

SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

[English]

14.06 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: REPRESENTATION OF THE  
PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE - LAID

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): Sir, I beg to lay on the table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by the Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 2002.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 6046/2002]

[English]

14.07 hrs.

\*STATEMENT BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER  
RE: ATTACK ON RAGHUNATH MANDIR, JAMMU

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, terrorist groups being mentored from across the International Border/Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir have struck once again -- this time on the famous Raghunath Temple of Jammu. These terrorists have demonstrated their total lack of concern for the overwhelming yearning for peace demonstrated by the people of Jammu and Kashmir when they braved violence and exercised their right of vote in the recent Legislative Assembly elections. The terrorists have simultaneously shown their disdain for international opinion and the efforts of various countries which have been trying to apply moral and diplomatic pressure to end cross-border terrorism in India.

In the last three days, there have been a series of attacks by terrorists, chief among which were a suicidal attack in CRPF camp at Pamposh Hotel Complex, Srinagar on 22nd November and targeting the Jammu-bound Army convoy through an IED near Jawahar Tunnel on 23rd November. These and the present attack on Raghunath Temple makes one speculate whether it is a mere coincidence that this spate of terrorist incidents has occurred just when the process of Government formation has been completed in Pakistan. The spurt of violence also follows the release by Government of Pakistan of the Chief of LeT; Hafiz Mohammad Sayeed. After his release, he vowed to continue the "Jehad" in Jammu and Kashmir and gave a

\* (Also placed in Library. See No. LT. 6047/2002)

public call to step up terrorist violence in Jammu and Kashmir.

Monitoring of the communication network of terrorists indicates that the Jammu attack is the handiwork of Al Mansooran which is a cover organisation of the Lashkar-e-Toiba.

The present incident has been aimed at innocent civilians at a public place of worship. Earlier in March this year also, the terrorists had carried out an attack on the Temple in which five persons were killed. The three terrorists responsible for that assault were also eliminated.

According to reports, late on Sunday evening, two terrorists appeared at Raghunath Mandir Chowk, Jammu. One of them forced entry into the Mandir Complex and hurled grenades, thereby creating panic in the area. People started running helter skelter. Taking advantage of the situation, the terrorists mingled with the crowd and entered Raghunath Mandir. When confronted by a CRPF constable, the terrorists opened indiscriminate fire, killing him on the spot and causing casualties to a number of others including civilians. However, the Pujaris managed to close the sanctum sanctorum, forcing one of the terrorists to take shelter on the periphery of the sanctum sanctorum. The CRPF personnel guarding the temple laid a cordon to prevent the escape of this terrorist. The operation at Raghunath Temple had culminated with the elimination of the terrorist hiding in the Mandir late on 24th November evening.

At the same time, the second terrorist escaped in the melee towards Panjbakhter Road, opened fire and lobbed grenades. This place is located just a few hundred metres away from Raghunath Temple where another Shiv Mandir called *Rupaya Wala Mandir* is located. Alert JKP personnel closed the doors of the Shiv Temple, preventing entry of the terrorist. The terrorist resorted to firing from a congested area adjoining this *Shiv Mandir*. The area was then cordoned off and this terrorist was killed this morning (25th November).

The State Government has intimated that at the time of the earlier terrorist attack on the Raghunath Mandir in March, 2002, the complex was guarded by 2/8 Guard of SSB personnel, besides local police for frisking etc., which was subsequently replaced by one platoon of CRPF. This was further augmented by deploying one section each of CRPF at Raghunath Chowk and Hari Market entry points of the temple. In addition, local police are deployed also at various check points in and around the temple.

In this terrorist attack on 24th November, 12 persons including one policeman, one CRPF *jawan* and one militant

were killed. Around 52 persons sustained injuries. One more injury to a Deputy SP occurred in the Shiv Mandir incident today (25th November) when the second terrorist was killed.

Today (25th November) morning, His Excellency the Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, hon. the Chief Minister accompanied by the Deputy Chief Minister and senior officers visited the encounter site and the hospital and took stock of the situation. Hon. the Chief Minister also took a meeting with senior police officials yesterday to take further measures for strengthening security in the State particularly in the Jammu region. A meeting of prominent citizens is also being held by the hon. Chief Minister at Jammu to seek co-operation of people in fighting terrorism in the State.

As a precautionary measure curfew has been imposed in Jammu town.

Government has also sent a team including, Shri I.D. Swami, Minister of State for Home and Director General, CRPF to Jammu today.

The above incident is part of a deliberate design to create a communal divide in J&K. The people of the State, we are sure, will defeat these designs.

Government remains committed to provide all assistance to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir in its fight against terrorism.

May I ask all Members of the House to join me in strongly condemning the incident and those responsible for it and also in offering condolences to the families of those killed in the incident and in reiterating the country's resolve to take all possible steps to combat and to defeat the scourge of cross-border terrorism in all its forms.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (MIRYALGUDA): Sir, we from the Congress Party have given a notice for Adjournment Motion or this. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (PADRAUNA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, please give us also the opportunity to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ, U.P.): Mr. Speaker, Sir, our's is the Adjournment Motion. I want your protection. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, you are all aware that on such Statements, in our House, normally permission is

not granted for asking questions. But this being a serious issue - I cannot call it a first of its kind - I am sure the whole country has taken a serious note of this issue and therefore, a few Members may be allowed to ask a few questions on this as a special case.

SHRI J.S. BRAR (FARIDKOT): Those who have given notice for Adjournment Motion, will they be allowed?

MR. SPEAKER: Those who have given notices for Adjournment Motions will definitely be allowed to ask questions.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the outset, I would like to associate myself absolutely with the words of condemnation that the Home Minister uttered in his well-considered statement. I also share his political analysis behind the attack that took place last night and this morning. We would like to compliment our security personnel - be they local policemen, CRPF and others - who displayed great skill, bravery and alacrity in minimising the damage by the terrorists.

It is a part of the diabolical design by Pakistani agencies to get the people in Jammu and Kashmir divided on religious lines. The Government of Pakistan has been pursuing this line all this decade, and there is a pattern to all this. They have, of late, chosen to concentrate on places of worship. In fact, they have been doing this for years. It began with Hazratbal some years ago; they did this with regard to Chrar-e-Sharief; then Raghunath Temple itself; then Akshardham, and again Raghunath Temple.

The Common Minimum Programme, on the basis of which the new Government has just been formed, enjoins upon the Mufti Government to cooperate with the Government of India absolutely in countering terrorism, which is imported from Pakistan. As we all know, Jammu and Kashmir is not a provincial problem, nor is it a party problem. It is primarily and ultimately a first-rate national problem. It has been a long-standing issue. It is burning even now. Therefore, I agree with the approach outlined by the Home Minister in pleading that we adopt a consensual approach. However, I would like to mention - not by way of mere complaint but by way of friendly forewarning - that we all resist this temptation of getting into a partisan debate on this issue.

