "requisite will"? Does the Home Minister agree

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with Justice Verma that "the stated reasons" advanced by Shri V P Singh's Government for withdrawing SP cover were "unjustified". Does the Home Minister agree with the stated reasons of Shri V.P. Singh for withdrawing SPG cover were unjustified? Does he agree with Justice Verma that "Rajiv Gandhi's real security requirements were ignored.

"I ask these questions of him. I am not asking the Home Minister if agrees with me. I am not asking that. I am not going to indulge in that kind of *gustakhi*. I am asking the Home Minister, does he agree with Justice Verma? If not, why not? And if he does agree with Justice Verma on all these points that Shri V.P. Singh's arguments were tenuous, that Shri V.P. Singh was prompted by lack of proper perception, that Shri V.P. Singh lacked the requisite will, that Shri V.P. Singh's stated reasons for withdrawing SPG cover were unjustified and that Rajiv Gandhi's real security requirements were ignored then does this amount to contributory responsibility or was it the root cause of Rajiv Gandhi's death?

There were two basic reasons for the decision incorporated in the Cabinet Secretary's note of 30 January 1990. The first one was the following and I quote from Para 2 of Annexure XXIII.

"According to the SPG Act, the force is meant only for the security of the Prime Minister and his family members. Its charter cannot be amended to cover ex-Prime Ministers.

Then how has this Government extended that charter to give SPG cover to the same Prime Minister now an ex-Prime Minister who agreed with his handpicked favoured Cabinet Secretary that the SPG Act could not be amended for the charter to be extended?"

Sir, I do not care what Shri V.P. Singh says. I want to know what our Home Minister says. Was these a constitutional impediment to extending the charter of the SPG Act to cover its Prime Ministers? Was there a legal impediment to an amendment being brought Or was it just politics? If the withdrawal of the Special Protection Group was politics then what is Shri V.P. Singh's responsibility, "contributory" or the root cause?

Secondly, what does the Home Minister say on the other point made in the Cabinet Secretary's note that it was difficult to find personnel to handle both the present Prime Minister's security duties as well as the ex-Prime Minister's. I am asking him, could Shri V.P. Singh have found the additional personnel to run an SPG both for himself as well as for Rajiv Gandhi? I think he could have. But if he could not have, how is it that Shri S.B. Chavan has now found that he is protecting not only the Prime Minister of India with the SPG, he is protecting Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and her family, he is protecting Shri V.P. Singh and his family and he is protecting Shri Chandra Shekhar and his family.

In other words, if it was possible for Shri S.B. Chavan to do this, why was it not possible for Shri V.P. Singh to do this or Mufti Mohammad Sayeed to do this? In these circumstances, is what Shri V.P. Singh did a contributory responsibility or the root cause?

Sir, the spokesmen of Shri V.P. Singh and I think he himself have been saying, bruiting it around that the Congress in effect took it lying down when we were told that SPG cover was being withdrawn. They have asked, why was the shouting brigade not brought into operation on this issue?

Sir, I want to know whether the Home Minister agrees with Shri V.P. Singh and his spokesmen that the Congress party took this decision lying down?

I want to draw his attention in this regard to Annexures XXIV, XXV, and XXVI of the Report of the Verma Commission of Inquiry, which contains the correspondence between Shri P. Chidambaram, who was named by Shri Rajiv Gandhi as his designated representative to deal with personal security matters and Shri G.S. Bajpai, Secretary (Security) in the Cabinet Secretariat. It records all the protests that we made, it records all the reasons for which we made these protests and it also records the really ugly fact that after Shri P. Chidambaram had written to the Cabinet Secretary, saying, that "I thought we were going to come to an agreement yesterday. It seems now from your letter that we are not going to come to an agreement now."

Therefore, The V.P. Singh Government broke off all contact with No. 10 Janpath. Nothing was done! The protests of Shri P. Chidambaram went not only unattended, but even unanswered. I want to know from the Home Minister, who, in his opinion, was responsible for the unilateral breaking off of all contacts between the Government and Shri Rajiv Gandhi's designated representative, my hon. friend Shri P. Chidambaram?

As for public opinion, in India, what did the public in India think of this? I have here a sheaf of newspaper cuttings obtained from nowhere much farther than LAARDIS. I do not have the need to read them. There were newspapers many of which had, in fact, bitterly opposed Shri Rajiv Gandhi and had no desire whatsoever to see him or his party return to power, saying that it was an atrocity that without taking into consideration what was the personal security requirement of Shri Rajiv Gandhi and his family that the SPG was being withdrawn. And the most dramatic of these was a headline in the *Times of India* on the day that Shri Rajiv Gandhi made his first tour out of Delhi to Manipur without security protection—I mean without SPG protection and that headline read "Lone security man in Rajiv's wake."

Who broke the discussion? Was it the

Congress or was it Shri V.P. Singh? And if it was the Congress then Shri P. Chidambaram must be named for having broken off those conversations and punished for doing so. And if it was not Shri P. Chidambaram who broke those discussions, then obviously those discussions were broken by Shri V.P. Singh's Government. Therefore, we need to know whether this was low level decision of some Cabinet Secretary, some Secretary (Security) in the Cabinet Secretariat or was it the Prime Minister himself who announced "No more conversations with Shri P. Chidambaram", and fix the responsibility.

I now come to the next Government, the Government of Shri Chandra Shekhar. I draw your attention to Annexure XXVII of the Verma Commission of Inquiry Report. There is a letter there dated the 13th February, 1991 written by Shri V. George, Private Secretary to Shri Rajiv Gandhi to Shri Markandey Singh, Lt. Governor of Delhi—and ergo—someone who came under the control of the Home Ministry of the Union, and therefore, under the personal responsibility of Shri Chandra Shekhar and his Home Minister.

That letter dated 13 -2- 1991 stated, I quote—

"That latest intelligence report communicated by IB"—that is the Intelligence Bureau—

"Gives an alarming note with regard to the security arrangements for Shri Rajiv Gandhi and his family members.

That was on the 13th February, 1991. What did the Chandra Shekhar Government do? Nothing was done except to get his Deputy Prime Minister to put his constables on to spying on Shri Rajiv Gandhi! That was the only reaction. They did nothing to protect him and they sent two constables to start spying on him. Nothing at all did that Government of Shri Chandra Shekhar do! Nothing on the day they assumed office. Thanks to the generosity of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, nothing till the tensions between Shri

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Rajiv Gandhi and Shri Chandra Shekhar reached the point where it was necessary to communicate through a letter from his Private Secretary to the Lt. Governor of Delhi. Nothing when the 9th Lok Sabha was dissolved; nothing even when committees of judges were appointed on other issues, nothing during the pendency of the election; nothing, Sir, even on the 20th of May when the Intelligence Bureau, according to the Verma Commission Report 'frantically reiterated' to Shri Chandra Shekhar and his minions he need for top class security cover to Shri Rajiv Gandhi. And when they ignored that frantic reiteration, Shri Rajiv Gandhi only had one day left to live.

What action if any did the Chandra Shekhar Government, according to our Home Minister, take on all these matters? If he took no action, why did he take no action? Why does the Home Minister's statement not even fix constructive responsibility on Shri Chandra Shekhar and his Government?

I now come to my last word. Sir, you have been very indulgent to me. I am most grateful to you. You have not only been considerate to my arguments but you have also been considerate to my emotions.

My last word is based on paragraph 9.16 of the Verma Inquiry Commission Report. I quote one sentence:

"The security prescribed any provided for Shri Rajiv Gandhi on the withdrawal of SPG cover was inadequate to meet the threat to him."

Again I quote paragraph 9.16:

"The security prescribed and provided for Shri Rajiv Gandhi on the withdrawal of SPG cover was inadequate to meet the threat to him."

Does our Home Minister agree? If so, who was responsible for inadequate security being both prescribed and provided? And specifically, what is the Home Minister's assessment of the personal responsibility of the two Prime Ministers- Shri V.P. Singh and Shri Chandra Shekhar - in this regard? What action does the Home Minister propose to take (1) against these two Prime Ministers; (2) against their Ministers; (3) against their officials for it was their negligence that was the root-cause of the death of an innocent man?

Rajiv Gandhi *Amar Rahe*.

19.28hrs.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Honourable Speaker, Sir, the report of hon. Justice Verma in respect of the assassination of the late Shri Rajiv Gandhi is being considered by this august House. On such occasions it is natural that emotions are bound to have an upper edge because of the associations, because of his status, extra-ordinary political position in which he was; and particularly when the entire discussion is regarding the responsibility to be fixed of the assassination did, why it could not be averted. Then it is but natural that those who had remained more associated, attached, intimate relationship are bound to have emotional urge.

Sir, while appreciating that aspect and realising the sentiments expressed by Shri Aiyar, I would like to draw the attention of this hon. House and the Home Minister to certain matters which the whole country wants to know from the present Government, the hon. Home Minister, after coming of the report in the hands of the Government. Broadly, instead of putting up my own words, I would like to first point out the conclusions and the findings of the report which have been arrived at after a thorough judicial, quasi judicial enquiry conducted by very eminent judge, Justice Verma. I had an occasion to practice with him when he was the Chief Justice in Rajasthan and he has done a wonderful job while giving this report in which he

has examined all aspects of it. Now, the question is whether the Government after receiving the report had applied its mind. Under the Commission of Inquiry Act, after the judge gives the report, the Government is supposed to act upon it. Technically, the Commission of Inquiry Act in terms nowhere mentions that the report is binding on the Government. But, by very healthy judicial conventions, it has been more or less an established practice that leaving aside a few exceptions here and there, such reports or findings of eminent apex judicial authority are accepted by the Government and acted upon. Now, in this case, the unfortunate assassination took place at a time—details of which have been given by Shri Aiyar and I need not repeat them—when Shri Chandra Shekhar was holding the Office of the Prime Minister. It is also well-known to all of us that Shri Chandra Shekhar initially was made the Prime Minister with the expressed support of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi and Congress (I) party itself because he was in hopeless minority after Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh resigned and he could not form the Government. Therefore, the President decided to permit Shri Chandra Shekhar to function as Prime Minister after late Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the Congress (I) decided to support him and conveyed it to the hon. President of India.

Now, in a situation like that, the responsibility is fixed by this Commission in three parts and I will read very briefly the salient findings arrived at. One is the Central Government, which means the Government headed by Shri Chandra Shekhar, supported by Congress (I). Secondly, it is Tamil Nadu Government, which means again there being President's Rule at that time and "Not recorded" the Governor of that place in Office...

MR. SPEAKER : The reference to the name of Governor will not go on record.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA : I am not taking any names. But, I am just mentioning

facts. Nonetheless, if the rules do not permit, I am sorry. The Governor is in charge of the entire State on behalf of the President as contemplated by article 356 and 357 of the Constitution of India.

The third part which is equally important and which is to be noted and kept in mind is that it was not a Government function, it was an election meeting where Congress (I) candidate was contesting and late Shri Rajiv Gandhi had gone there to canvass and appeal to people for supporting the Congress (I) candidates for parliamentary elections who were set up by them in Tamil Nadu.

Justice Verma had divided it into three parts. Our hon. Minister has accepted the findings in part and expressed inability to share or accept the findings in other parts, which I would come to a little later.

The conclusions arrived at by Justice Verma are given in Chapter XVI. The caption is "Conclusions-Findings etc." I am basing my submissions on Chapter XVI. The Central Government's responsibility has been discussed at page 80. Without reading the entire thing on page 81, I quote para (12):

"There was failure of the Central Government to provide to Rajiv Gandhi a, suitable alternative cover for his proximate security after withdrawal of the S.P.G. cover as a result of Central Government's decision dated 30-1-1991 in spite of a felt need for the same evident from the proposals of the I.B. from time to time to provide ex-S.P.G. personal or N.S.G. escort culminating in the fruitless proposal of I.B. on 20-5-1990 to provide N.S.G. escort even after announcement of general elections accentuating that threat to him and the media reports projecting Rajiv Gandhi as the prospective Prime Minister resulting in a further aggravation of that threat."

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The detailed findings are covered by para (12). I would not read them but I would only pose a few questions for the consideration of the hon. Home Minister and of this august House. As I have said just now, V.P. Singh having resigned, Chandra Shekhar has come into power with the help of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the Congress Party. Whatever has been said by Mr. Aiyar just now that a certain new legislation or Act was there, according to the old Act there was no contemplation of providing special security. It is a peculiar type of security but I would not go into the details of that. May I ask that when late Shri Rajiv Gandhi supported Chandra Shekhar and Chandra Shekhar took charge as Prime Minister, was any attempt made for either amending the law or for providing that very security which he enjoyed as Prime Minister, by the Congress People whose leader was late Shri Rajiv Gandhi? Of course, later on after elections were declared or before elections were declared when support was withdrawn from Chanders Shekhar, it can very well be said that it was not association of late Rajiv Gandhi or Congress (I) with Chandra Shekhar and, therefore, the latter part is absolutely for Chandra Shekhar sticking as caretaker government and who were naturally in a position at that time to get anything done from Shri Chandra Shekhar inside the Parliament or outside the Parliament, by executive order or by legislative order. If not, why not? It is a very pertinent question, Sir, although I do not hold any brief for Shri Chandra Shekhar and any lapse on his part he has to account for and Congress party has to account for being partners in the Government in the sense of supporting the Government. But I want to know whether any attempt was made by all those who are sitting in the Treasury Benches here and all those who were at that time important persons in the Congress Party to ensure that Rajiv Gandhi being under security risk which undoubtedly he was, was provided with the same security which he enjoyed as Prime Minister. If not, Sir, then the answer is very simple. There is no responsibility for Shri Chandra Shekhar after that, Sir, and

if at all, the contributory responsibility or the contributory liability whether it is criminal of civil or whether it is negligence, whatever, it may be, is of course there, and therefore, when this finding of the Central Government is read in Verma Commission's Report, it is to be read in this background with this whole historical analysis which I have given regarding Shri Chandra Shekhar's Government coming into power.

Then second part of it is regarding the Government of Tamil Nadu. Again at page 82 in para 1 it is stated:

"There was of the Tamil Nadu Police force to strictly adhere to and enforce the prescribed standard of security for Rajiv Gandhi", and so on and so forth.

Para 4 again says:

"The Tamil Nadu Police force also failed to deal firmly with the Congress Party men and organisers of the meeting in respect of matters relating to security arrangements over which the police force had exclusive authority and control. The police force appears to have succumbed to every whim of the Congress Party men and organiserseven when they committed breaches of security requirements over which the police force has exclusive authority and right to control."

