

and victimised Uttarakhand people by the police and the administration during the movement for a separate state of Uttarakhand in 1994. But many victimised and injured Uttarakhandis were devoid of above compensation and got no assistance at all.

I request the Government to conduct an inquiry into the matter and pay compensation to the next of kin of the killed as well as those injured and really victimised.

[English]

(vii) Need to probe into the airdropping of Arms in Purulia

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO (Purulia) : On 17 December, 1995 a large quantity of lethal weapons was air-dropped by a foreign plane in Khatanga, Gunedih and Baredih Villages of Jhalda Police Station in the district, Purulia, West Bengal. The recovered weapons were AK 47, AK 56, Rocket-launcher, grenade, hand grenade, 9 M.M. revolvers and huge quantity of ammunition. The area is a part of my constituency which I represent now.

I urge upon the Government to take appropriate action in this regard in public interest.

11.44 hrs.

MOTION OF CONFIDENCE IN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

[Translation]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE) : I move :

"That this House expresses its confidence in the Council of Ministers."

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That this House expresses its confidence in the Council of Ministers."

The time allotted for this motion is seven hours. Specific time is allotted to all the political parties. You may kindly check it yourselves because I do not want to repeat that.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Before I move a motion of confidence on the floor of the House, I would like to pay my humble tributes to Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru whose death anniversary is falling today... (Interruptions)

When I was first elected to this House, Pandit Nehru was the Prime Minister of India at that time. I had seen him at work for several years. In those days I used to sit on that side... (Interruptions) I have not forgotten that side even now. But I used to sit far behind because our number was very small. Today, a change has taken place and BJP has gradually increased its strength and influence and thus first became the main opposition party and now it has emerged as the single largest party in this election. This change did not take place all of a sudden. It reflects the changing process of history.

In the elections held recently, the people have given their mandate. It is high time that we ponder over the mandate seriously. We have emerged as the largest party. We should keep in mind the position obtained by other political parties as well... (Interruptions) The Congress party had 260 members in the House when the Lok Sabha was dissolved. Now their number has gone down to 136. This is due to the mandate given by the people. This mandate should be accepted gracefully. It needs some introspection. Their strength has come down to half. The strength of Left Front has also come down from 57 to 52. In West Bengal their strength has dwindled in terms of votes are the Lok Sabha as well as Legislative Assembly seats. Their strength has also gone down in Bihar... (Interruptions) The strength of Janata Dal in the previous Lok Sabha was 56 from Bihar which has been reduced to 44 now.

The BJP contested Lok Sabha elections in Bihar in alliance with Samta Party and it has got massive success. On the other hand the strength of Congress has gone down not only in Lok Sabha but in several other states also where they have lost people's faith. Other parties have formed their Governments in those states. Why this change has taken place? What does it indicate?... (Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVAJI KAMBLE (Usmanabad) : Mr. Speaker, please stop him. If this goes on unabated, then nobody will be in a position to speak... (Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : This should also be noticed that the parties which are united together to express lack of confidence against my Government today, had contested the elections on different planks. They contested against one another... (Interruptions) They contested the election by levelling serious allegations against one another. There was no alliance among these parties before the election... (Interruptions)

SHRI DATTA MAEGHE (Nagpur) : What happened in Punjab.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Even today there is no common programme of these allies. First the Government will be formed and the programme will be devised later on... (Interruptions)