Yesterday, Shri I.D. Swami - who is generally a soft-spoken, mild-mannered gentleman - was tempted to say that the soft line of new Government has already begun to show up its negative, adverse effects. I think it is too short a period. I know the BJP is a babble of tongues. At least, the Home Ministry should not become a tower of tongues.

[Shri S. Jaipal Reddy]

I wish he were here. Of course, he is on his visit to Jammu and I am sure, the Home Minister will be good enough to clarify. I think we must not indulge in this blame game. It will go on and on. After all, long before this new election took place, long before the new Government was formed, we had an attack in March, as the Home Minister was good enough to remind all of us, on Raghunath Temple. This attack took place in spite of the fact that there was a platoon and many other policemen in the temple, because they adopted tactics of infiltration which all terrorists are known to be doing allover the world.

As we have also seen in the last few years, the Pakistani agencies have always utilised the *Ramzan* period. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jaipal Reddy, you are aware that it is only a clarificatory question that you have to ask.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: We have also seen, Sir, that in the last three to four years, the forces of Pakistan have always tried to disturb the peace during *Ramzan* period. Our Prime Minister was good enough to declare unilateral cease-fire. Even so, they never respected it. In 2000 *Ramzan* period; five major incidents took place; in 2001, three major incidents took place; and this year again, they are continuing with their effort.

Sir, now, we need to draw a distinction, while combating terrorism with all the force and will at our command, between the terrorists, hard-boiled terrorists, hardened criminals who indulge in such vicious acts and some leaders of the alienated youth on the one hand, and also a distinction between the leaders of these alienated youth and the innocent people of Jammu and Kashmir. Unless we keep this distinction before our eyes, we will be getting confused in our approach.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask your question.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I am asking the question.

[English]

Sir, I would like to know from the Home Minister whether the new Government of Jammu and Kashmir has done anything without the clearance of the Central Intelligence Agencies.

I would also like to know from the Home Minister

whether any practical obstacles have cropped up in the unified effort that is to be mounted in combating terrorism.

I hope that the Home Minister will be able to shed light on this matter.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ, U.P.): Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all I express my condolence and sympathy towards the families of those who were killed by the terrorists in yesterday's attack on the Raghunath Temple and also express condolences on behalf of this House. I would like to know from the respected Home Minister through you as to what happened to the strong will power of the Government which has been mentioned time and again in course of talking of fighting terrorism in this very House. The recent incident that has taken place in J&K has only outlined the failure of the commitment of the Government of India and the State Government to fight terrorism. The terrorist incidents at present in India is terrorism sponsored from across the border. The Government lack will power to stamp it out. This Government is working as a mere puppet of America. Our Indian army had been posted along the border in the scorching heat of the sun for six months. The Government did not proceed even a single step to teach a lesson to Pakistan, the breeder of terrorism. When America directed this Government to de-escalate, The Government yielded to terrorism under American pressure having recalled the army. The temple of Akshardham was attacked, it was an attack on the temple of liberal Hindus. The Raghunath temple has come under attack twice and not once. Even this Parliament the holy shrine of democracy has been attacked and the legislative assembly of J&K has also been struck.

I would like to know from the hon'ble Home Minister how long will they keep sitting inactive. How long will Pakistan go on subjecting us to terrorist strikes on daily basis by adding and abetting terrorism and you will keep viewing it like a silent spectator? Even now if you fail to take steps timely in the direction of rooting out terrorism; I would like to put it forth frankly, that if you do not, take any steps to teach Pakistan a lesson, this country and the coming generations will not spare you. I want to know through you Sir, from the hon'ble Home Minister how long will they continue to dance to the tunes of America the, breeder of terrorism and will come forward to teach Pakistan a lesson—the originator of cross border-terrorism? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Those who have given notices for adjournment motion will be given first opportunity.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Sir, I condemn the incident at Raghunath Temple, which was an attack by the terrorists.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask a specific question.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We strongly condemn yesterday's terrorist attack by the terrorists on the Raghunath temple. Our stand on it is that it is an attempt on the part of Pakistan to foil the initiatives of the new State Government of J&K aimed at ending alienation and bringing the people in the main-stream and keeping J&K united. It is their conspiracy and that is why such incidents are taking place the Government is being criticised. The statement delivered by the Minister of State for Home yesterday, will not improve the situation but we want to know about the steps the Government of India is going to take for further strengthening the hands of the State Government there. What is the concept of the Government?

What the Government of India intends to do. We have time and again been raising the point in the House that there should be a uniform policy about Kashmir. We have been hearing of pro-active policy but the Government never specified it. We have been repeatedly saying that terrorism prevails in Kashmir. The Government should tell about the steps it wants to take for addressing the problems faced by the people there, as yet no steps have been taken recently. Will the Government think over it without any further delay? We wish a joint effort by the Central as well as the State Government. The responsibility of the Central Government is greater.

[English]

As it is cross-border terrorism.

[Translation]

Our question is what concrete steps the Government of India is taking in this regard.

SHRI J.S. BRAR (FARIDKOT): Basically, I associate myself with whatever has been said by my colleague Shri Reddy ji.

[English]

I will ask a pointed question; I will not make a speech

MR. SPEAKER: I will appreciate it.

[Translation]

SHRI J.S. BRAR: I have to say to the hon'ble Home Minister that now ten years have passed. On such issues whether it might be temple or Masjid or from Charar-e-sharif to this grievous attack at this stage in Jammu after the attacks on the Amarnath pilgrims and the Akshardham temple wherein unarmed people have been killed, we end up paying ritual homages and expressing our sorrows. I would like to draw the attention towards a comment as to what the people think of you at the international level?

When the Indian Parliament came under attack, the US President George W. Bush had remarked.

Some one asked, ...

[English]

"Will they act now?"

He replied\*

"They will not act even now." ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will remove those words from the record. Those words should be removed.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (MUMBAI NORTH-EAST): Sir, those words should be removed from the record. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Those words have already been removed.

[Translation]

SHRI J.S. BRAR: It is not an issue of party point, otherwise would not have spoken. It is not an issue of your Government or our Government. ...*(Interruptions)* The issue is that the country is bleeding. How long, will it be tolerated? This incident has followed Akshardham. What specific steps will he take for the security of the temples and mosques? This is I want to know from the hon'ble Home Minister. There will yet be another attempt tomorrow to divide the country and in the name of 'cross-border terrorism' uttering this one word you cannot steer clear of it. Fully realizing my responsibility as an MP I want to say that an impression has been formed abroad of our's being mute spectators. We have remained so after such a tragic incident and we lack in guts.

\* Expunged as ordered by the Chair

*[English]*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (LATUR): Sir, any derogatory statement about the Head of a State belonging to a different country may not form part of the record as that does not help either them or us or help the cause.

MR. SPEAKER : You are absolutely right. Keeping that in mind, I have removed that.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGLY): In spite of various attempts by the terrorist groups to destabilise the situation, create confusion and thwart the democratic process, elections have been completed in the State. But even after the completion of electoral process and formation of new Government in the State, the attacks have been continuing. Even yesterday there was an attack on the Rural Development Minister who was in his constituency and the attack on the temple was a few metres away from the place where the Chief Minister and other important Ministers stay. This is not an isolated case of an attack on the temple. This is the second attack on the same temple itself and that has to be condemned.