Now, Sir, here, as I have prefaced my submissions, the Tamil Nadu Government was under President's Rule and therefore, there is no ground absolutely for blaming A party of B party of any person in Tamil Nadu itself. If the police officers were acting there, they were acting there in Tamil Nadu Government which was at that time under the President's rule clearly. And therefore, whatever lapses have been pointed out of the Tamil Nadu police force or the Tamil Nadu Government whatsoever, there also it is for the hon. Home Minister to satisfy this House

about these police officers or these Government officers, I would not say Governor or any person, but whoever were acting on behalf of the president, whether they were Advisors appointed there or whether they were some other bureaucrats who were functioning there, how they succumbed to the Congress party because the crux of this Report is, if I may say so, which I found in the third part at page 83 in which the honourable Judge has held as to why this incident happened. And therefore, he has said like this:

"There was constant intransigence of the Congress Party functionaries including the Congress candidate to ensure the largest possible gathering with minimum arrangements to encash the visit of Rajiv Gandhi for better election prospects.

There were difference between the TNCC (1) and the candidate Maragathan Chandrasekhar who excluded the TNCC (I) from participation in the arrangements resulting in the lack of available party infrastructure and support for the meeting.

Choice of Temple Land as the venue of the meeting by M. Chandrasekhar was unsuitable as compared to the available School Ground from the Security angle.

The Chief Organiser A.J. Doss did not have the competence to control the partymen at the venue who created chaos and confusion through-out.

TNCC (I) President, K. Ramamurthy was unwilling to involve himself in the arrangements for the meeting at Sriperumbudur and remained away apparently to avoid incurring the displeasue of M. Chandrasekhar who had excluded the TNCC (I) from any involvement in the arrangements. However, K. Ramamurthy could have intimated this fact to the AICC (I) on learning that the arrangements at Sriperumbudur were un-

satisfactory, as he did in the choice of night halt for Rajiv Gandhi.

There was lack of discipline and general irresponsibility in the behaviour of the Congress partymen present at the venue of the meeting.

The general behaviour of the Congress Partymen and the organisers at the venue of the meeting contributed...."

Sir, this is very important. I would seek your indulgence to emphasize it by repeating it.

"The general behaviour of the Congress Partymen and the organisers at the venue of the meeting contributed to an environment of disorderliness and confusion which was conducive to flagrant breaches of the security norms.

"There was a total lack of awareness in all the Partymen that they had a contributory role in the security arrangements flowing from their obligation to facilitate the task of the police force."

Now, these are the findings, not accusations of one political party against another political party. If we very quietly consider these findings of the eminent judge of the Supreme Court, then the question which assumes very serious and new dimensions is, whether the assassination of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi during the election tour can be attributed to negligence of the Congress party and omissions and commissions of the Congress Party apart from the Central Government and the Tamil Nadu Government, because it is a positive and clear finding of Justice Verma that this could have been averted. If the Congress party organisers there had not been so particular only to encash his personality for the purposes of elections and cooperated with the police force for security arrangements, today this House would not have been without Shri Rajiv Gandhi amongst us. Therefore, howsoever sad, howsoever unfortu-

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nate it maybe, the responsibility also lies with the Congress I party organisers of the election meeting for the murder of Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Justice Verma makes it clear that three factors which were responsible for creating the situation where Shri Rajiv Gandhi's murder took place, could have been averted otherwise, could have been avoided otherwise, were the Central Government, the State Government and the police—of course, I do not go into the details of IB and other police disciplines and sections. But the crux of the matter is, the Central Government the Tamil Nadu State Government and the police force were responsible. Just now, I have shown to the House the Home Ministry's note in which it has been emphasised—the findings of the Verma Commissions in this respect are that strict enforcement of duty could have avoided this unfortunate murder—that there was no dereliction of duty on the part of Tamil Nadu Government or the Central Government or the IB.

That being so, one important aspect which is very important for the people of the country, not for any political party, not for any individual is what is the responsibility of the Congress-I party towards this tragedy and murder? Are they prepared to own it? Have they put their house in order? What action has been taken against those persons in Tamil Nadu Congress who are fighting amongst each other? This is Justice Verma's findings. They were fighting amongst themselves. In that inner fight of the Party, they did not allow proper arrangement to be made. They did not allow the police to control the entire security arrangement. They did not allow even the State Congress boss, President of PCC-I to make arrangements.

If this is the state of affairs, then I must say, instead of accusing or abusing Mr. V. P. Singh or somebody else, one must understand in order. Physician heals thyself. One must understand what is our fault—omissions and commissions. Of course, to err is human. I

cannot say, it cannot happen in any other place or some other person may not commit omissions and commissions. To err is human.

Having read this report, I was shocked and surprised that Mr. Aiyar did not speak a single word about the responsibility of the Congress-I. If he wanted to defend, he could have done so. He could have said, Justice Verma has gone wrong in saying that TNCC President was not allowed to arrange security there; he has committed a mistake in saying that the Congress-I created mob there; they did not allow the security officer to function. Mr. Aiyar could have said that he has committed a mistake in saying that the candidate who was there and Mr. Das who was given the charge, were responsible. This finding is incorrect. Of course, the findings are neither the Bible, neither the Ramayan nor the Quran. He can also commit mistake. But Mr. Aiyar tried to demonstrate with all his eloquence, with all the vocabulary, with all the specialised knowledge, as he has said it, rightly he has said it but he has not touched this aspect of the matter.

Therefore, I would now like this particular aspect to be considered by the Home Minister and by the hon. Members who have now come here.

A note has been circulated by the Home Minister. This note says what is the report, the findings and the action taken by the Ministry of Home Affairs. I would not take your time by reading any portion of it but I would say subject to correction by the hon. Minister, all that he was said in this, right from the para which started with saying the action taken at p. 3 para 1, 95 per cent points which he has mentioned about the finding and action taken, among them, he has summarised them in a precise form 32 points. Out of those 32 points, in 25 points he has said that State Governments and Union Territories and IB are being advised to take necessary action on the lines suggested by the Commission. The hon. Home Minister himself has put it and Mr. Chidambaram, our earlier Minister

had said that it is a very serious matter and it deserves that seriousness and attention. What attention has been paid to it? It is a post office work. A post-master can always shift the mail from this station to that station. What action has the Home Minister taken? Not a single word. I can challenge the Home Minister kindly to show from his reply what action he has taken. Has any of the Officers been suspended or charge sheeted? Has any change been made in the system by amending the Actor by doing something? Has any action been taken against the IB and the Officer who was in charge at that time? Has any action been taken against the persons who were in Congress Party and who were primarily responsible for all these unfortunate tragedies? Of course, that is for the President of the party. The Home Minister will not be able to remove them from the Party or take any action but in a set up which we have got, the President of the Party and the prime Minister are the same, one individual, all amalgamated in one personality.

Therefore, we would like to know from the Home Minister, whether the Prime Minister has taken action against any of these persons who are named in the report. Has the High Court Judge named person? We have known in the case of Shri Sharad Pawar, he has obtained a stay order. Serious legal complications were there. In the murder of the late Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the leader of the party, what action have they taken? They must enlighten us. May be we are ignored. May be, the prime Minister can say that we have removed this person from Office. We have taken disciplinary action and so on and so forth. That can be said subject, of course, to correction. But seemingly, this note which is circulated by the Home Minister only shows a very superficial white-wash. There is no in-depth study of the entire findings. There is no in-depth seriousness for taking any action.

If that is so, may I submit that the main thrust of this report, finding having come before the Home Minister and the action of the Govern-

ment, the Government naturally at the moment owes much to late Shri Rajiv Gandhi and, therefore, it is expected that might have done or should have taken the best action which was possible.

20.00hrs.

But that has not been done.. Now, I come to the second aspect of the matter. The point is: how does the Home Ministry take the report? I would just like to point out one thing. Please refer to the note which has been circulated. This note is termed as 'Action Taken on the report of the Verma Commission of Inquiry.' After the 32 points which have been summarised in a precis form, there comes the comments. On the comments, there are the comments of the Home Ministry. I am reading it for the benefit of the House because it is very important. I crave your honest indulgence for quoting them. Please look at page 10. It has been stated:

"In addition to the above recommendations, the Commission has attributed certain lapses on the part of the State Government of Tamil Nadu and its officials, the central Government/IB and the Congress (I)/organisers of the meeting."

It contains the action taken by the Home Ministry and the views expressed by it. Point No. 2 in the Action Taken Note says:

"That Commission has held that the Tamil Nadu police Force failed to provide the requisite proximate security and prevent access of the human bomb near Shri Rajiv Gandhi which was the proximate cause of the assassination. The Commission has also held that the State Intelligence Branch failed to provide intelligence back up and keep a watch on the suspicious elements at the meeting which has been held to be a contributory lapse. The commission has also observed

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that the assassination could have been averted..." This is very important. I quote again :

"The Commission has also observed that the assassination could have been averted but for the lapse of the Tamil Nadu Police force. Insofar as the lapses attributed to the State Government of Tamil Nadu and its officers are concerned, it is proposed to forward a copy of the report of the Commission to the State Government of Tamil Nadu to take necessary follow up action in the light of the Report."

Sir, kindly see the action taken. What they say is: "It is proposed to forward a copy of the Report to the State Government." This is the monitoring or this is the action which has been taken by the Home Ministry; There also they say about the necessary follow up action. They are not precisely suggesting that this line of action which they think proper should be taken. They have not said like this: "after having gone through the report and considered everything, now we want the Tamil Nadu Government to take such and such action." In a small matter, they say that the Rajasthan Government has not done this thing; the Uttar Pradesh Government has not done this thing. But, in the matter of assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, their own leader, they leave it to the State Government to do as per the rules. It is just like a routine note written by a clerk saying: "as per the rules; forwarded for necessary action;" This is what the lower division clerk writes and the Secretary signs on it. But we expect our Home Minister in this particular matter- if not anything else- to put his heart, soul and dead, all the three together to suggest the precise line of action he proposes to take through the State Government of Tamil Nadu etc. That has not been done.

Now, I would like to quote point number 3 which says:

"The Commission has held that the IB failed to share with the State Government the entire intelligence information available to it including that received from the Cabinet Secretariat. It has also held that the Central Government failed to provide a suitable alternative proximate security cover to Shri Rajiv Gandhi after the withdrawal of the SPG cover and this was not justified. The Commission has further held that the Central Government failed to have greater interaction with the State Government about the security of Shri Rajiv Gandhi as Tamil Nadu was then under President's Rule and the responsibility of MHA in this regard had hence somewhat increased."

Now this is the relevant and important finding of the home Minister who is vetoing the findings of Justice Verma. Unfortunately, the precedents are very bad. Here the Home Minister gives a finding against Justice Verma's findings. He says in para 4 and I quote:

"The Government finds it difficult to share the perception of the Commission on the lapses attributed to the Central Government and the IB."

Now it is I must say, a little anomalous that after having appointed Justice Verma to precisely find out the lapses.

Justice Verma did the entire exercise in which all were parties, he issued notices to all and sundry, the entire world, saying, whosoever wants to assist me, he can come, file an affidavit, a statement of case, cross-examine the witness, submit the affidavits put up the documents and materials and assist the Commission in coming to a finding. After all that has been done, now the Home Minister say by one single word, "I do noting myself in a position to share the views of Justice Verma," It is so simple. Can the judicial verdict, can the judicial finding of an

apex Judge, Justice Verma of the Supreme Court, appointed by them, in a very solemn manner, after the demand was made, be thrown in the dustbin like that? He has thrown it in the dustbin by one sentence. Justice Verma had to go and travel. He had to examine, cross-examine, hear arguments. We have only a few hours of arguments here. Many of us were feeling that arguments were pretty lengthy. Our time is very precious. Now Justice Verma has spent about a year or so. He went many times to inspect the site. He went to the length of examining how the security was being managed in the meeting of Advaniji, how the security was being managed in the Prime Minister's meetings. And here, I must give all compliments to him that in about ten to fifteen pages he has mentioned what is being done, what was being done in Shri Narasimha Rao's meetings, what was being done in Adaniji's meetings and so on and so forth in order to give comparative statement. If that person, that jurist, that judge who is a genius among the jurists, if his report is thrown in the dustbin by the Home Minister, it is most contemptuous and most disrespectful. I am very much pained and shocked to see this one sentence which the hon. Home Minister has written so casually. I do not know whether he has written or he has just signed it after the officers have given their nothings, because IB would be interested in protecting them, Central Government officers would be interested in protecting them and nobody would like to have any sort of disciplinary action etc. Therefore, they would just say." You kindly write, it is not acceptable and the matter ends there." What action can be taken when he himself says that the Central Government and IB are acquitted, they are absolved of all liabilities, they are given clean chit. After sometime, if it continues like this, they may be given Ashoka Chakra or some Padma Bhushan by the Home Minister for the great achievements of theirs. But posterity would not leave them. People would not leave them when they go amongst the people. If they go, they are avoiding it so far by postponing elections by issuing proclamations under Article 356 for six months more. How long will it be done? Let them

go around and people would ask them. They would put them in the dogs. When they would go to address the people, they would ask, right in the market places, on the streets and on the roads, what have they done for Rajiv Gandhi. You encashed him. This is what justice Verma has said. They encashed him and they were more particular in encashing his presence resulting in all this disorder, in his murder. So, you are criminals, you are murderers, you are guilty. The assassination guilt lies with you, the Congress party, the Congress bosses and on all them. And, therefore, you are trying to usurp the entire matter, you are shelving it. Shri Aiyar. I do not know, whether he has read it or not, but in the report it is said that, "The Government finds it difficult to share the perception of the Commission on the lapses attributed to the Central Government and the IB." So, both are absolved and if you absolve both, then what for in paragraph 36, you have stated that you have sent to the State Government for necessary action? What action? If there was no lapse, no omission, no commission, no mistake, then what is to be improved, what is to be done?

I have got a serious reservation and objection to this finding of the Home Minister and I would request all the hon. Members and more so those who are really close to Rajiv Gandhi. I am not saying that who are only showing their closeness - to show their mettle, before this discussion concludes, that they must compel the Home Minister to withdraw this sentence from this and ask him to act and if he cannot act, to leave this august place which he is holding on account of Rajiv Gandhi. I do not mean anything personally, Sir, but it is a matter of institution. I have got no problem so far as Chavan Saheb is concerned.

Incidentally, Sir, whatever Shri Ram Vilas paswan wants to say, to that the reply comes from the Home Minister in the following sentence. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani):
How do you know what he wants to say?

SHRIGUMAN MAL LODHA: You know as much as I know. He cannot put Shri V.P. Singh in the dock here, whatever may happen inside the party.

