

Title: Demanded clarification regarding delay in presenting the Subramaniam Committee Report on Kargil.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Today is the 22nd December. We are left with only one day, that is tomorrow, to discuss important issues of this country.

Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government and point out that the entire nation irrespective of caste, creed or religion stood by the Government like a rock in the hour of crisis when our brave jawans tried to defend the country in Kargil. The entire nation, the Government and all the political parties paid tributes to the jawans of the Armed Forces, Air Forces, Paramilitary Forces and the Civilians, who laid down their lives in Kargil.

Soon after Gen. Pervez Musharraf took over Pakistan, he has been constantly, directly or indirectly, threatening the border, and several incidents took place. Our jawans laid down their lives again in the hands of the intruders who were all backed by Pakistan.

Sir, a solemn assurance has been given by the Government, by no less than the Prime Minister himself, that if there is any lapse on the part of Intelligence, as reported in the media, in various quarters would be looked into by a Committee headed by Shri Subramaniam. It was reported in the media that Shri Subramaniam called on the Prime Minister before this Session began. It is not known whether he met the Prime Minister with the report or without the report. But it was reported that by the 15th December, the Report would be placed before the Government and the Parliament would have an access to discuss this matter. The nation has a right to know as to what causes the delay in presenting this Report. The Parliament Session would be over tomorrow and we are proceeding to the next millennium soon.

It is important because of the grave threat of Pakistan. If there are any shortcomings on the part of Intelligence or on any front, the morale of the Army should be kept aloft. The Government should be in a position, with the confidence of the entire House, to respond to those shortcomings so that in future if any repercussion takes place, the country understands the position, the Army understand the position, and the Air Force understand the position, and an integrated kind of coordination on the matter of Intelligence is further ensured.

Sir, I wrote a letter to the Chief Executive Officer of Prasar Bharati to get a verbatim copy of the news cast on the 23rd November by Doordarshan that the Report has already been presented. Finally, it was found that the Report has not been presented. So, I asked the CEO to give me the verbatim copy of that. Till today, I have not been favoured with that.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, it is a very important matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Sixty-six names are there with me. Please conclude.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I will conclude within a minute.

It was reported that before submitting the Report on the Kargil issue, Shri Subramaniam met the hon. Prime Minister. We do not question the integrity of the hon. Prime Minister. He is the Leader of this House and he is the Prime Minister. But the propriety demands that before completing such Report, normally the Head of the Committee does not go and confer either with the Prime Minister or with the Defence Minister. It so happened that he called on the Prime Minister. This was reported in the newspapers and it was not contradicted by the spokesman of the Government. It was further reported that by the 15th December, the Report would be handed over to the Government. Today is the 22nd December. I would like to know from the Government the exact position, what has been reported is correct or not, and also when this country will know the findings of the Committee because the nation is anxious to know about it because of the grave threat from Pakistan once again. I know that the Defence Minister will reply, 'Everything will be ready. We are proud of our Army, we are proud of our Air Force, we are proud of our Paramilitary Forces because it is they who sacrifice their lives once again.'" We frame the policy only but it is they who sacrifice their lives and they are the martyrs. We salute them.

In order to keep their morale high in future, the nation demands that the Report should be placed as quickly as possible. It is unfortunate that the Government could not bring the Report till now.

MR. SPEAKER: The Chair has just now made an observation both to the Members of the Treasury Benches and also the Opposition to address the Chair and not to the Members because it is creating problems.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I have only addressed the Chair.

It is not that I do this. I only addressed you. I always address you, Sir.

"> SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Sir, I also associate with what he has said.

">MR. SPEAKER: All right, you can also associate with him.