There was a move yesterday to organise attacks on Ministers, on residences of Ministers as also on other places. I would like to know whether the Union Government had any Intelligence Report about the general attacks by suicidal groups as also suicidal attacks on individual Ministers. If there was any such Intelligence Report, what sort of assistance was proposed to be provided or actually provided to the State Government? I would also like to know whether after the formation of new Government in the State, coordination between the Union Government and the State Government has been continuously monitored by the Home Ministry or not. Is there any lacuna or lapse, as is evident from what has happened yesterday, which would have contributed to the failure of the Intelligence?

*[Translation]*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (KOLKATA SOUTH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to express my thanks to you for giving me a chance to speak on this subject. It is true that whenever such a situation arises in the country, it's necessary to have an assessment of its political fall out in the interest of the country and the public as well.

Today our country is facing terrorism. It is because cross border terrorism is a new concept.

*[Translation]*

What are they having? They have got everything. They have equipments, fake Ration Cards. At times, our people have also helped them but not for the cause of terrorism. They run their business by forming relationship with our people and by fattening their purses from external sources. It is a fact that sometimes when things favour a political

party it voices its protest otherwise it does not speak against any terrorist incident. It is also true that all of us collectively speak in the House whenever any big terrorist incident happens.

*[English]*

I will request that the Chair should move a resolution to condemn this type of terrorist attack as also the attitude of Pakistan and other terrorist organisations which are trying to destabilise our peace and unity.

*[Translation]*

It is true that you gave us a chance to seek clarifications but do not forget India is a democratic country and it is our right. Pakistan is ruled by a dictator sans any responsibility, credibility, accountability or transparency while our country is democratic where there's transparency. These days suicidal squads are operating from there due to which we failed to save Indira Gandhi Jee, Rajeev Gandhi Jee and Bheem Singh Jee's lives. Terrorism triggered off from Punjab and North East sometime back in the past and has now spread over to Kashmir. Earlier, there was an attack on Parliament. There are terrorist strikes on temples and innocent people are killed, our army personnel are killed but everything is buried in oblivion.

*[English]*

We are one and we are together. This message should go to the world. A message should go to the world that if they give support to Pakistan, we are not going to tolerate. Secondly, until and unless Pakistan stops cross border terrorism, it should not get any funds from the United Nations or from other funding organisations.

*[Translation]*

Pakistan should get no fund at all for whatever funds flow to Pakistan in the name of development from America, United Nation or UNICEF, the whole of the amount is spent on cross border terrorism. They are getting hundreds of crores of rupees. Today they have attacked our temple, tomorrow they will target our Gurudwaras and then our Churches. They will definitely target our Cinema Halls and our Parliament. We can't provide security to one and all. Since Parliament is in session, it is essential to revive and update the Intelligence service.

*[English]*

I would like to know whether the Government is going to take up this matter with the world front which has been constituted for fighting terrorism. India should ask the world front whether it will take care of Pakistan which is giving

money, supplying arms, and also giving training to terrorists to destabilise India. If they do not stop Pakistan, India should not keep quiet.

[Translation]

India will have to show their might and strength and if need be, we will die fighting, but not spare our enemy. Their aim is to launch frequent attacks on us and divide Hindu-Muslim. No true Muslim would like to see a communal divide between Hindus and Muslims, especially in the month of Ramzaan. We are glad that our colleagues from CPM spoke that 90 percent responsibility rest with the Central Government but I would like to know as to how fake ration cards are issued? I am of the opinion that both state and the Central Government should act together to combat this menace. At the same time, I would like to add that the Central Government should take strong action.

[English]

Mr. Home Minister, will you take strong action? We are not going to tolerate this type of terrorist attacks. If there is a need, you have to be assertive and our Government has to be assertive. We are one with you. Whatever you have stated in your statement should become part of a resolution and the same should be passed unanimously in this House. I hope everybody will support you in this matter.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (SOUTH DELHI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the whole House and the entire country condemns this horrible and brutal killing of innocent people. The whole of the House pays its homage to the brave jawans, innocent citizens and pilgrims who lost their lives in this incident. The entire country and whole of the House has taken a pledge to fight against cross border terrorism sponsored by Pakistan. The new Government have come to power in Pakistan and the way they are promoting Lashkar-E-Toiba men and the way these men are claiming responsibility for killing innocent people in India, it appears that Pakistan is hell bent on doing anything destructive to cause a divide and trigger off communal riots in India.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if we join hands together and resolve today to fight Pakistan-sponsored terrorism, then such incidents can be encountered. Respected Mamatajee has rightly remarked that the way America is adopting double standard in respect of Terrorism, is totally unacceptable to us. They are defining terrorism differently. For western Pakistan they have different definition and for eastern part they after another definition and in the case of Kashmir,

they define terrorism again differently. Now the double standards adopted by America has been exposed. Pakistan puts the money and weapons received from America to destructive use in Kashmir. Whether it is coming via Bangladesh or through some other route, doesn't matter much. The point is that Pakistan is using all these resources to promote terrorist activities in Kashmir. If America claims to be honest, they must condemn the terrorist activities being perpetrated by Pakistan and should ask them to behave.

In the present scenario, the Govt. with Mufti Sahib as its head is being provided with all sorts of assistance by the Govt. at the Centre but I was taken by surprise when some of our colleagues referred to Swami Sahab's statement. This is not the right time to exchange allegations but it is sad that when Raghunath temple was being attacked yesterday and innocent people were being killed, it was also being watched and heard on Television that Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA) will not be enforced in Kashmir. This statement was again made in the Legislative assembly was there any point to make such statement at such crucial time? The point I am inclined to make is that the need of the hour is to fight terrorism; and not POTO. Terrorism should be on hold and not POTA that should be on hold. I am aware that no Chief Minister of any state has the right today that he or she will not execute any Central law in his or her state. What we wish to arrest that no such message should make its way beyond the boundaries of the country as are supposed to encourage terrorists and weaken our military force. Is it necessary to give statements that cases will be framed against all those people who are fighting against terrorists? How will you frame cases against them? Is it high time to handicap our army men by raising the slogans of Human Rights? Today, the need of the hour is that the whole country should stand by those Valiant soldiers who have been fighting against terrorists.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Are you aware of feeling of the family members of the people working in Kashmir. The members of their families always feel insecure and terrorised and tremble with fear. Merely a thought of some telegram carrying bad was shiver them.