SHRIBHOGENDRAJHA: If truth compels you to say all this, then why cannot him?

SHRIGUMAN MAL LODHA: Whatever may happen inside the party, here, he would certainly defend him. He has defended him earlier also.

Then, the report further says that:

"SPG cover provided to Shri Rajiv Gandhi, as Prime Minister, ceased to be available to him after he demitted the office as per the provision of the SPG Act, 1988, under which the SPG was then responsible to provide proximate security only to the Prime Minister and the members of his immediate family. The alternative security cover prescribed for Shri Rajiv Gandhi was comprehensive and adequate to meet the perceived high level of threat."

Now the Home Minister says, "It was comprehensive and adequate", and Shri Aiyar says, "The officer who was put on the Central Committee had zero knowledge of the entire thing."

It further says:

"It has been acknowledged by the Commission as well as admitted by Shri R.K. Raghavan, who was overall in-charge of the security arrangements at the Sriperumbudur meeting that if the prescribed security arrangements had been strictly enforced, the assassination could have been averted."

Sir, the Home Minister interprets it in another manner. The Commission says, "That it

could have been averted if the police force, the central government, State Government and Congress party could have acted properly." He uses this to his benefit. It says further:

"This makes it clear that the prescribed security arrangements were adequate and the assassination took place due to their faulty implementation on account of negligence on the part of the police personnel deployed at the said meeting."

Again, he says:

"That Government partially shares the view of the Commission regarding some increase in the responsibility of the Central Government during President's Rule in a State however, such increase in responsibility/interaction is confined to policy, Budget and Legislative matters."

This is a very broad subject; I would not enter into this question of whether it is only to Budget or not. Shri Aiyar and others would be able to say something on this. "The MHA is not involved in the day-to-day administration of which VIP security forms a part." I would leave this to them. "As regards the lapses attributed to the IB that it had failed to share the entire intelligence available to it including that from the RAW, it is found that IB had not withheld any intelligence." Again a clear hit, a testimony, a certificate and appreciation of the IB. "It is found that the IB had not withheld any intelligence which was available to it concerning Shri Rajiv Gandhi's security from the State Government police of Tamil Nadu. This lapse therefore is not borne out of facts. Justice Verma has all through laboured on facts, quoted evidence, annexures, documents and our Home Minister says, it is not based on facts."

In Para 7, the Commission has also observed that "the Congress - I Party workers and organizers at the venue of the meeting did not

extend the required cooperation to the police and created impediments in making proper security, ensuring strictest control in his proximity." Kindly note the words used are "created impediments." The Congress-I party and organizers of VIP programmes creating impediments in security resulting in the assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi who are the murderers? The Commission has further held that "as these impediments could have been overcome by the police by a reasonable foresight and use of police power, they did not constitute a contributory lapse." About the responsibility of the Congress -I party and organizers of VIP programmes, the Government has accepted the recommendations of the Commission. Guidelines, code of discipline should be framed to be followed by party men and organizers. Now they say in future some guidelines must be given by the hon. prime Minister, who is also the party president to prevent such interference by the party workers leading to the assassination of the VIPs of the party. This is neither here nor there. The question is, what action he has taken. There is no question of any preventive measures now. It is the question of punitive action. What punitive action has he taken? After all the murder is over, Shri Rajiv Gandhi has passed away only on account of this. Repeatedly Justice Verma has said that Congress-I workers would not have interfered in the working of the police force.....

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I am on a point of order Sir. I have great respect for Shri Lodha. He has made certain observations. Justice Verma Commission has made certain observations regarding the security and intelligence failure. The Congress-I party said clearly that there was some communication gap between the Congress-I party and the administration. But he should not abuse the Congress-I party like this. Congress-I party workers are not involved in this murder.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: I am not at all here to abuse the Congress party. That part is played by Kumari Mamata Banerjee very well

in West Bengal and outside. I am not required to do it. The Commission has already identified certain deficiencies.

Now I conclude. I am sorry, I have taken a little bit of time. I would not like to go into details taking the time of the hon. Members who want to participate. My conclusion is very short. It is for the Home Minister to give reply and the hon. Members of this august House to consider the relevance, the validity, the correctness and the propriety of these observation in conclusion. The entire country is watching. All this time, before this report came and before it is duly highlighted now, it was being thought that some persons who were there had assassinated Shri Rajiv Gandhi; and as far as the Congress (I) party is concerned, for them, it was a case where they said that Shri Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated by the enemies and therefore people should take note of that. Now, the truth has come home and it has been established that Shri Chandra Shekhar Government which was supported by Congress (I) initially, whatever omissions and commissions are there, the responsibility lies with them, they being the partners, supported them and who brought them into power, have to do some introspection for this lapse. Tamilnadu Government being under the President's Rule, whatever omissions and commissions are there again, it leads to the something.

Lastly, the Congress (I) party's involvement by all these omissions and commissions which have been pointed out by Verma expressly: Clearly, specifically shows that the contributory responsibility is of Congress Party. Therefore, the country should know who are the murderers of Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Thank you very much.

20.22hrs.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (Sivaganga): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my dear colleague Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar has expressed our sense of anguish and also our sense of anger. Neither

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anguish nor anger will bring back Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Nothing that we say here, nothing that we will do in the future will bring back Shri Rajiv Gandhi to life. I am therefore left with a sense of futility, almost helplessness; but if this debate will save at least future generations from the trauma of losing to an assassin a democratic leader, a leader of a political party, a leader of the country for five year and one who would have by all accounts become the leader of the country again, I think, this debate even at this late hour would have served some purpose.

Sir, I will be brief. I will be brief to the point of denying myself the opportunity to speak all that I wish to speak. I will be brief to the point; where I am sure, some of my colleagues will ask me, why did you not speak your heart out. There are reasons to be brief. In any event, there is not much that I can add to the account presented to this House by my colleague, Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar.

I find that unwittingly I have already stepped on the toes of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs when I protested that a debate scheduled for 5 pm. should be relegated to had-past-six, in order to vote for ourselves. a hefty salary increase. I sincerely hope that the Home Minister will be me generous to me, if I do step on his toes. We are not here to investigate the circumstances under which Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated. We are not sitting here as a tribunal or as a court. We have before us a report submitted by one of the most distinguished sitting Judges of the Supreme Court of India. He has investigated the facts. He has applied the highest standard of proof and he has given a report to the Government. Government has, as required under law, to place the report before parliament and to say what actions it has taken on that report. I do not believe that the Government or the Ministry of Home Affairs or the Home Minister are equipped to conduct another investigation or, in fact, they conducted another investi-

gation. I do not believe either the Government or the Ministry of Home Affairs or the Home Minister had other sources of information or other evidence before them to reject the findings of the Commission of Inquiry.

I do not believe that either the Government or the Ministry of Home Affairs or the Home Minister could substitute their findings for the findings of the Commission.

To be brief, all that the Commission wanted to say and all that it has said can be found in just a few paragraphs. These paragraphs point an accusatory finger at two authorities. The first for what the Commission calls the proximate cause of Rajiv Gandhi's assassination is the finger of accusation is pointed to the State Government. Let me read paragraph 5.16 of the Commission's report:

"It can be safely concluded that had the security arrangements ensured non-access of the explosive device within a certain area of 10-20 feet radius around Rajiv Gandhi by keeping it sterile, his assassination could have been averted."

There are other findings of the Commission, findings which support this conclusion. I do not wish to take the time of the House to read all the findings. But so far as it is germane, so far as it concerns the State Government, the Commission says:

"That assassination of Rajiv Gandhi was possible on account of the failure of the Tamil Nadu Police to provide the proximate security required by him and to prevent access of the bomb near Rajiv Gandhi and this was the proximate cause for the assassination."

A trained judicial mind naturally goes on to say:

"Accordingly, the lapse or dereliction of duty of the Tamil Nadu Police force is beyond doubt This leads to the logical consequence of rendering the Government of Tamil Nadu responsible for the lapse of its Police personnel."

Sir, I have great respect for Shri Lodha. I am sure there are other shortfalls. I am sure there were other failings; failings on the part of the Congress people, failings on the part of the organisers of the function and filings on the part of many others but please Shri Lodha, the proximate cause for the assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the failure of the Tamil Nadu police to keep the area sterile to ensure non- access of a human bomb. If I am go back to the jargon of the police, the proximate cause was the inadequate of the proximate security provided to Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

Sir, I ask the Home Minister most humbly to tell us what is the action taken by the Tamil Nadu Government. I ask him to tell us what has the Central Government done to ask the Tamil Nadu Government to tell us what it has done in the matter. To the best of my knowledge, Sir, the Tamil Nadu Government had in the aftermath of the assassination suspended a number of officers. Of these officers two were reinstated in December, 1991. Justice Verma submitted his Report in June, 1992. The Tamil Nadu Government reacted by reinstating all but one in July, 1992 and on the 1st of April, 1993 the reinstated the last officer.

I tried to find out if anyone had been suspended or remains under suspension in Tamil Nadu. The answer is 'no'. Has anyone been charge-sheeted in Tamil Nadu? The answer is 'no'. Has anyone accepted moral or constructive responsibility for what happened on 21st May, 1991? The answer is 'no'. Has anyone been punished in Tamil Nadu? The answer is 'no'. Has anyone accepted political responsibility for what happened in Tamil Nadu? The answer is 'no'.

Sir, when an adventurous pilot, I recall his name was Martin Rust encroached on Moscow's Airspace, a few years ago the Defence Minister of the Soviet Union and the Chief of Air staff resigned.

I will say no more. I go to the second accusatory finger pointed by justice Verma Commission. Why did the proximate security for Shri Rajiv Gandhi fail? My friend mani has given a graphic account of the events leading to the failure of the proximate security. Sir, SPG was my baby. On the 5th of October, 1986 Rajivji asked me to join him in Pune, three days after an attempted assassination at Raj Ghat. I was the Minister of State for personnel and I had temporarily taken over as the Minister of State for Internal Security because Shri Arun Nehru was ill. Rajiviji, Soniaji and I were in the jeep. We travelled together from the Airport to the institute is Pune. We talked about many things and he said, "fly back with me". For the next two days we virtually locked ourselves in 7 Race Course Road to discuss the security arrangements for Rajiviji. Against my wish, against my advice, he said, you will be in charge of my security from this moment. A few days thereafter he passed a special order, placing SPG under my jurisdiction. That day, we began a long climb to make SPG one of the most efficient and envied personal security forces in the world. Sir, I cannot share much of what we did during that period. All that I know is at the end of three years, that is 2nd of December, 1989, when Shri Rajiv Gandhi demitted office, when the new Government took over, SPG was rated as one of the top our personal security forces for a Head of State or Head of Government. Many countries send their officers to study the working of the SPG. SPG was built on two principle. One was proximate security, the other was the entire support arrangement which includes what Mani described as advance liaison. Sir, there was no officer, no police officer in the whole of India who was feared more for the authority that he wielded, than an office whom, we designated as AD (Functions), a very non-descript name Assistant Director (Functions). He had the authority

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to over-rule any one in India, including the Chief Minister of a State. We gave him that authority. I wrote the charter of SPG; every line of which I drafted; I drafted the Bill for SPG. Why did I give SPG that authority? We realised that a Prime Minister, a Head of the Government who faced threats from so many quarters, sikh militants, LTTE militants, many militant organisations in the North-East, communal elements, Naxalite groups in Andhra Pradesh and more than that deviant individuals required to be protected by a force which exercised and which possessed over-riding authority.

Sir, security is not a matter on which you can have consensus; security is not a matter on which you can have a debate; security is not a matter on which you can make compromises. Every assassin in human history had the advantage of choosing the date, the place and the time. He can afford to fail not once, not twice, not thrice, he can afford to fail a thousand times as long as he is not discovered or appended. A security force can afford to fail even once. Only, this month and last month, we have seen in a neighbouring country, how a President had been assassinated because the security failed once; how a Leader of the opposition had been assassinated because his security failed just once.

So, why did proximate security for Rajiv Gandhi fail in Sriperumpudur? We have got to go back to what mani described as the root cause, what I call the fundamental reason and Justice Verma's Commission points the second accusatory finger at the Central Government of the day for the fundamental reasons!

Shri Rajiv Gandhi demitted office on the 2nd December, 1989. Quite rightly, on the 4th December, 1989, a high level security review group which had been set up in October 1989, met and decided - and this is at Annexure XXI to the Report of the Verma Commission - that Shri Rajiv Gandhi, ex-Prime Minister should be provided the same level of security. The group

also decided that the security for the family will be maintained at the same level and called for fresh threat assessments from the IB and RAW.

The group's recommendations, I believe, were placed before the Prime Minister a few days thereafter. That is part of the Verma Commission Report. The Prime Minister, I believe, directed that the matter be placed before the Cabinet. That is not part of the Verma Commission Report. From my old records, I have gathered that the Cabinet, at that time, met on two days - 30th of January, 1990 and the First of February 1990. When all this was going on, a security note was sent to the Prime Minister and the Prime Minister directed it to be placed before the Cabinet; and the Cabinet solemnly met on the 30th of January 1990 and again on the First of February 1990.

An individual, a high placed individual occupying the office of the Cabinet Secretary wrote a note. And since we are wedded to parliamentary democracy, since we are wedded to a system under which the elected representatives of the people will be the final authority in the matter of civil government, it is, I believe, most important that the whole of this whole letter goes on record. I shall read the note dated 30.1.90. I would urge most humbly the Leader of the House, the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition, Shri Lal K Advani and all other leaders to pay the closest attention to the language in which this note is written. "On the verbal instructions of Shri T N Seshan" and inaccuracy which was pointed out and exposed by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, because Shri T N Seshan did not issue any verbal instructions; he did not issue any oral instructions. The Security Review Group formally recorded its decision on the 4th of December 1989; it was formally sent to the Prime Minister on the 14th of December, 1989. But I leave aside that for the time being. Let me read this so that the whole of this goes on record. It reads as follows:

"On the instructions of Shri Seshan the first then Cabinet Secretary the group

SPG was asked to continue providing security to Shri Rajiv Gandhi. This was purely temporary and adhoc arrangement. According to the SPG Act, this force is meant only for the security of the Prime Minister and his family members. Its charter cannot be extended to cover the ex-Prime Minister or any one else even by an executive order. The security of SPG provided to Shri Rajiv Gandhi continues to be as in the Past. Thus, as many 25,000 SPG personnel and 24,000 SPG personnel (CRPF) are on duty with him at present....."

"...It is not possible to spare such a big manpower out of the existing strength of SPG on a continuous basis. The security arrangements of the Prime Minister are suffering adversely due to extra commitment on the part of the SPG. This has been adversely commented by the security agencies. Such a large deployment of SPG also gives a high profile visibility and is attracting criticism even from the State Governments..."

