

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We are going to adopt the B.A.C report. Have you got something to say about the B.A.C. report?

SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL (Sikkim) : Sir, I have a different matter to raise.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : It is a zero hour subject.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We have not yet taken up the zero hour.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the reply given by hon. Minister is not satisfactory. Assembly election had already been held but so far the meeting of Legislative Assembly could not be convened.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : That is a different thing.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Now, you may say that it is a different thing but you have linked both the issues. The Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh is not being convened, so it cannot pass any new resolution and thus no measures could be taken to fulfil the promise of Uttranchal. What type of riddle is it? The only way out to this problem is to initiate the process of convening the Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh for passing a fresh resolution on Uttranchal. The Legislative Assembly can be dissolved later on. People of the State have apprehensions that elected Government in U.P. is not being constituted due to some elements in United Front Parties, who are against separate Uttranchal state and they are creating hurdles in it.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, nothing would give me greater pleasure than to see that the Assembly in Uttar Pradesh is convened and assembled...*(Interruptions)* The Governor, with whom I had a long discussion on this matter, was also keen that the Assembly should be called...*(Interruptions)* Just a minute. The legal advice given to us is that the Assembly cannot be called until there is a Chief Minister to advise the Governor to call the Assembly. Who is to call the Assembly?...*(Interruptions)* The Governor cannot do it. On whose advice will he summon the Assembly? The Chief Minister has to advise him.

I would advise Shri Vajpayee, whose party is the single largest party there, to hurry up and get hold of a Chief Minister and then the rest of the process will become very easy...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA (Outer Delhi) : When the Home Ministry is keen and the Governor is keen, why can the Assembly be not called?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South) : The Defence Minister is not keen...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the Ninth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 16th December, 1996."

*The motion was adopted.*

*(Interruptions)*

[English]

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (Tiruchengode) : I want to raise the matter of cyclonic havoc in Tamil Nadu, Sir...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : Sir, Shri Atalji had raised certain issues and one of them was regarding the Reservation for women Bill...*(Interruptions)* Hon'ble Minister has not said anything on this issue. How can it be agreed to...*(Interruptions)* 'Noes' have it, 'Noes' have it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now it has been adopted.

*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHR N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we want to raise the matter of floods in Tamil Nadu.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What do you say?

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : There are floods in Tamil Nadu.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Do you want Zero Hour?

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Yes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will give you a chance. Please take your seats

*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have got the names of all the Members with me. Now you please sit down.

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA (Udhampur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, our about four lakh Kashmiri brethren are at present shelterless and have been rendered as refugees in their own country. Their problems could not be voiced in the House during the entire session. Hence I am grateful to you for having given me the opportunity to speak. These four lakh Kashmiris include Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs who are at present shelterless. Some of them are in Jammu some in Delhi and some of these people are in other cities of the country. The new Government has been formed. The Government has reiterated time and again that these people would be taken back to their home state

We would like to know as to what blue print does the Government have in this regard? I had put a question in the House and I was told that ever since the election were held, only even families have gone back there. These seven families have 21 members who have gone back. However their houses have been destroyed in arsoning. No arrangement has been made for providing education to their children. We are grateful to the Government of Maharashtra for having given their children the opportunity to study by offering them seats in college. Nothing could be more distressing than the fact that the Central Government is not paying any attention towards these four lakh people who are shelterless and refugees in their own country. We have been moved by their plight. In the reply to my question, the Government has stated that only 47 families are living in tents and the rest of the families are living in rented accomodations. The Government is paying Rs. 1500 per family at present. I demand that so long as these people do not return to their homes safely, this amount should be enhanced to at least Rs 3000 per family. Secondly, there should be same facilities for them, such as the facility of education and the facility of employment because the business of many a businessmen have been wrecked. The situation is so critical that the Insurance Companies there are not prepared to submit any report regarding damages caused to their houses in arsoning. The Home Minister is present here. I would request him to apprise us of his views on this heart rending situation and the burning problem being faced by the country. On the very first day, we had raised another matter in the House that the report of the grave tragedy that occurred during the Amarnath Yatra, has been published in all the newspapers but the same has not been presented in the House till date whereas the session is about to come to an end. The Home Minister is present here and I would request him to reply to these two questions. Firstly, what additional facilities are being given to these refugees and whether the Government had made any arrangements to ensure their safe return. If so, what is the blue print thereof? The Government says that it is keen on taking them back to the State. We also want that these people should live in their own houses, safe and secure and with dignity.

[English]

SHRI V.P. SHANMUGA SUNDARAM (Gobichettipalayam) Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to raise an urgent matter to invite the attention of the Government through this august House. The entire State of Tamil Nadu and more particularly the coastal districts have been severely assailed by heavy rains. And flood due to the formation of depression in the Bay of Bengal. The rains are still continuing... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have assured that I would allow you. What more do you want? Please take your seats now.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Home Minister wants to say something. You can speak after him. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will allow all of you.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Sir, the Home Minister is present here. Please ask him to give a statement in the House on these issues... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Home Minister, would you like to say anything in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : Regarding the Enquiry Report on the Amarnath Yatra mishap, I had made an assurance last week also that it would be laid on the Table of the House after it is translated. I think that it must have been translated by now and I would be able to lay it on the Table of the House by tomorrow. As far the second question, it is a very comprehensive question. How can I reply as to what is the blue print of Government? What has been done and what has not been done? Everyone is of the opinion and we too agree that such an atmosphere will have to be created as may help refugees in gaining confidence and muster courage to go back. A lot has to be done. Now that an elected Government is functioning there, we are taking up this work with their consultation.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : You may increase their Grant-in-aid.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI V.P. SHANMUGA SUNDARAM : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to raise an urgent matter to invite the attention of the Government through this august House. The entire State of Tamil Nadu and more particularly coastal districts have been severely assailed by heavy rains and flood due to the formation of depression in the Bay of Bengal. The rains are still continuing.

The normalcy in the State is completely affected. A number of buildings and slums have been damaged and standing crops in thousands of hectares have been submerged in water. More than 98 human lives were lost and thousands of people have lost their properties. The train and road transport services are suspended in many places. The telecommunication system in the State is completely paralysed.

The hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Kalaingar has claimed Rs. 200 crore of financial assistance as interim relief to meet the situation and carry out rescue operations.

In view of this, I would request the Central Government and also the hon. Prime Minister to