Only 16 CRPF personnel and many others were killed. The members of their families are always caught in the web of terror. They do have someone to be taken care of. We wish to undertake dialogues. Of course, dialogue should take place but it's not the appropriate time to hold dialogues. Therefore whoever resorts to criticism of the Govt. that it's doing nothing except scoring points in taking political mileage should refrain from making such remarks as it will have its adverse effect. It has been said in the house as to why Pakistan is not taken to task? I do remember, when we

[Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

proposed to attack the terrorist camps running in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (POK), our colleagues, went on to say that we are creating war mania. The country will be ruined, if we go to war. Let's not have double-standards. In such a scenario, if Mufti Saheb needs any help, he should approach the Central Government. I would request the Minister of Home Affairs to call him to New Delhi and he should come. The entire country should join hands and come together and resolve fight back the Pakistan sponsored declared proxy war and let us not give any message that in all its likelihood, soften our stand.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (SAMBHAL): Mr. Speaker, Sir, firstly, I condemn the killing of innocent citizens by the terrorists and express my condolence towards the families of the victims. As far as the statement of Home Minister is concerned, he has made such statements many times. When he asked for cooperation of the House cutting across the party lines every party stood up to support the Government and even today I extend my full support. We are a part of country's supreme Panchayat, i.e. Parliament and the public wants to know the truth from us. We are betraying the public if we are keeping facts from them.

I do not agree with the first point of your statement that international community is looking down upon these incidents. Right from the beginning the Government have been trying to fight terrorism with the support of international community. We have always objected to this. Later on you changed your statement and said that we would fight terrorism on our own. You have said in the House that the international community has looked down upon the incidents of terrorism, it does not carry any sense therefore it should not go on record.

As far as the international community is concerned, I have said in the House and outside the House also and the hon. Prime Minister had accepted that he committed a mistake. It came out into light when Parliament was attacked. The opposition had extended its support at that time and it is doing so even now but how could the Government keep it a secret that they have sent officials to hold negotiations with a terrorist group secretly, why was it done and why was the opposition not taken into confidence. About the Government of Kashmir's decision, please keep in mind that you are the ruling party at the Centre and Congress too can not shirk its responsibility. Congress was the largest party. Discussions have been going on for weeks with Shri Mufti and the supporting parties to form the Government and to arrive at an agreement but was it given in the agreement that the terrorists would be released? Terrorists were released. The Government never took us into confidence. When people of Huriyat were released, the

Central Government did not take the opposition into confidence. Today, both the Governments are responsible. Please do not make excuses. We will support you and your Government. We will extend every kind of support the Deputy Prime Minister desires but what was the reason for not taking the opposition into confidence over such an important issue.

You would always need our support and help. Together we will fight terrorism. We will support you because the public is suffering and the army is deployed on the border. We would like to give you moral support and we will give it. We are against the terrorists and we will be with you in whatever action you take but it has been proved that both the governments have committed a serious mistake regarding this incident. This Government should occur the responsibility of the attacks on the Parliament, Jammu and Kashmir Assembly, Red Fort and Akshardham temple, and the Government is still not taking any stern action. The Government is holding dialogues with Pakistan and says that Pakistan is sponsoring the terrorism. The Government should take a decision. Why is the government misleading the public and the country? It all depends on the Prime Minister and the Home Minister but please do not mislead the country. Make your intentions clear to the public. Nothing is greater than the honour and security of the country but you play politics even in this regard. We do not want to play politics game. The Government repeatedly accept before each citizen of the country that Pakistan is sponsoring terrorism. Innocent people are being killed, temples are being attacked, Parliament has been attacked but despite all these incidents the Government has not taken serious steps to deal with the situation. It is true that the Government deployed the armed forces on the borders for eight months. The soldiers shouted slogans, were felicitated by the public and were given a warm send off. But the opposition was not taken in confidence while deploying the armed forces. We were not against deploying the army at the border but nobody was consulted when the forces retreated. A meeting should have been called in this context. We have read all the 32 or 35 statements given by the Government till today, whether the opposition has not extended its support and cooperation? This is a question related to the country and not to the NDA government only. Please do not mislead the country and do not spread panic. It is true that our people are being killed but your statements have created so much panic that people are living in fear allover the country. This Government has created panic among the people of the country through its statements. When it was known that Parliament is being attacked, people were scared and there was panic throughout the country. Fear loomed large over the celebrations of 15th August and in the capitals of the States, the occasion was celebrated in fear. Everybody was

apprehensive that anything may happen. Why this kind of atmosphere is being created.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to say, be it the Prime Minister or anybody else, my party will always extend full cooperation where the interest of the country is concerned. We can neither serve the country nor protect it if we will care too much for our lives. Where was the need to publicise the fact that security has been tightened and the hon. Prime Minister will give his speech from Red Fort on 15th August. It spread a wave of fear in all the capitals of the State. People used to celebrate Independence Day with so much zeal and enthusiasm but this year public could celebrate due to panic. I do not want to know how this situation arose. People like us can understand this problem. I would like to say that Mr. Mufti does not have any standing in all Government that has been formed in Jammu & Kashmir with the help of Congress. Had our party been consulted I would have suggested to arrive at some kind of an agreement with Mr. Farooq though there are lots of differences between us. That is why Congress can not shirk the responsibility. As far as responsibility is concerned, it is on both of us but we have given our full cooperation and support whenever asked for and we will continue to do so. But, for how long will the ministers in the Government continue to give such statements. I request you to keep the International community out of mind. You give statements that you will fight terrorism on your own but again look up to the International community for support.

I do not want to repeat but Mamataji also said that Pakistan is carrying out these activities. The Government has said that our image world over has improved. The Government have said before all the leaders of the opposition in an all party meeting that international image of our country in the world has improved. Where is the international image. The Government have said it before all the leaders that it has a good international image. This Government is not concerned about the image of the country, the public and your own, this Government is only concerned about the international image. Pakistan's debt has been waived and when this Government alleged Pakistan then America refuted those allegations and said that Pakistan is not involved in all this while it is definite that Pakistan had a hand in it. But America denied Pakistan's involvement in the incident.

MR. SPEAKER: Mulayam Singh ji, please ask your question.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: You talk of international support. The world came to know about your international support recently when you failed to get a permanent seat in the U.N. Security Council. Pakistan

succeeded in getting a place in the same council. This much international support you have got. May we know the name of the countries that are with you and to what extent they are with you. You gave America an unconditional support when it came under attack on 11th September that too without any formal request from their side. We do not wish to repeat the same thing but the hon'ble Home Minister would remember that in the meeting chaired by the Prime Minister, we had cautioned you people not to take any such step before any request is made from their side. Like others, you also express your condolence and sympathy and refrain from inviting any opposition. Battle was to be fought somewhere else but you were turning the same to your side. You made such statements, is it not politics? It is a question of our country and it is to warn you, therefore we would like to know to what extent did you go with international community and to what extent did you get their support and how far will you get that support in future also and how long will you continue fighting this menace on your own. We will cooperate you. But you will have to admit that be the Government of this side or that side both are equally responsible for this incident.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (MUMBAI SOUTH CENTRAL): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I, on behalf of my party, pay my sincere homage to the people killed in the yesterday's attack on Raghunath temple and Shiva temple and to all the people who have hitherto been killed in the terrorist attacks. I hope the entire House joins me in expressing our sincere condolences to all the members of the bereaved families. I am hopeful that it will turn out to be our last condolence. Terrorism have claimed 25 thousand lives so far which includes killings of small Children, Amarnath pilgrims, soldiers guarding our border. Our army soldiers, kids and our mothers and sisters all have been killed. But how long will it continue? All of us have raised this issue. Today terrorism has hit our country. The decisive battle will be fought but the decisive battle is being fought on our territory. ...*(Interruptions)* In addition to the Prime Minister, the Home Minister has also said it. You people must be knowing but I also want to let you know as to how many people have been killed till December 13. Only yesterday you issued a warning. I want to know when your last warning will come?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have some figures with me which I would like to share with the House. In 1990, the total number of terrorists killed by the Security forces in Jammu and Kashmir was 550.