Then comes the crucial paragraph.

"....Shri Rajiv Gandhi has now started touring outside Delhi. Since it is not possible for SPG to spare personnel to cover his tours outside Delhi, I have approved that his security arrangements outside Delhi should be left to the State Governments. As regard Delhi, a Cabinet paper is under submission. The responsibility of providing protection to Shri Rajiv Gandhi and his family should vest in the State Governments and Union Territory Administration and the MIHA should issue proper instructions, thus, PM may kindly see for approval."

Sir, a Cabinet Secretary is indeed a high officer, he holds a high office. He has vast powers but this is a new constitutional doctrine. "I have approved that Rajiv Gandhi's security

outside Delhi should be left to the State Governments" Regardless of the fact that State Governments may not be equipped to take on Rajiv Gandhi's security; regardless of the fact that they may not have trained personnel; regardless of the fact that they may not have bullet proof cars; regardless of the fact that they may not have proper bomb detection squads or dog squads; regardless of any fact; regardless of the fact that on the 4th of December 1989, the security Review Group said, the SPG should continue to provide security for Rajiv Gandhi and his family; regardless of the fact that IB and RAW had been asked to spare fresh threat assessments, the highest Civil Servant of India arrogates to himself absolute authority and says "I have approved that the security arrangements outside Delhi should be left to the State Governments," Sir, if I may say, as more of an after thought he says "PM may kindly see for approval."

This note which is published at page 242 is not a xerox copy. It bears the legend 'PM' here. We do not know if this was approved by the PM or not.

Will the Home Minister be so kind as to tell this august House whether the Prime Minister approved this note and if so what were the orders passed on this note? Will the Home Minister kindly tell this House and the nation if any decision was taken at the cabinet Meeting on 30 January 1990? If so what was the decision? And when was that decision minuted and communicated to the others who are responsible to implement that decision? Will the Home Minister kindly tell this House and the nation if any decision was taken at the cabinet meeting on the First of February 1990? If so what was the decision and when and how it was communicated to others?

Sir, I have reason to believe that the decision to withdraw SPG from Rajiv Gandhi and entrust his security arrangements to State Governments owes its origin and its sole origin to this note at page 242. If anything was done thereafter,

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it was a pretence and a formality.

Sir Justice Verma shares my conclusion, or rather I, from my own sources, from my own information have reason to believe that Justice Verma is right when he holds that the decision to withdraw security was taken on 30th January, 1990 by the Cabinet Secretary of the day. Anything that happened thereafter was only a formality. The basic decision, the fundamental decision was taken on 30-1-1990,

Let us, as elected Members decided once for all, who is the authority in this country, who is the civilian authority in this country. Is it the prime Minister of India and his Ministers or is it the Cabinet Secretary and other civil servants? The fundamental reason why proximate security for Shri Rajiv Gandhi failed in Sriperumbudur was this decision taken on 30th January 1990.

Let me read to you a few conclusions from Justice Verma's report:

"... the decision of the Central Government on 30-1-1990 to withdraw the S.P.G. cover to Rajiv Gandhi without provision for suitable alternative for his proximate security which was not as a result of fresh assessment of threat justifying reduction in his security; and the consequent withdrawal of the S.P.G. cover reducing the level of protection to Rajiv Gandhi without any reduction of the threat to him was contrary to Central Government's own earlier decision as well as his security requirement and was unjustified."

This is a complex sentence. But I want you to kindly allow me to break it into parts and tell you the source for each of these conclusions:

"That decision of the Central Government on 30-1-1990 to withdraw SPG

cover for Shri Rajiv Gandhi"

that is, the office note on page 242 written by the cabinet Secretary.

"Without provision for a suitable alternative for proximate security"

This note makes no provision for alternative security, but relegates it to the state Government.

"which was not as a result of fresh assessment of threat..."

A fresh assessment of threat had been formally called on the 4th of December, 1989, but a fresh threat assessment was either not made or submitted to the Cabinet Secretary.

"justifying reduction in his security and the consequent withdrawal of the SPG cover was contrary to the Central Government's own earlier decision."

This—"the own earlier decision" being the decision taken on the 4th December, 1989 and contained in the note of the 14th December, 1989 which was sent to the Prime Minister.

Sir, I ask the home Minister to tell us what action the Central Government has taken on this finding. Yes, Sir, on the 23rd of December, 1992 on Christmas eve, when, I believe, this House was adjourning after the Winter Session the Home Minister made a statement in this House. Few took notice of that statement at that time and Shri Gurman Mal Lodha has done a signal service by reading that statement here.

The Home Minister has made partial amends on the 28th April, 1993 by amending paragraph 4 that statement. It is not too late to make ample and full amends for that statement of 23-12-1992. I believe, that statement of 23-12-1992 was an unfortunate statement. To the extent that it exonerates completely the Central

Government and the agencies of the Central Government, it is an unacceptable statement. To the extent to the Home Minister has made partial amends, amending paragraph 4 we are grateful; but there is much more to be done.

Sir, I asked the Government: "Is any one in the Central Government today under suspensions?" The answer was, "No". Is anyone under a charge-sheet? The answer is 'no'. Has anyone been punished? The answer is 'no'. Has an inquiry been instituted against anyone? The answer is 'no'. From Delhi to Madras, the answer to everyone of our questions is 'no'. That is why, I say, I am filled with a sense of hopelessness, a sense of futility.

Why do I speak today then? What is the purpose of participating in this debate? Two of the last four Prime Minister of India have been assassinated. Both belonged to the Party to which I belong. Both belonged to a most distinguished family in India, which we all love. If a love of the family is a crime, let us be branded as criminals.

Sir, I have attended some functions which the Prime Minister attends today. I am deeply disturbed. I am not happy about the way his protection has been organised today. And if anyone at the political level can speak with some measure of authority on protection, I believe I can.

From 5th of October 1986 to the 2nd of December 1989 barring one day, when Shri Rajiv Gandhi went out of our formal jurisdiction to Colombo, we did not allow a scratch on his body. If he had listened to me, he would not have gone to Colombo. Shri Seshan and I barged into a Cabinet meeting, and the Prime Minister will remember that meeting which took place in Parliament House, virtually put our for down and said: "You shall not go to Colombo tomorrow." But unusually he overruled us. My understanding with Shri Rajiv Gandhi was that I can overrule anyone on security and he can overrule me. But if he overruled me thrice I

would resign. That was the first and the last time he overruled me on security. Shri Seshan and the Director of SPG rushed to Colombo in a special plane. From Colombo they told us: "This is not the time to visit Colombo. Ask Rajiv to stay away." But Rajiv was Rajiv. Any Prime Minister, Sir, in India has to remain above fear. I believe, Shri V.P. Singh was fearless despite threats to him. I believe, Shri Chandra Shekarji was fearless despite threats to him. I believe, the Prime Minister Shri Narasimha Rao is fearless despite threats to him. You cannot be a Prime Minister and live in fear. One has to rise above one's sense of apprehension, fear and trepidation and dive among the people, walk among the people, move among the people and accept whatever comes. Rajiv knew that his life was always in danger, he lived dangerously, and he died under circumstances which could have been averted.

My concern today is that, whoever is Prime Minister to day, tomorrow, five years from today, ten years from today, should be protected. Why? Because that is the principle on which this democracy is found. We elected a Prime Minister by the ballot. We cannot lose a Prime Minister to the bullet. The ballot must make a Prime Minister. The ballot must unmake a Prime Minister. The bullet cannot make a prime Minister and the bullet cannot unmake a Prime Minister.

21.00hrs.

I am unhappy with the kind of security that I see around the Prime Minister. I am unhappy with the kind of intelligence that is apparently flowing into the security review group meetings. I am unhappy with the number of things I see touching upon security. But, that we should reserve for another day. When SPG Act was first amended, it did not provide protection to all ex-Prime Ministers and Shri Advaniji will remember, we met somewhere there, expressed his unhappiness and I shared his unhappiness. I said this was an error and will speak to the Home Minister and I will express my view

[Sh. P. Chidambaram]

forcefully that if you are extending it to one ex-Prime Ministers, you shall extend it to all ex-Prime Ministers.

A question was asked here, why did you not make an act to cover ex-Prime Ministers. Shri Morarji Desai was not under any kind of threat and to the best of my knowledge, Choudhary Charan Singh was not under any kind of threat. If we had made a provision then for ex-Prime Ministers, we would have been charged of making a provision for Shri Rajiv Gandhi in the event of his losing office. The Government which took over from Rajiv Gandhi ought to have made that provision on the first day, that was the recommendation on 4.12.1989. That Government extended protection for a period of two months and withdrew that protection on 30th January, 1990 on the authority of a civil servant.

Sir, there is no end to dwell any further on the subject. As I have said, there is futility and hopelessness about this whole exercise. But, maybe I am wrong I wish I am proved wrong when I hear the hon. Home Minister reply to the debate.

I want to know and I believe, we want to know whether the Government stands by its statement of 23rd December, 1992 or whether it has since reconsidered its decision. If it has, what action will it take on the authorities of the Central Government who took the decision on the 30th of January, 1990 to withdraw SPG cover for Shri Rajiv Gandhi and relegate that responsibility to the State Governments. These two causes - the decision of 30th January, 1990 leading to the failure of proximate security in Sriperumbudur on 21 May, 1991 are in sum and substance what Justice Verma says led to the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi, which could have been averted.

I would humbly appeal to the hon. Home Minister to please set at rest our fears, to assuage our feelings; to help us to come to terms with the diverse emotions which are raging in

our hearts; to bring some peace and solance to us and to assert the might and the majesty and the authority of the Central Government to punish those who are guilty and to ensure that such lapses do not occur in the future. I shall wait will hope mixed with helplessness until tomorrow to hear the hon. Home Minister's reply.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, today we are discussing an issue which is heart-rending for the treasury benches as well as for the opposition. Be it the assassination of Shri Rajivji or that of the Mrs Indira Gandhi, we are all like family members. We may have political differences but that too is a part of parliamentary democracy. But the death or any injury caused to any hon. Member whether he is in the opposition or in the ruling party, is an attack on all hon. Members. This is the reason that whenever any hon. Member, either of the opposition or that of the ruling party, is attacked or hospitalised, we all rush to see him. When Shri Dinesh Singh was admitted to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, it was none but myself to visit him first. When the former Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Sh. Antulay was admitted to hospital and we received the information, I was the first to go there.

We may have political difference. We will fight in politics, but if for those 'differences'. Somebody goes after anybody's life, it will be the most hateful outlook. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have told that we may play politics throughout our life, but we should not do so on the basis of somebody's death and the day we are involved in acts of making allegations and counter-allegations to this extent, will be the most unfortunate day for the country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I hold S/Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar and Chidambaram in high esteem. But the manner in which he has pointed the needle in a particular direction is not proper. I thought that after Shri Lodhaji had revealed the facts the needle will be in the neutral position. But even

after that the needle is being pointed to only one direction i.e. towards S.P.G. It means those who do not have a security cover of S.P.G., their lives are not secure. Our police and the entire forces have become ineffective. I am very much astonished to hear that those who do not have the S.P.G. Security Cover cannot face any sort of risk.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that none of us—either from the Opposition of the treasury benches should drag politics at least into such issues. Just now both of our colleagues expressed the same views which have been replied by the hon. Minister of Home Affairs himself, that the S.P.G was raised neither by Shri V.P. Singh nor by Shri Chanda Shekhar nor by Shrimati Indira Gandhi. The S.P.G. was raised by Shri Rajiv Gandhi himself in 1988. Our hon. colleague was stating that some people were after his life but why the S.P.G. was provided for the former Prime Minister? Today it is said that the former Prime Minister had no threat to his life. Shrimati Indira Gandhi was assassinated. After her assassination, it was either leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party of Chaudhri Charan Singh but not the people of the Congress who spoke and Shri Charan Singh was the first person to suggest that army should be sent to the Golden Temple and thereafter it can be understood that she had threat to her life. It will not be proper at all to or assess or add anything.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, somebody might be having this idea that if he is a Prime Minister today, he may be removed one day, but he is not prepared to remain as an ex-Prime Minister, and such a person wishes to remain Prime Minister for ever. Therefore, while framing this law such a man might be wishing that these forces should remain with him for ever. So, it should be accepted. We must accept our mistakes, if we have committed any. All the forces of the country are incompetent today and only the S.P.G. is an exception which can protect the V.V.I.Ps. Therefore, I think that you should not have stated so.

Now so far as Shri V.P. Singh is concerned. I am not understanding till date why he is being dragged in this issue.

There are three factors - One is the Report of the Commission, second is the reply of the Government of India and the third is the statement of the hon. Minister of Home Affairs. All these three are contradictory. The Commission has stated that the Intelligence Bureau has totally failed in forwarding the information available with it and the information received from the Cabinet Secretariat to the State Governments. It has also been stated that after withdrawing S.P.G. from the security of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the Central Government also failed to provide alternate security cover for him and this was improper. The Government contradicts it and it does not agree with the flaws pointed out by the Commission against the Central Government and the Intelligence Bureau. The S.P.G. coverage provided for Shri Rajiv Gandhi in his capacity as the Prime Minister, was withdrawn under the provision of the S.P.G. Act, 1988 after he relinquished his post. It is correct because at that time under this Act the S.P.G. was responsible for providing security cover for the prime Minister and the members of his family only. On the one hand the Government has expressed such views and on the other hand, two hon. Members are shedding crocodile tears that they are under distress.

They say that Shri V.P. Singh has committed atrocity. Yes, Shri V.P. Singh had committed an error. He should be punished because even after the expiry of the period violating the rules he extended the services of the S.P.G. for three months more. The S.P.G. has been given special powers. If it shoots somebody it cannot be sued. Other forces are sued for such acts. It was time and again asked as to how S.P.G. will respond if it opened fire at some one and the man was killed. According to law, Shri V.P. Singh should have withdrawn the S.P.G. at that time. but he withdrew it after three months.

Whether adequate security arrangements

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were there for Shri Rajiv Gandhi thereafter? On the one hand the commission States that the arrangements were not adequate, on the other hand the Government of India claims that there were adequate security arrangements. The Government of India replies that alternate security arrangements were adequate enough to face any possible danger. But in his reply given on the 28th April, 1993 the hon. Minister of Home Affairs States that in view of the facts mentioned in the Notification, the Government is of the opinion that the decision of the then Government regarding the nature and scale of security which was made available to late Shri Rajiv Gandhi from February 1990 proved to be inadequate to meet the requirements.

[English]

"Keeping in view the aforesaid recommendations of the Intelligence Bureau, the Government is of the view that the decision of the Government regarding the nature and scale of security which was made available to late Shri Rajiv Gandhi from February 1990 proved to be politically inadequate to meet the requirements."

[Translation]

On the 28th April he says that the security arrangement were inadequate. The Commission alleges that after the withdrawal of the withdrawals of the S.P.G. the alternative arrangement did not prove adequate. But the Government of India state that it is wrong to say that the alternative security cover for Shri Rajiv Gandhi was adequate enough to promptly meet any possible danger.

When the Government was ready to face the impending danger as to how the hon. Home Minister mentioned that in his statement at that time? His message reached every part of the

country. He is Home Minister in the Government of India. He is not the Minister of a single party. We felt sorry at that time. The Government has taken only one part of the observations of Verma Commission and has left every thing. The evaluation of impending danger to the life of Shri Rajiv Gandhi had to be done by the Intelligence Bureau. Again, it was necessary for the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Intelligence Bureau to provide extra security to Shri Rajiv Gandhi when he was out of office, deviating from the general norms fixed in this regard. But the Government failed to do so. Then the Commission has mentioned in its report about the role of the Party and Government of Tamilnadu. Tamilnadu Police Force failed to observe strictly the norms fixed for the security of Shri Rajiv Gandhi and particularly it failed miserably in ensuring his security in the public meeting as a result of which unauthorised persons succeeded entering in to the sensitive zone near Shri Rajiv Gandhi without any check up. Through them a human bomb reached very near to Shri Rajiv Gandhi and due to the explosion Shri Rajiv Gandhi was killed.

Not only this, the letter of DIG, CID is enclosed with it. In his letter written in March, 1991 he had written:

"To T.C. Headquarters, Madras. Kindly refer to a letter No. dated the 21st March, 1991 regarding the visit of former Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi to Tamilnadu." In the end it has been instructed that suspected Sikh terrorists made an attempt on the life of former Union Minister Shri Jagdish Tytler when he was addressing a meeting in New Delhi, in which he had a narrow escape while two persons were gunned down. So it is desirable for security purposes that a security zone of 45 feet should be set up around the stage. It should be done in consultation with local party leaders and alertness in the following manner should be observed during Shri Rajiv Gandhi's visits: "Nobody should be allowed to reach, near the protected person. It should be restricted. A ring of well trained security personnel should be made around him. Well trained security guards with attacking power

should be deployed in a row in front of him. Adequate vigil should be kept to check any sabotage during his visits. These instructions were issued on 19th March, 1991.

What does Central Vigilance Commission writes in this regard?....*(Interruption)* Intelligence department exercises its mind and if it thinks in one direction then it continues to adopt the same line of thinking., Sikh terrorists of Punjab were the sole target for the vigilance Department. Only one community is being defamed. Intelligence report was not considered in the right perspective by the persons whom it was sent as it is apparent from the statements of IGP. Shri R.P. Radhwan and J.G.P. Shri F.G.Sharma. They said that they had linked the latest message of Intelligence Bureau with the impending danger to the life of Shri Rajiv Gandhi by Sikh Terrorists in Tamilnadu.

My colleague Shri Chidambaran was speaking just now. He was Minister Incharge and in a very light mood he has said that he is so competent that he remained unhurt during his tenure. At that time, fortunately Shri Rajiv Gandhi escaped in Colombo otherwise that attempt on his life was not a minor one. At that time he was incharge. You point your fingers on others immediately....*(Interruption)* What does mean by "explained" ?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask whether Intelligence Bureau was not working there. Our Prime Minister visits a country where there can be danger to his life he is attached with gun butt. It was not a minor incident. There has been lapse on the part of Central Government, State Government and the Congress Party in the incident in which Shri Rajiv Gandhi was killed. They may go through what has been the role of the Party. It is written on page No. 87 " The workers of the Congress party including its candidates were of the view that maximum crowd should be mobilised in the least arrangements to take benefit of Shri Gandhi's visit for the better polling results. There were differences between Tamilnadu Congress Committee (I) and the can-

didate of the party over it and the candidate did not involve TNCC (I) in these arrangements. As a result of which support of the party workers could not be mobilised for the meeting. Again recommendation No. 3 states that the selection of temple land for meeting place was not suitable in comparison to the school land. It has been said that the Chief organiser Shri A.K. Das was not capable to control party activists who were creating disorder and confusion there. On the one hand D.I.G. (C.I.D.) writes about security arrangements that nobody should be allowed to enter in the periphery of 45 feet, fixes five guidelines on the other hand these guidelines are ignored. So when you go through this report you will come to know the role of party but the hon. Home Minister has forgotten it. He has not mentioned even once in his statements that there was any responsibility of Central Government, I.B. and Party activists. There line of thinking was revolving round S.P.G. and V.P. Singh. I would like to ask the hon. Prime Minister that Shri V.P. Singh was not Prime Minister at that time. There was same danger for the life of Shri V.P. Singh for implementing the recommendations of the Mandal Commission as it was for other leaders. leave V.P. Singh, who is not aware that a bomb was thrown at me at Empiranganj. Acid was thrown on V.P. Singh in Bhopal and a bomb in Sitamarhi. A youth was killed in this incident. Shri V.P. Singh made special security arrangement for him and less for other former Prime Ministers, certainly he would be responsible for it. Today, when you reply the debate, I will ask whether Shri V P Singh was not a former Prime Minister at that time. At that time neither Shri V.P. Singh nor Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister. Shri Candra Shekhar was the Prime Minister and it means that the Prime Minister belonged to the Congress, why could the Congress not make him to do such a petty thing, while Candra Shekhar Government lost the power on the issue of two constables. We did not read any letter from Shri Chidambaran or Shri Mani Shankar. Well they could not write letters to Shri V.P. Singh. They could write letters to Shri Chandra Shekhar that perhaps Shri V.P. Singh

[Sh. P. Chidambaram]

has not made any arrangement of S.P.G. for him. Now the Government is in power with the support of our party, kindly make that arrangement. You had never written to Shri Chandra Shekhar. Therefore, I think that it is not proper to politicise all things. At that time I was also a Minister. I remember when Shri V.P. Singh was speaking in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, he said that under rule he can't provide S.P.G. but Rajiv ji may take whatever equivalent force he requires. Four bulletproof cars and 240 police personnel were provided to Shri Gandhi which involved an expenditure of Rs. one crore. I remember that Chidambaram or any other colleague of mine raised this point. Shri V.P. Singh said that there is no limitation of 1 crore rupees if need be we are ready to provide Rs. 5 crore. Tell me, what more do you want? We are proud of that so long as our party was in power no harm was done to Shri Rajiv Gandhi, he was safe. I claim that if our party had been in power during the election and Shri V.P. Singh held the office of Prime Minister he would not have suffered any loss. You are deviating from your responsibility.

The new Government was formed after dismissing V.P. Singh Government which has the slogan-four years versus forty years and you were supporting that Government and you are raising finger on us. You doubt our intentions. You are pointing out towards the person, like Shri V.P. Singh that he is involved in Shri Rajiv Gandhi Assassination. Mr Speaker, Sir, I feel very bad. I was of the view that today this debate will be held at such a high level that finger will not be raised on an innocent person. Only one leader has not been assassinated in this country. The Father of Nation, Mahatma Gandhi and Shrimati Indira Gandhi have also been assassinated in this country. I would like to ask as to who was the Prime Minister at that time. Out of these three assassinations, two were committed when your party was in power and one when the Government supported by your party was in power. You forget all these facts and raise fingers on us.

The hon. Home Minister should have made an impartial statement. The hon. Home Minister should have said as to what Verma Commission has observed about the Congress party and Government of Tamilnadu. Who is not aware of the fact that Tamilnadu was under President's rule at that time and during President rule the Government is all in all when there is no Chief Minister in the State. All of us are aware that the same person who was Governor at that time who is occupying the Chair of Governor even now, it means that the Central Government was not responsible for it, Shri V.P. Singh was solely responsible for it. Even now, I demand that if Shri V.P. Singh is guilty, put him behind bars. Neither you will become loyalist nor any law will be changed by levelling charges against Shri V.P. Singh. Law follows its own path. I will certainly point out as to what happened with the report of Verma Commission a couple of days ago in this very House.

I do not want to go into it, whether he gave a factual report or not but if you are inclined to take action on the report of that commission, then go ahead. You may take action against everybody, we are ready to accept it.

A few days ago it was said that the hon. Home Minister of Home Affairs would inform. The intelligence department had told the Tamilnadu Government that the venue and the date of the programme were not proper. When the venue was not appropriate which is proved by the report then why this programme was implemented. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will not take much time and only want to submit that if we really want to do something for our motherland then we should avoid making personal allegations and counter allegations. I want to submit that the present Prime Minister was Home Minister in 1984 when Indira Gandhi was murdered, my house was set on fire. At that time I was at my 12, Rajendra Prasad Road residence I kept telephoning but to no avail. I could neither save my house nor a Sikh youth, who was burnt alive. Rajiv ji was also murdered. Though I fight for good cause my name is not mentioned by media.

I do fight but that is limited within this House. While out of the House or when our Prime Minister or Home Minister visits some foreign country, we watch them speaking on T. V. The day, the level of our politics falls to such extent that it is better we renounce politics. Therefore, I want to submit, through you, that we should not involve it in politics and rather find out a way so that our leaders are not murdered like the ones which have already been murdered. If we find out some solution sitting together which is above politics, then I feel we will be able to arrive at a conclusion and that will be a right conclusion. We know there are two groups within Congress: We are in the habit of fighting openly but a sort of inner current prevails there in the Congress. Your fight is different which we know very well. So under such political motives if you try to aim at us then Chidambaramji and Ayyar Saheb, I feel it will be neither just for us nor for yourselves, nor for the country or for Shri Rajivji. You are doing injustice to him, therefore, I demand that if you intend to take an action then be it your party worker or of any other party or even a Government employee you must take an action against him.

I, once again, will request the Home Minister, that being a Minister of the Union / Government you are not supposed to give a signal to the country like the one you have given on 28th April, this signal was entirely wrong.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): I just want to inform the hon. Members, members of the press, staff and the watch and ward, as we have decided to sit late for this discussion, we have made arrangements for dinner. I would request that the hon. members may kindly have their dinner. We have made arrangements in Room Number 70. (Interruption)

[Translation]

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): I am grateful to you for providing me an opportunity at such a time. When I rise to speak with the mixed feelings of sorrow and seriousness. Today, I remember my leader Shri Rajivji, who was selected to Parliament before me. I have seen the affection and encouragement given by Shri Rajivji. He was closely associated with the young generation.

Sir, previously, I have seen in this House only one thing that questions were raised about Bofors daily a Question was being raised daily as to why security arrangements for Shri Rajiv have been tightened why such an amount was being spent on his security? Today, I once again want to raise this issue because Shri V. P. Singh is former Prime Minister and Shri Advaniji is the leader of the Opposition and Chief Ministers are there in states. At present, our party is in power but we can never say that there should be no security arrangement for Shri Advani, Shri V. P. Singh and Chief Minister of a state as the question of security is a sensitive one and it is not a personal matter. We can have political differences, party differences but can never have misunderstanding on the issue like security. The Chief Minister of various states are also in the hit list and their security arrangements are being intensified, but we have never raised our eye-brows as it is a serious matter.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, today when we make a mention of Shri Rajiv Gandhi and just now Shri Lodhaji and Paswanji have urged to discuss it rising above political considerations, which is quite true. Findings of the report of the Verma Commission needs to be considered. It is true that we cannot make Mahatma Gandhi, Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi alive but we can avoid recurrence of such incidents and no leader is assassinated in future Therefore all such points needs to be discussed. Why Shri V. P. Singh is being targeted because there are facts and findings. Shri Paswanji is not present here. I wanted to inform him about it. Mr. Speaker, Sir,

[Kumari Mamta Banerjee]

a meeting was held on 4th December, 1989 when Shri Sheshan was Cabinet Secretary. Shri R. Vasudevan, special Secretary to P.M., V.K. Jain, V.G. Vaid, Vijay Karan, Devendra Singh and Ashok Darbari participated in this meeting. What was decided in this meeting.

[English]

I want to read that matter and I quote:

“SUBJECT: Security arrangements for ex-Prime Minister.

Kind reference is invited to the discussion held by Cabinet Secretary on 4. 12. 89 at 12 noon regarding security arrangements for Prime Minister and for ex-Prime Minister.

As directed, further discussions were held on 4. 12. 89 at 3.30 p.m. in the Office of Director SPG in the security arrangements for ex-Prime Minister; this discussion was attended by Director SPG, JD (IB) Additional Commissioner of Police (S&T) Delhi and Joint Secretary (Security) Cabinet Secretariat.

JD (IB) stated that the threat perception in respect of the ex-Prime Minister has changed, since he is no longer the Head of the Government, he now faces danger arising out of personal vendetta. The security arrangements to be provided to him now will have to take this fact into account. IB will be sending a fresh threat assessment for the ex-PM very soon.

The instruction of the Government is that the ex-Prime Minister should be provided the same level of protection. In the context of the above the standard aspects of security relating to prime Minister have been listed in the enclosed broadsheet and the commonly agreed views of IB, SPG and Delhi Police regarding security to be provided to ex-PM have been indicated against each item of security arrange-

ment; the above indicates that while the arrangements for close protection and for guarding the residence will be the same as before, the arrangements for the Delhi functions and tours outside Delhi will have to be modified in view of the changed situation.

It was agreed that the security for the family will be maintained at the same level.

[Translation]

What happened after that? As referred to by Shri Chidambaram that Shri Sheshan was removed and Shri B.C Pandey was appointed as Cabinet Secretary. And about the verbal instructions issued by Shri Sheshan on 30. 1.90 it has been stated that:

[English]

“ On the Verbal instructions of Shri Seshan, the then Cabinet Secretary, the SPG was asked to continue providing security to Shri Rajiv Gandhi. This was a purely temporary and ad hoc arrangement.”

[Translation]

Therefore, the decision taken by the Cabinet Secretary shows that there was security problem for Shri Rajiv Gandhi because his name was in the hit list and earlier also two attempts were made on his life in Colombo and at Rajghat. Therefore, security risk was there though he was not Prime Minister at that time but was an important national leader and an opposition leader.

[English]

Rajivji was the important leader of this country. But, at that time, I do not know why, the Cabinet Secretary's order was violated. Shri V.P. Singh was the Prime Minister at that time and they had withdrawn this SPG cover.