Of them, the number of foreign terrorists was zero. Today in the year 2002, 1344 terronsts have been killed



[Shri Mohan Rawale]

which includes 802 foreign terrorists. That means they constitute 59.7 percent, who are these people? They are Pakistanis you have stated repeatedly that they are Pakistanis. I fail to understand as to why do you attack Pakistan? My this question needs an answer.

15.00 hrs.

Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra was just speaking that there are terrorists training camps in Pak occupied Kashmir. Will you even strike them or not? If so, when you will? Today, the entire House is with you. The entire House has expressed its feeling today, congressmen have expressed their anger. Shri Mulayam Singh Yadavji has expressed his feelings. Only community people have not said anything clearly for they can not say. ...*(Interruptions)* If activities in terrorist camps continue like this then when will you attack them. These are my feelings which I am expressing on behalf of Shiv Sena. My point is that terrorism has not hit Pakistan they are not affected by this menace at all. They are suffering no harms. If their people are also killed then only they will have a feeling of terror inside them. Why do not you produce such suicidal squads? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (PADRAUNA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we also request you. We may also be allowed to speak, please. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of my party, I strongly condemn the incidents that have taken place and I fully associate my party and myself with the sentiments that have been expressed by the hon. Deputy Prime Minister. We convey our sincerest condolence to all the members of the bereaved families. We applaud the role of the para-military forces particularly who, in spite of very severe odds, have done their duty in an exemplary manner.

Sir, we consider that this is nothing but cowardice on the part of the perpetrators of this crime and we also agree that this is sponsored by our neighbours on the other side. This is another lesson that we have to, as a nation jointly, together, unitedly, fight against this scourge and let us not depend upon others for the purpose of standing by us at the time of serious problems that we are facing. Every country acts for her national interests. Similarly, United States of America is acting for her national interests and they have their different perceptions. Therefore, let us not be enamoured by what the President of a particular State across the seas is saying or not.

Sir, this conspiracy, which is going on, on the other side, has to be fought both on the basis of our strength and also politically. What is important here is, all the people of this country should resolve to fight it in a manner which will not only achieve the goals but also will not divide, the nation.

I agree with the hon. Deputy Prime Minister - I feel he has correctly mentioned - that Pakistan is upset at the peaceful election that has taken place in Jammu and Kashmir, belying all the apprehensions of all quarters across the country and also outside. What has been seen there recently is that religious places are being attacked more and more. The reason is obvious. This is done to create a communal divide, a religious divide and try to divide the people of this country on religious lines. This sinister game has not only to be exposed but also to be fought unitedly. I request everybody - even our very good friend Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra could not resist it - not to say or do things which will weaken the united resolve of this country. Let us not try to find fault with each other or try to take up a holler-than-thou attitude because that will not help us. A new Government has come in the State of Jammu and Kashmir after a long period of rule by another party. That Government has been very recently constituted. The Government of India has rightly expressed its resolve to render all support. So, if important people of those who are in the Government make such statements, this gives a very bad impression as if the whole objective is not to fight the terrorists there, but to find out the so-called reasons for this recurrence.

When the Akshardham incident, the serious incident, took place, there was POTA. There were all the forces available. Why did it take place? Only a few days ago, a Government says that it would not insist on the use of POTA. Does it mean only because of that Raghunath Temple incident has taken place? These types of simplistic allegations or contentions will only queer the pitch and will help the people who are perpetrating these crimes. I am sure, the hon. Deputy-Prime Minister will agree with us that whenever the question of terrorism came, in the context of Jammu & Kashmir or any other place, whenever the Opposition has been consulted, we have given the fullest support to the Government and in one voice we have stood by the Government at all times.

Only one question I would like to know, which is troubling me, in the context of the fact that very recently the Akshardham incident took place. It is also known, as has been pointed out rightly by Shri Jaipal Reddy that during this period, these religious places are being made target by those terrorists. I would like to know, knowing that Raghunath Temple is one of the vulnerable temples, of the religious places, was any special precaution taken for the purpose of protecting these religious places.

Now, the hon. Deputy-Prime Minister mentioned what is the type of force that is available now. But does he feel that it is sufficient? I am no expert. He has got the experience, he has got the advisors to advise him also. I would like to know what is the sufficient protection taken. Now considering that this is the diabolical game of the terrorists, whether proper precautions have been taken for protection of other important places of pilgrimage, religious places from now on; whether adequate steps would be taken?

I reiterate our party's support for taking all actions against the terrorists and I commend the role of Mufti Saheb as the head of the new Government that he is trying to provide a healing touch and that should be the proper approach to bring them into the mainstream.

[Translation]

SHRI RASHID ALVI (AMROHA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I associate my party and myself with the feelings and sentiments of Deputy Prime Minister expressed in the House. What has happened in Jammu, cannot be condemned by words. No religion of the world teaches to kill innocent people. No religion, no ideology can justify the killings of innocent children, women and men inside any religious place. But besides this, I would like to tell the Deputy Prime Minister that we are not expressing grief for the first time. We have been doing so in every session, though our words may be different, but our feelings and agony remain the same. I would like to ask the Deputy Prime Minister how long would we go on expressing our feelings like this in the precincts of the House. The terrorists who have killed the innocent people are less responsible as compared to those who sent them for massacre. It is said time and again that Pakistan is responsible for this. But I would like to ask why any step is not taken against Pakistan? If we want to create an international atmosphere against terrorism and want to convince other nations, we are ready to go to any platform. We are ready to create atmosphere against Pakistan in the entire world. I would like to say to the Deputy Prime Minister that when an incident occurs at a religious place not only that place but the whole nation has to bear its consequences. An attempt has been made to create a rift between Hindus and Muslims by such an act. Iqbal has said:

"Mejhab nahin sikhata, aapas mein vair rakhna, Hindi hain hum vatan hai Hindustan hamara".

I would like to say this not only on myself but on behalf of the entire nation and the people. I do not like to criticise the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, because they have not got much time rather I would like to congratulate the Union Government for conducting free and fair election in

the state for the first time in the last 54 years and it deserves credit for that. You have conducted election there and gave the reins of the state in their hands. It is now their turn to decide how terrorism can be curbed?