[Translation]

It is true as pointed out by Shri Paswan, that the SPG Act was passed during the Prime Ministership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi. He said that there could not be SPG provision for a Prime Minister. But the Prime Minister himself cannot ask for providing SPG cover but some one else had to raise this issue because of his being a public figure. Shri Rajiv Gandhi, himself could not say that he should be provided with SPG cover.

[English]

Shri Chidambaram wrote letters to Shri V.P. Singh on 3rd February and on 9th February. Shri George, the Private Secretary to Shri Rajiv Gandhi had also written so many letters about it. They had requested the V.P. Singh Government to reconsider this decision.

[Translation]

But the V.P. Singh Government did nothing. They should have had reconsidered it. Shri Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated for political purposes and it was politically motivated and it was a deliberate attempt. The Government was responsible for it and the Verma Commission has proved the casual attitude of the Government and the Central Government and Tamilnadu Government were responsible for it. After the withdrawal of SPG, Shri Rajiv Gandhi was not provided adequate alternative security. In February he visited Manipur and at that time only one PSO was with him. I have seen it that during election period there was only one or two PSOs with Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Such thing should not happen with other leaders. We have lost Shri Rajiv Gandhi but in future such things should not happen with any other leader. The Verma Commission in its report has also mentioned about the Congress party. We do not want to hide the facts but you are hiding the facts and do not want to dwell on them. In this regard I would like to say that there was communication gap between the congress party and the administration. In every

election it happens that every Party worker want too invite party leader to his constituency but the worker cannot kill him. The opposition parties should think over this fact. No Congressman is responsible for the murder of Shri Rajiv Gandhi. It is a lapse on the part of administration. If there was some intelligence report about the assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi then why that fact was not brought into the notice of the Administration. I would like to ask the hon. Home Minister that when there was Intelligence reports that the venue was not safe to hold a meeting then why the Administration did not take responsibility. It should have taken the responsibility. How the party workers were responsible for that How they could think of arms, human bomb or any explosion. No party worker can commit such crime, only anti-social element can do it. It is the duty of the Administration to check such things. This happened because of Communication gap and that is why we are distressed over this incident. It is not correct that any congress worker was involved in it but it is true that the decision of the V.P. Singh Government to withdraw SPG cover was not right. The then Central Government and State Government of Tamilnadu were aware of the fact that Shri Rajiv Gandhi would become the Prime Minister and that is why he was made political victim. The Verma Commission has said that it was mentioned by the Cabinet Secretary Shri Pandaey that Shri Sheshan should not be called by the Commission. I would like to submit that after the completion of the discussion in the house, a J.P.C. should be constituted for a detailed discussion on it. A strong action should be taken against the persons who are guilty for that so that such thing may not happen in future. Family members of Shri Rajiv Gandhi also runs a risk, to his life, so proper security arrangements should be made for him. Proper security should be provided to the Prime Minister, opposition leaders, Chief Ministers and other VIPs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: How do we go about now? How much time should we sit today?

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Sir, I want to know one thing. Really speaking, this was not properly know, when the discussion would start.

MR. SPEAKER: No. It was given in the list itself. The time was also given. It was extended. That is all.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: I know that I am not talking about that. I am saying that whether it will not be proper to give opportunities to two former prime Ministers. Two former Prime Ministers' names have been dragged and this is a very sensitive issue; it is a very major issue. Everybody shares the same feeling, the same sadness. It is a national tragedy. But since two former Prime Ministers' names have been dragged in; allegations have been made which are on the records of the Parliament, may I know whether it will not be proper at least to give them opportunities, if they want to say something?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, definitely.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Therefore, my request will be that since they are not present here— whoever wants to speak today, let them— let them have their say tomorrow, if want to.

MR. SPEAKER: That will be done. Mr. Sudhir Ray, how much time do you want? Suppose there is something different you want to say it is all right.

DR. SUDHIR RAY (Burdwan): I will speak for 15 minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: But, you will not repeat the points.

DR. SUDHIR RAY: Why? Everyone will give their points.

MR. SPEAKER: Because, that is the rule. I did not allow Kumari Banerjee to repeat the points.

Mr. Verma, how much time will you take?

SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA (Bhopal): About ten minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. P.G Narayanan, how much will you take?

SHRI P.G Narayanan (Sobichettipalayam): About 15 minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: I would rather have you, Mr. Narayanan speak first.

With in one hour or less than one hour, we will be rising today; and tomorrow, if necessary, we will give chance to other one or two Members; and the Home Minister may reply. Shri Narayanan.

2148 hours

SHRI P G NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): Mr. Speaker, Sir the Verma Commission which inquired into the assassination of former prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has indicted the then Government of Tamilnadu, its officials, the Government of India, the intelligence Bureau and the Congress party workers who had organised the public meeting at Sriperumbudur on May 21, 1991, which had led to the killing in a human bomb blast.

The Verma Commission findings have three elements. They relate to the role and responsibility of the then Government of Tamilnadu for the assassination and of the Centre and the Congress Party which organised the meeting at Sriperumbudur which Rajiv Gandhi was to address.

The proximate cause of the assassination was the lapse of the police force at the venue of the meeting and failure to prevent human bomb access to the target. The then State Government failed to provide the proximate security and the lack of discipline and behavior of Congress

members in the interest of the security of their President was a contributory factor.

The Commission thought that the Tamilnadu police could still have countered this lapse of the Congress Party. Mr. Chidambaram stated, while he was speaking, that suspended police officers were reinstated in December, 1991. When the inquiry reveals that they are not responsible for the lapse, there is no option left with the State Government except to reinstate.

The Verma Commission has reserved its major indictment for the Centre. Tamil Nadu where the assassination took place was under president's Rule. Therefore, the Centre has a larger responsibility in the matter because VIPs targeted by terrorist groups have to be protected within India and abroad by the Centre. But the Centre's response in the context spelt out in the memorandum of action taken on the Verma Commission's report, is surprising in the least. The Centre only partially shares the Commission's view that it has a higher responsibility during President's Rule in a State but such enhanced responsibility/interaction is limited to policy, budget and legislative matters. The Ministry of Home Affairs had claimed that it is not involved in the day-to-day administration of which the VIP security forms a part.

The Centre has contended that the Intelligence Bureau has not withheld any intelligence which was available to it concerning Rajiv Gandhi's security from the Tamil nadu Government or police. One such report of the Cabinet Secretariat on 9th December 1989 had said that there was a continuing need to provide effective protection to Rajiv Gandhi and his family in view of the threat from Tamil militants and others. The Commission also inferred that the message from the Cabinet Secretariat's reports and other intelligence inputs admitted by the IB was that the attempt on Rajiv Gandhi in Tamil Nadu by Tamil militants was imminent. But the documents made available to the Commission establishes that the Center's perception of the threat to Rajiv Gandhi was defective. Earlier,

there was a report about LTTE threat to Congress and Janata Dal leaders hailing from the South and to protected persons from Tamil Nadu. There was not slightest anticipation of any threat to Rajiv Gandhi.

The Tamil nadu police, however, seemed to have a better anticipation. As soon as Rajiv Gandhi's programme to visit Tamil Nadu was announced, the security arrangements ordered by the DIG CID to the concerned Superintendents of Police referred to the threat the VIP faced as of high order. The IB at various times had altered the Tamil Nadu police that Rajiv Gandhi was at the top the hit list of LTTE and Punjab terrorists and he needed the maximum security umbrella, since the SPG cover had been withdrawn after his stepping down as prime Minister. However, necessary back-up measures, following the maximum alert, have not been taken by the IB and particularly by the Central Government, as Tamil Nadu was under the President's rule in May, 1991. But the Central Government had glossed over the failure on its part by saying that the procedures laid down in the Yellow Book were adequate but their faulty implementation led to the tragedy.

The Centre definitely has failed to discharge its obligation of greater interaction and direction to the Tamil Nadu Government during the President's Rule in force in the State for Shri Gandhi's security in spite of the very high threat to him in Tamil Nadu. This was made known to Tamil Nadu Government by its intelligence agencies and the Cabinet Secretariat. This was a contributory lapse.

If the Tamil Nadu Police had anticipated a threat to Rajiv Gandhi and taken every precaution, then what failed? It is not the withdrawal of the SPG cover for Shri Rajiv Gandhi or the failure to provide an alternative which the Centre has to account for instead of blaming the lapse on the Tamil Nadu Government—that has resulted in this incident. Such a cover could have helped against a frontal attack like from bullets or bombs or grenades aimed at the target.

What made Shri Rajiv's assassination possible was the method and the device used beyond all methods. The assassin's access to the target owes itself to a failure at the spot. The lapse is not entirely that of the Tamil Nadu police. It is partly the failure of the Congress organisers to regulate the behaviour of their members where security of their leaders are involved. Failure of the Congress workers to comply with the security requirements was all too obvious at Sriperumbudur.

Now, I would like to touch the role and responsibility on the part of the Congress Party and the observations of the Commission on the Congress functionaries in Tamil Nadu. It is evident from the observations of the Commission that the Congress Party workers and organisers at the venue of the meeting did not extend the required cooperation to the police and created impediments in making proper security arrangements for Shri Rajiv Gandhi, particularly, in ensuring strict control in his proximity. This is evident from the Report at page 53, para 11.07. I would like to quote the relevant portion to corroborate the other evidence to this effect. I quote:

"This is significant on account of the police officers' case that this announcement at about 10.00 p.m. had the consequence of persons rushing near the red carpet towards left of the rostrum from all sides since A.J. Doss announced that those who wanted to garland Shri Rajiv Gandhi should come to that side; and this confusion facilitated entry into that area of unauthorised persons including the human bomb without any security check."

One could infer from the Report that Congressmen and the Party's Lok Sabha candidate from Sriperumbudur Maragatham Chandrasekhar, exhibited a total lack of aware-

ness of their obligation to cooperate with the police force and to facilitate them in their task of providing security to Shri Gandhi. The Congressmen did not even exhibit the kind of discipline and behavior it was reasonable to expect from them.

in the interest of the security of their party President when the high threat to him was known generally to everyone. The Commission itself observed that this was a lapse on the part of the Congress functionaries in Tamil Nadu even though by exercise of reasonable foresight and the power available to the police force, it could have effectively countered to some. The Congress candidate from the constituency who did not think that it was necessary to associate with the Tamil Nadu Congress Chief Shri Ramamurthy and the volunteers at his disposal in all respects. This will be clearly evident from the findings of the Commission. Here I would like to quote the relevant portions from the Commission's findings to show how they were non-cooperative to each other:

I quote from page 77, para 15.02:

".....It appears from the evidence and is not disputed that there was not involvement of TNCC(I) President K. Ramamurthy or any of its office-bearers in the arrangements Damodaran, a nominee of TNCC(I) President, appears to have gone to Sriperumbudur." ".....A.J. Doss was appointed by Shrimati M. Chandrasekhar as the Chief Organiser. Damodaran being unwelcome at Sriperumbudur, returned to apprise the TNCC(I) President and mentioned the unsuitability of the venue of the meeting chosen by the candidate."

".....Apparently, K. Ramamurthy did not hesitate to take necessary action and firmly overruled M. Chandrasekhar in respect of a part of the arrangements made by her. However, apart from this

action by the TNCC(I) President, he did not involve himself in any part of the arrangement in spite of being told that the arrangements for the meeting were unsatisfactory".....

It has been observed further that K. Ramamurthy, the TNCC(I) President being himself highly threatened is a protected person of 'Z' category. It is reasonable to assume that he had knowledge and awareness of the security risk of Rajiv Gandhi generally if not in minute detail. It was, therefore, his primary responsibility for making the arrangement in the meetings of Rajiv Gandhi in Tamil Nadu. This discloses lack of awareness and proper perception in the TNCC(I) President K. Ramamurthy about the need of stringent security for Rajiv Gandhi. It was also his duty to see that the partymen behave in an orderly manner and facilitate observance of security norms which they failed to do so.

Sir, there are certain other facts which emerge from the evidence are:

(1) Lack of coordination between the candidate and the TNCC(I) President K. Ramamurthy;

The Congressmen's main concern was only to encash Rajiv Gandhi's visit to improve the election prospects, not bothering about his security needs.

(2) No senior Congress (I) leader other than the candidate visited the site and the candidate was concerned primarily with the gathering at the meeting alone;

(3) One of the main failures which contributed to ineffective access was erection of single barricades and that too inadequate in front of the rostrum and no barricades behind the rostrum. For the erection of barricades, it was learnt that sufficient materials and the manpower were not available at the state. When local prominent leaders, including AIADMK Party Member Mr. Murthy came forward to erect double barricade

and ready to provide materials, the Congress (I) Leaders refused to accept the same.

This has created general disorder throughout. It is therefore necessary that some guidelines/code of discipline should be framed to be followed by partymen/organisers on such occasions where VIPs are to Participate.

As regards the SPG cover, one of the excuses given to the Verma Commission for the withdrawal of SPG cover was "inadequacy of strength of SPG". Then why is it that in April 1990 so many SPG officers who had worked with Rajiv Gandhi were posted out of the cadre to join in far-flung parts of India. And how was it then suddenly possible after the assassination for the SPG to provide protection not just to one ex-Prime Minister but to two and their proximate families, as well as to Rajiv's family?

The Commission's conclusions on Pages 80 to 85, especially paras dealing with the SPG are clear proof that once SPG cover was withdrawn on 30 January, 1990 against the protests of the Congress Party and overturning a decision of 4th December, 1989 to continue the cover, It was very clear from that there was failure of the Central Government to provide to Rajiv a suitable alternative cover even after announcement of general elections accentuating the threat to him.

Rajiv Gandhi was the most threatened person in the country as Prime Minister and this threat to him remained unreduced till his assassination. We have learnt a lesson from this tragedy. Even after this, the SPG cover was denied to him and his family members. Providing security for persons who are highly threatened by virtue to their official functions performed with dedication would be coterminous with their occupancy of the office they hold in this age of growing terrorism and would be a disincentive to many to work with devotion which is not conducive to the nation's welfare and progress.

[Sh. P.G. Narayanan]

Lessons of Rajiv Gandhi's assassination are not learnt properly even thereafter which indicates absence of mechanism to ensure learning from the experience of past mistakes. In fact, the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Dr. Puratchithalaivi is waging a war against the LTTE to wipe them out completely in spite of her being in the top hit list of LTTE militants. It is, therefore, in the fitness of things, necessary to strengthen the security measures including the aerial security. I hope and trust that the Government of India must cooperate in her attempt to wipe out LTTE completely and see that VIPs who are on the hit list of terrorists are given proper security so that tragedies like Sriperumbudur cannot recur.

DR. SUDHIR RAY (Burdwan) : It is with deep sense of sorrow that I participate in this debate. I fully sympathise with Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar and Shri P Chidambaram whose speeches were full of high emotions. But they have overlooked the finding of the Verma Commission and they are insisting only on one aspect that is withdrawal of the SPG. The Verma Commission has submitted their report. He said that this assassination would be avoided if the Tamil Nadu Government and the Government of India fulfilled their duty.

He indicted the Tamil Nadu Government for its role and dereliction of duty. The Tamil Nadu Government should have been alive to this security problem because Tamil Nadu became a safe heaven for the LTTE elements.

As you all know that LTTE received patronage and blessings of both AIADMK and the Congress Party. But after the Rajiv-Jayavardane pact, LTTE became very much dissatisfied with our Prime Minister and they took every opportunity to discredit him and to malign him. Therefore, it was the duty of the Tamil Nadu Administration and the Tamil Nadu Police to give him proper security cover. But they did not do that.

There were lacunae in the arrangements because the area was not properly guarded and people were coming and going. There was complete chaos and anarchy in the meeting place.

The Government of India also had a share of guilt because the Government of India, especially the Intelligence Bureau, the Ministry of Home Affairs did not properly interact with the State Administration. They did not give all the news to the State Administration. In this connection, I should say, as Shri Guman Mal Lodha and Shri Ram Vilas Paswan said, that the Government at that time was not of Shri VP Singh's Government but it was the Government of Shri Chandra Shekhar who was brought up by the Congress Party. It was a proxy Government of the Congress Party. It is known to everyone that Congress Party assured him of at least one year's tenure therefore, if there was any security lapse or any lapse on the part of the Central Government, they cannot blame Shri V.P. Singh because it was a proxy Government of the Congress party.

Mr. Justice Verma blamed the Congress party. We all know this and whenever we tell this, the Congress party says that their party is like River Ganga, everyone comes through it. It is like a Kumbh Mela. But what was the situation in that meeting.

My other friends read from the report, so I need not report those arguments. But anyway there was no discipline. There was complete chaos there in the meeting. I hope the Home Minister would answer my points.

I am told that Shri Rajiv Gandhi was to hold his meetings at Moradabad, Bareilly and Rampur on the 21st of May. Why those meetings were canceled? Why did he go to Tamil Nadu? When there was a high security risk, when there was extreme risk to his person, why the Administration, the Police force, the Intelligence Bureau allowed, at the last moment, his engagements to be canceled and he was rushed to Tamil Nadu? The Congressmen behaved in a most

indisciplined way and I must say when this sad assassination took place, what was the record of the Congress party. In various States, in the name of protest meetings they set fire to opposition houses. They threatened many opposition leaders. In my State a Congress journalist published an article accusing Shri Jyoti Basu and Shri V. P. Singh for hatching a conspiracy for the Rajiv Gandhi's murder. This is actually the case.

MR. SPEAKER : Why do you bring Shri Jyoti basu's name? It is not mentioned in the report, not in the Commission's report. (*Inter-ruption*)

DR. SUDHIR ROY: A Congress journalist had said so. Therefore, I would request the Home Minister to arrange security, to arrange security measures in a leakproof way. Not only that, the forces of destabilisation are very much strong in India now. Every where they are raising their ugly heads. Only a few days ago there were some incidents in Manipur and Kashmir is burning. Pakistan is raising a low proxy war.

Therefore, we want that we must be alive to the situation. Our Congress friends have a lot of respect for Shri Chidambaram and Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar. They only stressed on one point, that is, the withdrawal of SPG cover.

MR. SPEAKER : All these points have already been covered, it is not necessary to repeat them.

DR. SUDHIR ROY: I am just reading from the report of the Verma Commission, page 107, paragraph 2:

" (2) Whether the assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi could have been averted and whether there were lapses or dereliction of duty in this regard on the part of any of the individuals responsible for his security.

Answer: Yes. The assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi could have been

averted but for the lapses or dereliction of duty of the Tamil Nadu police force which constituted the prominent cause.

There were lapses and dereliction of duty of the Tamil Nadu police force and consequently of the Government of Tamil Nadu; of the I.B., M.H.A.,"

MR. SPEAKER: It is not necessary to read these things because it is laid on the Table. You just say that that paragraph may be referred to.

DR. SUDHIR RAY: Paragraph 16, summarising the conclusions is relevant, mentioning that the Congress party organisers of the meeting had specifically failed.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA (Bhopal): The august house has listened to the speeches of two hon. Members Shri Aiyar and Shri Chidambaram. They have mentioned that how laboriously they have prepared the draft of NSG Act. They have had closed door deliberations for three days to formulate this Act. Sometimes, it also appears from their speeches that perhaps they have also done some field work to assess the implementation of their scheme. It is one aspect of the picture that recently they have formulated a scheme and have also seen the successful implementation of that scheme. For that they deserve all praise. But there is other side of the picture also and that relates to those persons who are practically involved in maintaining law and order and making security arrangements.

I have got an opportunity to make security arrangement for four times when pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru was the prime Minister. It was a coincidence that when I was District Collector, pt. Nehru visited my district for four times. People like me who have practical experience of security arrangements know the pulls and pressures

[Sh. Sushil Chandra Verma]

and burden of responsibility faced by the District magistrates. Before I dwell upon the Special force, I would like to tell you about my own experience in this regard. I would like to tell you about the coming time in the eyes of an Administrator.

It is being said by the Congress party that at the time of Tamilnadu visit of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, they emphasised on proper security arrangement but that could not be done. But there is practical difficulty in it. I, myself, realise it when I was Collector in Raipur in 1962 and Pt. Nehru came on a visit to Raipur. I was responsible for the security arrangements. Dr. Kailash Nath Katjhw was our Chief Minister. When I was making arrangements for dias etc., Congress workers objected to it and said that it was their election meeting and they would do whatever they like and asked me not to interfere in their matters otherwise they would make allegations against me for working against the party interest. Anyhow, I did not have much experience by that time because it was my first charge so I could not act so strictly as I should have. As a result of it, disorder prevailed there. When Pt. Nehru came down from the dias he was surrounded by the people and the Chief Minister Dr. Kailash Nath Katju anyhow reached to his car but lost his glasses in the crowd. I was very much ashamed of the mismanagement and wrote a letter to the Chief Secretary that I could not make arrangements for the Prime Minister according to the blue book and hence if he desired he could transfer me. He had full faith in me and did not transfer me from there. After one year Pt. Nehru again visited Raipur at the time of Chinese aggression. At that time I did not listen to any one and our arrangement was excellent.

What I want to say is that if the District Administration acts strictly, he face the pulls and pressures. The Verma Commission has also referred to the recent visit of our Prime Minister from Bhopal to Vidisha and there was also disorder because it was a party meeting and

the worker insisted that their Prime Minister was coming and it was their function so the administration should not interfere in it. All these things have to be understood. The party workers should make their political leaders aware of the possible risks but if it is expected from the district administration that it would face all threats at its own, that would be very difficult task.

District Administration do succeeds at some places in keeping the party workers at bay. From the assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi in South no lessons seems to have been learnt as is evident from the disturbing scenes witnessed during the visit of the Hon. Prime Minister this year or last year. Shri Chidambaram while dwelling on such incidents was clearly at pains in view of the security arrangements being made during such visit.

I would like to submit that from my own experience I have got every doubt whether raising of Special Force by the Centre to provide effective security cover to the Hon. Prime Minister or other persons will be a successful exercise. This sort of thinking is somewhat new in India and no such thing was ever witnessed in the past, not even during the rule of the Britishers. Four times I was in charge of the security arrangements for the visits of Nehru Ji, Mr. Handoo and later on Rustam ji, used to visit the districts just one or two days in advance and also used to give suggestions very humbly as follows

[English]

“May I suggest such and such things? Would you consider such and such change?”

[Translation]

They were not used to issuing direction to the District Magistrates. Shri Chidambaram informed us that an Assistant Director of NSG has been empowered to issue directions. It is nice that the said official did not visit my district during my service period otherwise he would

have been the first to be arrested by me. In my work nobody was allowed to intervene whether he belonged to any Central Force or any other organisation. Maintenance of law and order is the responsibility of the State Governments and the Central Government must understand that by raising the strength of the Central Forces effective security cover cannot be provided to the Prime Minister. This responsibility should be thrust on to the State Governments. For providing effective security cover to the prime Minister and other VIPs the State Governments must be trusted upon by the Centre.

Mr., Speaker, Sir., difficult times are ahead. There is a serious threat to the security of the Prime Minister other leaders and VIPs in the days to come. There are number of incidents of assassination in the history of world and that of India the World has witnessed many assassinations. Abraham Lincoln was assassinated for advocating the cause of slavery. Leavers in India also pursue some missions. If the people do not approve of their missions then they also might be assassinated. Martin Luther King was killed in USA for demanding equality of rights for all and ending exploitation. For many reasons such incidents do take place. Example of South Korea is before us. For vested interests Interior Minister of President Park shot from behind the President and his wife after inviting them to a dinner. Interior Minister shot the President to become President of South Korea due to internal power struggle in the party. This way criminalisation of politics is being witnessed. Liquidate the person who is not to the liking. Even in elections if defeat is not ensured then shoot the prospective candidate because defeat through ballot is not possible all the times. In the times to come India will face a grave situation.

Sir. I put in 33 years in IAS from Collector to Chief Secretary and for 4 years was posted in Delhi as Secretary and I also witnessed the security arrangements being made for all these years. On the basis of experience I can say that we must be on the alert. Microlight flights, as reported by the newspapers, are also a grave

threat. What will happen if through microlight aircrafts explosives are dropped on the houses of the VIPs. Everyday new weapons are being invented in the world. These weapons are being made available for 40 to 50 thousand rupees in the market. I read in the 'Time' magazine that all these weapons are being manufactured in Peshawar. After Afgan war when the arms manufacturers were asked about the future sales they answered that their arms will be in great demand in India. Shoulder missies can be fired through these missiles. Situation on the border is also a cause of worry. Old perspectives regarding defence of the country will not hold us in good stead and mere organisation of Armed Forces cannot win wars for India. Example of Gulf war is before all of us. We must think about state of the art technologies and latest weapons in new perspective, because on one side 250 persons are being killed and on the other side 2,50,000 persons are being killed. If old practices are done away with and NSC and Central Forces are being depended upon for the security of the Prime Minister then the State Governments will stop taking interest in the matter.

The State Government can definitely cooperate with the Centre. Otherwise it is quite possible that the State Government might turn hostile against the Centre. A right deploy Central Forces and the States will withdraw their own Forces. Mere deployment of 300 to 400 security personnel sent by the Centre cannot provide effective security cover to the prime Minister. How can the Centre know the exact figure of security personnel deployed during the visits of the Prime Minister. I know the arrangements used to be made by the State when I was Chief Secretary and Collector. The Centre thinks that by merely sending 100 to 200 security personnel effective security cover can be provided to the Prime Minister. The State Governments have got whole of paraphernalia for the purpose only through this, effective Security cover can be provided. We must have a new approach regarding security. There is no need for deploying one or two shadow cover security personnel. If somebody vows to kill anyone then no power can

[Sh. Sushil Chandra Verma]

provide effective security cover. Why is the Government spending so much money on security? What is the use of deploying 100 personnel instead of one and spending? Can all this provide effective security cover?

Sir, this is the reason why I did not refer to the report in my submission and did only dwell on the background. I apprised the House of my experiences as an Administrator. I will feel obliged if the Home Ministry ponders over these things

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I think we can rise now and meet tomorrow. Tomorrow the Home Minister may reply and if one or two Members, against whom something has been said, want to(Interruption)

SHRI A. CHARLES: Sir Give me five minutes please.....(Interruption) Sir, it will be unfair if we are not given five minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you going to make any new points?

SHRI A. CHARLES: Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: You do one thing, you write down on a piece of paper and give it to me. If there are any new points, I will give you the time.

SHRI A. CHARLES: I shall just mention points. Sir. I shall be making two points which have not been mentioned by anybody.

MR. SPEAKER: We do feel certain things. We have our emotions and this is a very sensitive issue. I can realise that. But let us not make it a ritual please.

SHRI A. CHARLES: Not at all, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: But if you have any new points give them to me in writing one, two three. I will just consider them and give you the time.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): You fix the time limit, we will not cross that limit, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: If that is to be there, then I give you five minutes each.

SHRI A. CHARLES: Sir, it is with the greatest feeling of sorrow and agony that I stand to participate in this debate. There are moments in the life of a person when he find it extremely difficult to give vent to the feelings. In my life, this is one such occasion. The main conclusions and recommendations of the Commission have been very ably presented here. I am not going to refer to them. But one point not so far touched, I am trying to bring to the notice of this august House. Para 14.23 says and I quote:

It appears that the I.B. and also the M.H.A. did not feel comfortable at the withdrawal of S.P.G. cover to Rajiv Gandhi without provision to him of suitable alternative for proximate security, in spite of the threat to him continuing unreduced."

Para 14.24 says:.....(Interruption).

MR. SPEAKER: Please, Mr. Charles, it will take time. Please make your points.

SHRI A. CHARLES: Just one minute, Sir. This has not been mentioned by anybody. Para 14.24 says:

"The Commission is left with the impression that the DIB. M.K. Narayanan, was not satisfied with the security arrangements for Rajiv Gandhi and was apprehensive about his safety but for some undisclosed reason, he was ineffective and has chosen to maintain silence

[Sh. A. Charles]

even now. If this impression of the Commission be correct, such disability in the holder of a high office is disturbing and its cause needs to be discovered and eradicated for the health of the polity."

I feel that some sort of a conspiracy is being poised here. I shall plead with the Home Minister to look into this particular aspect as to why such an officer of high standing was unable to disclose whatever he knew, even before such a Commission.

One more point I shall just bring to your notice and I shall conclude. Rajiv Gandhi was not a person who was after any office. I quote the first sentence of Chapter I:

"Rajiv Gandhi was a reluctant entrant in politics on the sudden death in aircraft of his politician brother Sanjay Gandhi, at the behest of his mother, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, in 1980."

Sir, at a time of one of the greatest crisis of the country, just to console his mother, just to give some sort of a security to his mother, just to give some sort of a security to this country, Rajiv Gandhi entered into politics and quite unfortunately, in so short a time, he lost his bellowed mother and there was no one to lead the country and he was chosen unanimously. All over the world he has been hailed as one of the most charming Prime Ministers of the world. That became one of his greatest handicaps.