The first question I would like to ask the Government as to how long would the terrorism go on and whether the Government can tell the house how much time will be taken to curb terrorism. Secondly we had deployed forces on the border and it remained there for six months continuously. I know the incidence of Rajasthan where our forces used to take shelter under trees to prevent themselves from scorching heat. We had deployed forces on border and withdrew them. Why we have done that, why have not we taught a lesson to our enemy? Had we taught them a lesson than perhaps we would not have suffered that we are suffering in Jammu. I would like to ask whether the Government have formulated any plan to decide to fight terrorism by convening all party meeting alongwith the Government of Kashmir and its Chief Minister

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have got 15 more names of hon. Members who want to speak on the issue. I can understand that this is a very important issue. But at the same time, the seriousness of the issue should not be lost and therefore, I have permitted only those Members to speak who are leading the political parties. So, it is, according to me, not desirable that so many Members speak. After all, we have to listen to the hon. Minister also. Only a few leaders, who belong to smaller groups, are left. Like Shri Pandian, Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and Shri Prabhunath Singh are there to speak. These three Members may speak and if you all agree I may be able to close the discussion and ask the hon. Minister to reply.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (KHAJURAHO): Sir, I have given a notice on this and when I met you in the morning, I was assured that I would be given time.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, since Shri Chaturvedi has given a notice and I had assured him that he would be given a chance, he would be given time to speak on this issue.

[Translation]

Rest may please cooperate, the subject may lose its importance if it is prolonged.

[English]

Those who are remaining to speak would be also requested to put specific questions only to the hon. Minister.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN (TIRUNELVELI): Sir, on behalf of my AIADMK Party, I condemn the ghastly incident, attack by the terrorists last night, at Raghunath Temple.

When the World Trade Centre was attacked, the President of the United States, Mr. George Bush said that he would hunt down Bin Laden. What happened to Bin Laden? He is alive in Pakistan. He is masterminding the terrorist operations in the whole world. One day we see that he is there and the other day we see that he is appearing in a video cassette being sent to the United States.

Sir, the vow taken by the United States in nabbing and in hunting Bin Laden has not been fulfilled so far. Pakistan, which is the traditional friend of the United States, is waging an indirect military war through terrorists.

Sir, there is a conflict of military interest between India and the United States on certain issues. We support Iraq but the United States is not supporting Iraq. It is their enemy. When there is a conflict of military interest between the friendly countries of India and the United States, these terrorist attacks have become the order of the day and they are being carried on by the terrorists.

15.16 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

Sir, umpteen number of terrorist attacks were made in Pahalgam, Parliament and other important places like PMO. I would say that it is the time for India to take a tough military stand to attack Pakistan. Even after the election of the Prime Minister of Pakistan, they are not following the democratic values. We have debated the President of Pakistan, Shri Pervez Musharaff's diabolic attitude in this House on a number of occasions. We have exposed him at the All Party meeting convened by our Prime Minister. Mr. Deputy Prime Minister, you were also present in that All Party meeting. All the leaders of the parties attended it.

Sir, Pakistan is not going to change. It will not change. Pakistan's whole aim is to divide India on religious and communal lines because we are multi-lingual, multi-racial and multi-religious. So, I would say that the Government of India - the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister - may take a tough military stand against Pakistan at this juncture.

Sir, Pakistan has no foreign policy. We have our foreign policy. What is the foreign policy of Pakistan? Its foreign policy is only to attack India. Our foreign policy is non-aggression. We are not committing any aggression against any country. What is the mutual benefit that we have got? Sir, we are following *Panchsheel* policy. We have not deviated

from that policy. So, we are not able to pardon Pakistan's attitude on every terrorist attack against India. We cannot pardon Pakistan.

Sir, Pakistan has purchased F-16 planes from the United States about 25 or 30 years ago. Do you mean to say that the traditional friends - the United States of America and Pakistan - separate themselves? Will the United States come to the aid of India against Pakistan? That is the moot question.

Sir, George Bush has recently convened the NATO Summit. At that time, the United States has preserved its interests. It has not talked about any world interest. The NATO countries discussed about their defence treaty.

That way, it is high time that, as a whole, we, one of the largest democratic nations, have to preserve the integrity and sovereignty of India and to protect the people of India from the onslaught of terrorist attacks from diabolic Pakistan by taking a tough stand thereby exposing Pakistan at the world level. Pakistan is attacking temples to attract the attention of the world. By every attack, they want to attract the attention of the world. When they attacked Parliament, they attracted the attention of the whole world that Pakistan had waged an attack against India.

Yesterday's attack at Raghunath temple was just to attract the attention of the world because everybody in the world knows that Indian citizens are preserving temples. They go to temples; they go to churches; and they go to mosques. So, in that way, Pakistan has taken that sentiment on hand. To demolish that sentiment, to drive a wedge among different communities, especially between Hindus and Muslims, and to divide the nation, in India, the Pakistani agents have waged these terrorist attacks.

We had debated, on a number of occasions, about the ISI agents operating in India. We are not able to control all the ISI agents operating in India. There were a number of discussions in this House on cross-border terrorism, which we are not able to control. We are not able to redeem even the PoK. Even in the PoK, the ISI agents are operating. I would say that we would strengthen the hands of the Government. We have to strengthen the hands of the Government at the Centre because the Central Government is the Government, which protects the sovereignty and integrity of the country.

I would say that the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir has said that they will not use POTA. In my opinion, POTA was passed in this House only to use against the terrorists. POTA is for what? Keeping in mind the Jammu

and Kashmir problem and cross-border terrorism, we had passed POTA. The Government of Jammu and Kashmir has said that they will not use it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please ask your question.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN: I will conclude now.

So, I would urge upon the Government to take a tough military stand. I would say that we have to teach a fitting lesson to Pakistan. They come; they attack; and they go. There is infiltration into India. We have not infiltrated into an inch of Pakistan. We have not infiltrated into an inch of China. We are not infiltrating into any other foreign country. But, it is in the minds of those countries that we have a soft attitude. We have a real democratic Government. Pakistan has a pseudo-democratic Government. Their Prime Minister cannot be equated with our Prime Minister. Our Prime Minister was elected on a franchise.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please ask your question.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN: I will finish within a minute.

Let it be the last deliberation for passing condemnation against Pakistan and passing any reference about any terrorist attack. When I express our grief over the attack on the people by terrorists, at the same time, we request the Government to ensure that at least in future let there not be any recurrence of such attacks in India by terrorists.

Terrorists can be controlled only by having a terrorist's way of thinking. Diamond can be cut only by diamond. In that way, we should inculcate and develop a terrorist kind of feeling to control Pakistan.

*[Translation]*

CHOWDHARY TALIB HUSSAIN (JAMMU): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the poet of the east, Iqbal has said:

"Soonee padi hui hai muddat se dil ki basti, aah ek shivala is desh mein bana dein"

When trouble, tragedy, collusion and violence occur in the country, our poet said that we will build a new Temple and Mosque in the country from where teaching of love will be imparted.

The people of Jammu and Kashmir have been living together irrespective of caste, creed and colour and have sacrificed their lives for brotherhood, unity, integrity and safety of the country. No one can deny it. But the terrorists, sent by our enemies do not like it and have tried enormous tricks to break the unity, patience and brotherhood. The incidents,

that happened yesterday, is one of their tricks and it should be the last trick. But it does not seem to be like that. The experience shows that Jammu and Kashmir have been the victim of violence for the last 12 years. Hindu and Muslim want brotherhood, peaceful co-existence, unity, safety and integrity of the country but our enemy do not like it. Now the question is which path we have to follow? A lot has been said in the House. When ever attempts have been made to harm the brotherhood of Hindu and Muslim it has been clearly stated that Hindus are in majority there. There is no doubt about it. The world knows that Muslims are living in the country with a secular view particularly in Jammu and Kashmir, where people are hurt the most and need patience, understanding, tolerance and sympathy.

Sir, we want to congratulate the Deputy Prime Minister as well. In view of all the latest incidents of terrorist violence that have taken place in Doda, Jammu or within the valley, we think that someone should help us and someone should be our messiah, who can redress our grievances. We want that our voice should be heard. We are here in the Parliament for a long time, but no meeting has ever been convened to find out the solutions of this problem. We are the representatives of that State and whichever Government may be there, the Government must dwell upon the solution of the problem. In a nutshell it could be mentioned that terrorism is not coming to an end due to all this and it must be definitely eliminated. If we do not take timely action, we would not be able to contain the problem especially in a short time.

I want to request the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister to act according to his vast experience but must also take into confidence the people of Jammu-Kashmir, Members of Parliament and the Members of the State Legislative Assembly. Meetings of Kashmiris should be convened where open-hearted discussions must take place with regard to the ways to combat this menace.

Sir, it is very unfortunate that terrorist attacks have been carried out in Jammu three or four times and precious lives have been lost. I join him in condoling the loss of lives but words are not enough and can not assuage the feelings. These are the testing times for the patience, tolerance and the sincerity of the Hindu majority community of Jammu, which is the sympathiser of Muslims, and loves them, and believes in peaceful co-existence. But, the enemy does not like it because of folly. The enemy thinks that it would be able to defame India through these types of incidents. However, ultimately it would not succeed in its sinister designs, because the enemy is the killer of Muslims and their biggest enemy. The moot question is how long will all this continue.

[Chowdhary Talib Hussain]

Sir, I want to know from the hon. Prime Minister and the Hon. Home Minister as to what should we do in this regard. The Government may please convene meetings of the representatives and hold parleys with them. It is not necessary that the people present here may be having first hand experience of things. It is quite possible that the representatives of the far flung areas, who are experiencing such incidents and are suffering the pains, could have the first hand experience of these things. They could have the experience of the former regime which continuously fought against terrorism for six years. The Government may please call the representatives of the present Government for talks. Further, ultimately what are the steps we could take to avert the threats to our unity and to curb the menace of terrorism. ...*(Interruptions)* Infiltration is not stopping. It is being propagated that infiltration is coming down and probably it might be true to some extent. I hail from the border area. However, I want to say that it is not enough to bring infiltration down, but to stamp out infiltration. I want to know whether this infiltration will stop and if so, by when this will happen.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ, BIHAR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the start of each session discussion is held on this issue and in between too by disrupting the regular business. This is not the first terrorist incident but such incidents continue to occur and debated in the House, thereby enticing the reply from the Government.

Sir, we express our condolences towards the families of those, who have been killed. No incident could be more condemnable than the incident of Red Fort, which was an attack on the history of the country, and the incident of Lok Sabha which was an attack on the soul of the country. Further, attacks have also been carried out on pilgrims and temples. The Jawans of the Army are being killed, and killings of the common man have become quite a regular thing. The Government gives statement both inside and outside the House. The statements are emotionally surcharged which is but natural. Whenever an incident occurs at a place of worship emotions run high in the villages since media has reached upto the villages. People have begun to think as to what is going on in the country?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shri Akhileshji had mentioned that the Government was bowing down before America. I believe that India is having friendly relations with America, but often such statements emanate from American side which create confusion in the country and people begin to think that probably India is following the diktats of America. Today, the people of the world must be praising the patience of India even when attacks are being carried out on the temples

and pilgrims are being killed. But, how long our patience will continue to be tested? I want to know from the Hon. Home Minister two-three things. Firstly, we want to know whether any time-frame has been fixed for this patience? Secondly, what sort of incidents the Government are waiting for to happen after which it would take firm steps? Now-a-days even the rural folk shy from visiting the temples and other crowded places. Hon. Khuranaji also dwelt upon the dubious character of America. Now-a-days terrorist incidents are being perpetrated through the money of America. Then could you please not exert pressure on America citing the friendly relationship, so as to curb the incidents of terrorism.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, ours is a federal polity and our security forces such as BSF, CRPF etc. have made exemplary sacrifices in apprehending the terrorists. Is the morale of our security forces not being dampened through such statements as that of the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir that the terrorists would be released. I would like to know would the Government impress upon the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir not to release the terrorists who have killed the security forces and carried out attacks on temples, mosques, and on such a sacred place as Lok Sabha. I want to know the views of the Govt. on the prevailing conditions and whether it is going to take any new steps for safeguarding the security of the country, so as to protect the country from terrorist attacks.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (KHAJURAHO): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not want to engage in a prolonged argument on this occasion. Serious concerns have been expressed by our party and all other parties over the tragic incident that occurred yesterday. This has drawn condemnation from all political parties. I do associate myself with them. It is not for the first time that we are discussing such issues. Sometime back it was Akshardham then Raghunath Temple a number of persons have been killed and many other are going to be the victim of terrorist attack. In the whole spectrum of events, the same sort of strategy is seen irrespective of the persons involved therein. It is not our maiden experience. Every time we just raise our hands to give the signal that we are with the Government. The Government presents an account of the situation taking stock of the things concerned. It is followed by a debate and we are persuaded that it is the compulsion or limitation of the Government.

Today, this party is in Government, tomorrow someone else will be there. The fact of the matter is that the

Government can, hardly afford to set a deadline to push terrorism into public oblivion by exercising control over the terrorists.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a fact that terrorists have an access to every security arrangements in a clandestine manner. They know as to how many security personnel have been deputed and at which place in the temple. They just take stock of everything and having learnt every security aspects in copious details they plan their strategy and try their best to put their foul destructive mindset to action. Every initiative they undertake goes to their favour. In the first place, they strike in subsequent, we are compelled to undertake retaliatory move. The leader of opposition Mrs. Sonia Gandhi had condemned this incident. She has gone to Jammu. After taking stock of the situation, she will interact with people over there. After all these tensions in the wake of terrorist strikes at Akshardham temple or Raghunath Temple, terrorists intention has come to light that's nothing but infecting the whole of India with the virus of terrorism by creating a venomous atmosphere under which all communities of India will die fighting with one another for petty reasons. We too, have to be cautious in our expressions as well as activities lest our words or decision should prove conducive to their disastrous activities.