It was not only the lapse of the security given to him, but it was the situation that has been created by the anti-Rajiv forces and anti-congress forces that contributed to the whole thing. Sir,

Rajiv was the most reluctant man to come to politics. He was a noble and innocent man, he was brought to politics, inhumanly disgraced

and brutally assassinated. I am sure history will not forgive these dark force. History is past politics and all the political exercise now is going to be the history of tomorrow. I am sure the dark forces that contributed to his assassination will not go unavenged. I do not want to give the name, I do not want to enter into controversy on such a very emotional issue. But whoever is responsible for his assassination will have to stand for judgement.

Rajivji is no more, but he is in our hearts. The light he had lit, I am sure, will lead the country for many more years. Unfortunately all those whom he believed had betrayed him, I still remember one of his dearest friends whom he totally believed and he betrayed him. It is these dark forces that created an atmosphere of insecurity wherein any harm could be done to him. I would request the Members on the other side to search their hearths and find out the circumstances that led to his cruel assassination and how far they themselves were responsible for it. Here I will just narrate a moving story. Ibycus was a lyrical poet of Greece and he was the most loved person in Greece. It was the time of Olympic games. He was supposed to inaugurate the Olympic games. In those days there were no vehicles and he had to pass through a wood walking. On the way he was waylaid by robbers and he was about to be killed. He pleaded with them that he was Ibycus and he should not be killed. But the robbers did not recognise him. Finally, when he was about to be killed, he saw a group of doves soaring in the sky. Since there was nobody else there, he just pleaded with the doves that they should take vengeance on the robbers.

The robbers killed him. Thereafter they went to the Olympic games. When they were watching the games, they saw the group of doves in the sky. One of the robbers incidentally made a remark "Lo! There the avengers of Ibycus! People who were waiting for Ibycus were embarrassed to hear this. They realised that there was something wrong. So, these persons were caught. They were questioned and the whole

[Sh. A. Charles]

incident was brought to light and the murderers were punished. The dark forces who were responsible for the assassination of an innocent person, I am sure, will not go scot free. They will have to stand for judgment one day and that will be the day when justice will be meted out.

With all the agony in my heart, I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had made up my mind that how I would speak tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Every time you send a chat at the end of the discussion and therefore, I usually have to provide you time for speaking. Please express your views in brief.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are no two opinions about the sentiments expressed either in this august House or in the country on the assassination of the former Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi. So far as the issue of assassination is concerned, some of my colleagues have referred to certain acts of assassination. First Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated. I came out of jail on the 15th August, 1947 and soon after a few days I was again arrested. On the 20th January, 1948 a bomb was thrown on him by one Madan Lal and on the 30th January, he was assassinated. At that very time I thought that a new danger has emerged in the country. During the rule of the followers of Gandhi he was assassinated in Delhi. Thereafter I came out again from the walls, of the jail along with a thought that the country is faced with a new danger.

In the light of the recurrence of killings, I would like to state only this much that the security arrangements for the prime Minister is satisfactory. Two former prime Ministers Shri

V.P. Singh and Shri Chandra Shekhar are present here. In the opinion of the Government their security arrangements are also satisfactory. Would the hon. Minister of Home Affairs like to reply whether security arrangements would be provided for them in future also? I want to submit one thing more in response to the discussion on assassinations. One of the hon. Ministers of the Cabinet of the Government of India Shri Lalit Narayan Mishra was assassinated on January 2, 1974. We were together in Patna jail in 1942. It was the conflict of ideas. Many people were killed at that time. His brother, then a State Minister was injured and a D.I.G. was also injured and an M.L.C. was killed. Till date the Government of India has not been able to clarify the facts before the country whether that was really a case of assassination and who was the assassinator or whether the assassination was committed by any sort of magic. The Government of India totally suppressed that news. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs should point out to the country whether its investigation is still going on, because people often ask me such questions. They are of the views that I, being a member of Parliament, should have the information about it. This must be revealed as to who was responsible for it or the Government should accept that the entire Intelligence Agency of the Government of India proved incompetent. That assassination was committed in a broad day light whereas thousands of Congress workers wearing Gandhi caps were present there and moreover a lot of security personnel along with their rifles were also on duty at the spot. Even then Shri L.N. Mishra was killed. Not a single assassinator has been nabbed. His brother Dr. Jagannath Mishra became Chief Minister thrice in Bihar and yet he could not do anything in this regard. The Government should clarify the position in this connection because people are still under the cloud of doubts, I would like that the hon. Minister of Home Affairs should give reply to it

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Is it relevant?

SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV: It is a new point!

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: I would like to repress my thanks for this report because the facts have been presented in a consolidated manner. There is the failure of the Central Government he has to reply to the issue mentioned by Shri Chindambaram. Whatever the intention he might have is immaterial or whatever note had been recorded on the report by the then Cabinet Secretary is also immaterial but the main issue is as to what action has been taken by the Government in response to that note is also in material, Shri Chandra Shekhar had formed the Government at that time with the support of the Congress party. But the support was later on withdrawn. It was the time of elections and nothing was said by the Central Government. The first reply of the hon. Minister of Home Affairs is disappointing. There is nothing as successful as success is and there is nothing failure as a failure is. When a life is lost, we can do nothing except having introspection... (Interruptions) Nobody is at fault. But the State Government should look into it and reveal the truth.... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We are listening you for quite a long and you are talking like this. if you do not have anything to speak you should not speak at all.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: At that time our entire publicity media and all the parties were unanimous that the 'LTTE' is our friend and singapore are our foes.

At that time it was a false propoiganda made through out the country that the Singh alese were our enemies and the LTTE were our friends, and in the light of this false presumption whatever action has been taken by our Government was completely a sin which caused irreparable damage to the country. No God or Allaha can be blamed for this huge loss. We should keep in

mind that such blunders should not be repeated by us in future. The responsibility should be fixed on the then officials of the Government of India, C.B.I. Central Security Department as well as the officers of the Tamil nadu Govt.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: All those have been promoted.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: I do not refer to any individual. Now it has to be seen as to what action is being taken in the matter. The Government should take the country into confidence and internal squabbles, bickerings should be kept aside and security arrangements should be tightened. A statement should also made regarding the murder case of alit Narayan Mishra and what happened to the investigation report.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, today Shri Rajivji is no more with us and we have deep sorrow for it. There are crores of youth in our country who regarded Rajiv-ji as very promising and dynamic personality. They are utterly distressed. Justice Verma has submitted his report regarding the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi. I would like to thank Shri Verma who has given a detailed account of the Rajiv murder case accureately enumerating the details of the reasons behind his assassination, the persons who were on duty at that time, ect. We have to think over the fact as to why 'terrorism' is flourishing all over the world and especially in the SAARC eountries. As shri Chidanbarame explained that first the prime Minister and thereafter the President were assassinated in Sri Lanka. Terrorism is increasing in Pakistan too and our country is also the victim of it. We are discussing this report because we hope that some action would definitely be taken in this direction and such incidents would not occur in future so that our leaders may not face such horrible situation in coming time. Therefore, we have to think over it. But after all the fact remains the fact. The S.P.C. security cover provided for Rajivji was withdrawn. Alternative management was to be made, but that too could not be done, and in the mean-

[Sh. Ramesh Chennithala]

time this tragic incident took place. Some of our friends leveled allegations against the Congress Party. I want to submit that whenever any leader be it Shri Narasimha Rao, Shri Advani or Late Shrimati Gandhi goes for election campaigning, he is surrounded by people. All political leaders should sit together and ensure their safe participation in electioneering. Electioneering is taking place in some States even now. In time to come, it can create a problem for our Prime Minister or the leaders of other political parties also who visit all Constituencies particularly during election campaigning. This factor has been highlighted in the Verma Commission Report with reference to Election Campaigning. Shri Chidambaram has pointed out that the nature of working of our I.B. is purely an advisory and it depends upon the relations between the state Intelligence Agencies and I.B. Whatever our I.B. advises, State Intelligence Agencies follow the instructions; and whatever the information is collected by the State Agencies at grass root level, what action is taken on that by the State Agencies. Do they not apply their mind on it. The flaws in the police system should be removed. People ask us about the findings of the Commission. Today the world is marching ahead fastly. Today terrorism too has crossed the age of sophisticated weapons. The Government should implement properly the suggestions made in the Verma Report. Stringent action should be taken against those found guilty in this case. The Tamil nadu police need not be defended. What was it doing at that time? When people go to hear the speeches of any Congress leader or the Prime Minister what is the need of putting garland around his neck? Be it the I.B. or the RAM, the Police have been entrusted with the security arrangements for such people. They should be set right. They were responsible for laxity in the security arrangements for Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Action should be taken against them so that no other accident takes place in future.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL

(Chandigarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, truth is at times bitter and unpalatable, But it requires a large heart to accept it and admit one's failings Justice Verma Commission of Inquiry has recorded an unimpeachable finding that the decision of the Government of India to withdraw the SPG cover from Shri Rajiv Gandhi was prompted by a lack of proper perception and betrayed the Government's lack of requisite will and the reasons stated by the Government for such a withdrawal was unjustified. The fact that such acts of omission and commission snatched from the nation the true Bharat Ratna, that is, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, should have evoked a response of atonement from the leaders of the Government then. Unfortunately, when I heard our senior colleague Shri Ram Vilas Paswan speak on the subject, I do not know whether he really understood what Shri Chidambaram and Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar had said at all. But I was pained to hear him attribute to his leader things which were not said by us. Nobody has said that any senior leader had a hand in the assassination. With all the agony and pain, all that we wanted to say and still want to say is that proper care was not taken; it was really shameful for the then Government to withdraw the SPG cover.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: By whom?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: By the then Government (*Interruptions*) You have not still heard me. That is the problem with you. It was shameful for the then Government which withdrew the SPG cover to Shri Rajiv Gandhi. It was shameful that nothing was done by the Government to save such a precious life. Sir man does not know how God judges or guides the man he creates. We never know what place in this world he had given to Shri Rajiv Gandhi. But we do know that both historians and analysts will find him fascinating and charming. They will find him a person fired by the zeal to wipe out the tear of every child in the country who may be a victim of poverty, disease, illiteracy, hunger or communal passion. We know certainly that it was Shri Rajiv Gandhi who worked relentlessly for the development of the country and accel-

ated the pace of development of the country. We know that he earned the pride of a place in the international arena. That was the preciousness of that short life. The flower had yet to blossom. But it was our callousness, it was the fallings pointed out so tellingly by the Verma Commission which finally resulted in his death.

Sir, today, we find our friend from the Opposition criticising us. Instead of rising to the occasion to accept the report of the Verma Commission and say this is where they defaulted; this is where they lacked in showing wisdom to provide the necessary security over to Shri Rajiv Gandhi, they critics us. All that I want to say is that for Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the SPG cover was no staus symbol. The Government's own rperception was that his security was vulnerable. The SPG cover was no status symbol for him.

MR. SPEAKER : But nobody has said that

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I heard Shri Ram Vilas Pawan saying that.

MR. SPEAKER : You can leave that.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Kindly permit me. I again heard him saying that nobody from amongst us ever wrote to the Government mentioning that that security was required for him.

In this context, Mr. Chidambaram did not make mention of his own letter. Only a word that Mr. Chidambaram wrote on the 9th of February, 1990, with the constraint of time, I would like to refer. It was not our.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Why not in 1991?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I will come to 1991 also. Let me just refer to 1990 because the genesis lie there. Vide letter Annexure 26 of the Report, Mr. Chidambaram had then written to Shri Bajpai, Secretary (Se-

curity) Cabinet Secretariat. I am quoting:

"I am not satisfied with the alternative arrangement proposed to meet the security requirements for Rajiv Gandhi and his family."

He goes on further to say:

"I am willing to continue the discussions with the Government. But pending such discussions, it is my earnest desire and advice that the present security arrangement provided by the SPG should be continued and no change be brought about unilaterally."

Shri Pawan wanted me to refer to something of 1991. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: The hon. Member is speaking every thing against our Government alone. I want to state that they had themselves supported Shri Chandra Shekhar and only with their support he could be able to form his Government. Why they did not make the Government to restore the S.P.G Since they had supported the Chandra Shekhar Government, they should have asked that Government to restore it. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Bansalji, that point is quite forcefully made by previous speakers.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: He wanted me to refer to some correspondence of 1991. I would refer to just two lines. I would not even refer to all the factors. That letter was written by Shri V. George, Private Secretary to Shri Rajiv Gandhi to the lieutenant Governor, Delhi pointing out as to the Report of I.B. about Shri Rajiv Gandhi' security There is another document is this Report in which the Government of Tamilnadu had written to the Cent-

[Sh. Pawan Kumar Bansal]

Government about the security threats to Shri Rajiv Gandhi from different angles, That was the position in which we were placed. It is not that we are going for a witch-hunting today. it is not that we want any of the leaders to be hanged for what was done. But we do expect from the leaders. to rise now to say, "yes, here we failed." and are guilty of this national shame'

To conclude I would refer once again to what Walt Whitman. said on the death of Mr. Abraham Lincoln . It applies aptly to Rajiv Gandhi

"Oh Captain! my Captain! Our fearful trip is done,

The Ship has weather'ed every rack, the prize we sought is won....

The Ship is anchor'd safe and sound,....

But I with mournful tread

Walk the deck my Captain lies,

Fallen cold and dead."

SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA (Guwahati): Sir, I want to make an appeal to you to remind the House that there is just one step from the grotesque to the horrible. The discussion on the assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, a discussion on the Inquiry Commission about the assassination of a former prime Minister and a national leader. I feel should not be a matter where interests clash. I do not think, that was the intent of the Mover of the Motion also. I do not believe when Shri Aiyar moved a motion, there was even the slightest hint in his assertion when

he was moving the motion that he was accusing somebody and that somebody else should reply. When certain fundamental questions have arisen, it should disturb all of us considering today's and future implications and those should be answered. Unfortunately, I am very sorry to say that it might go to such a level tomorrow when we are asking some others to give answers that it might become a clashing of interest, though the aim was not such as Shri Chidambaram said and it might and as 'an exercise in futility'.

My only humble appeal to you is to ponder over three important questions.

A former prime Minister was assassinated and nobody is punished. A former prime Minister was assassinated and if there are political authorities involved in the decision-making process which might have, even by the slightest doubt, led to the assassination, what can the polity do? What will the polity do? We should give an answer to this . not for today but for tomorrow. This answer has to be given by other political parties too.

And the third and most important point is that the former prime Minister and the leader of the nation cannot be "My Prime Minister" or "My friend". he must be everybody's friend and we must answer those questions from everybody's point of view with a kind of consensus and with a degree of sanity which is expected from all of us.

Thank you.

2300 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, May 14, 1993/ Vaisakha 24, 1915 (Saka)