I just want to ask two-three questions. I do not want to engage myself in the game of allegations - counter allegations. I have some serious questions to ask that is ingrained in the being of every individual. We resorted to many measures to face terrorism. We did make laws, put Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA) in place. When all the limits of our tolerance was, close to be over, we resorted to mobilization of the largest-ever military deployment and deployed the army personnel ranging in number somewhere between seven to seven and a half Lac along the border for a period of 10 months. The armed forces of both the nations were in combat readiness. Whenever any such a decision is taken, it is not simple or spontaneous. The Government takes such decision with well thought-out strategy. Some military targets and political objectives form a part of such decision. I would like to know from hon. Deputy Prime Minister as to how he has taken such a decision. What the targets he had? If he does not want to make it public for security reasons, I won't exert pressure. Now that a decision to withdraw our military personnel from the border post has been taken, he can make the reasons public as to what ambitions we had in mind, what were our political objectives, what were our military targets? What has been our achievement after this ten month long exercise. One of the objective to deploy forces there to check terrorist activities and find an effective control over it. Our purpose was to

create such an atmosphere the world over that the other countries will raise strategic pressure on Pakistan to stop infiltration. Have we been able to achieve any such target yet?

There just have been some informal talks. I had already stated that I do not want to enter into the affair of accusations - counter accusations nor there is any justification of taking such move on this serious issue. The Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir has assumed the office only one month ago. I won't mention anyone's name here. Some persons have stated outside the House that the situation there has deteriorated. Since the Jammu and Kashmir Government has declared to release some separatists from jail, he declared that he would not implement POTA.

Does this probably give us the impression that all these facts have been the key element behind triggering off terrorist activities. That apart, I would very much like to know whatever be the number of separatist released by J&K Government, whether anyone of them have been set free without consultation with the Central Government? Whether the State Government has proposed the release of these terrorists prior to making consultation with the Government at the Centre. My last and third question is whether the Government is in agreement with the fact that due to the release of the separatists group or Fidayeen attack there has been sudden eruption?

The Central Government's policy has been to pursue pro-active, hot pursuit or zero tolerance approach. We are not in favour of war but have been waiting for the last four years to embark on any firm decision to undertake further action. At the same time, we are not opposed to it either that measures be taken to mobilize international opinion in this regard. The Government should clarify whether it propose to hold any discussion to take a decision?

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it comes to our notice day in and day out that Military Camps, Police, Temples, Parliament and Assemblies are being targeted by the terrorists. Election process or the process for the establishment of democracy is being initiated. This pushes the terrorists in the depression zone that the Government of their interest is not being formed. We also come to see that various experiments have been undertaken of this kind. Cease-fire was resorted to in the name of Ramzaan, armies were deployed across the border, and were withdrawn also. Besides off-beaten statements are also being made, however, terrorist activities are not being checked. Terrorist activities are not limited to Sansad only but have now caught State Assemblies and Red Fort also in its dragnet. Despite detailed discussion on

[Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh]

ISI or cross border terrorism it has continued. All of us condemn these incidents and wail, take a resolution and exhibited combined power but the problem is not being resolved. We are not aware when Minister of Home Affairs would accept this fact that how many failures go to their credit. If the country continues to move on the same track, what shall be measures and the outcome. We wish to know specifically from the Minister of Home Affairs whether the Government has taken any action to create an international mandate. If so, the brief account thereof? After the new Government coming into power in the State, whether measures have been taken to uproot terrorism, taking the State Government into confidence. Common public is law abiding. Whether dialogues have been conducted with the separatist groups in a united manner or simply it has been decided to break their hearts without exchange of views with them.

The Government should clarify its stand on this issue in a specific way. All the hon. Members have expressed concern over it and have asked of the steps being taken by the Government to uproot terrorism. We wish to ask specifically whether any action has been taken to mobilize an international mandate.

Second thing that I wish to ask whether they have made any efforts to take elected Governments at the State level into confidence. In addition, common people who are against terrorism and have reposed confidence in constitutional provisions have been taken into confidence. Is there any strategy in place to uproot terrorism or is it just a routine affair? In case of the occurrence of an incident, FIR is lodged and arrest is made. Whether you are willing to constitute a task force or launch any special campaign? Whether we are hindering you from uprooting terrorism. The country is united against terrorism but as it occurs to us, the Government is sadly lacking in will power which stops the Government from taking right action. Everybody is saying time and again that we are ready to give our all out support to uproot terrorism. Hon. Minister of Home Affairs is requested to make a categorical statement on this issue or resign the post. Thus a sense of confidence will make its in-roads among the masses that the Government has been a great failure on this front and the Government cannot tolerate such events anymore. If it is just undertaken as a routine affair public would be awfully disappointed as they will be left with no choice but to shed tears over their misfortune.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we, on behalf of the Telugu Desam Party, condemn the terrorist attack on the Raghunath Temple. Almost everyday now we are witnessing these terrorist attacks in a variety of places like the Parliament of India,

the Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir, in the Akshardham Temple etc. Just two days back the militants belonging to the Lashkar-e-Toiba group had planted bombs near the Sai Baba Temple in Hyderabad and fortunately for us only one bomb went off and the rest did not explode. Five persons were killed in that incident and a few others were injured.

Sir, there should be an end to this. We are all with the Government in the fight against terrorism. Every developed country, including the USA, is talking about terrorism but we are everyday witnessing the effects of this terrorism. What pressure are these developing nations putting on Pakistan to stop this terrorism? These are designs of Pakistan. They are training the youths in their country and are sending them across the LoC not only to Jammu and Kashmir but also to other parts of India. These attacks are taking place everywhere in the country. We have to put an end to this. We are with the Government on this. The law should be implemented stringently and without any compromise. The duty of the Government is to ensure life and liberty of the people of this country. Right to live is a Fundamental Right. So, the Government should act very firmly. The newly elected Government in Jammu and Kashmir should also act according to the circumstances. If they think that the Government is liberal on these issues, then such activities would increase. So, in the interest of the country, the Government of India should be in touch with the State Government to combat terrorism. Both of them should work together. That is my suggestion.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (MIDNAPORE): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the very outset I strongly condemn the diabolical attack of the terrorists on the Raghunath Temple and the Shiv Mandir. I express my grief over this incident and I express my sympathies to the families of the victims in this incident.

Sir, we, on behalf of our Party associate ourselves with the statement made by the hon. Deputy Prime Minister and the Home Minister. I would like to pose some questions to him.

At the present juncture, what is the plan of the Government to meet this challenge? It is true that it is very difficult to identify the suicide squads of terrorists. But it is not difficult to know that these terrorist outfits are being sponsored by Pakistan. My point is not that.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please ask your question. This is not a debate. It is an extraordinary situation and so, the hon. Speaker has allowed a few clarificatory questions. You ask your question.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: My first question is, is the Union Government thinking of putting sufficient international pressure on the Pakistani authorities? What is the Government's plan in this regard? Secondly, in regard to the position of USA, their perceptions and their utterances in regard to Kashmir have created confusion in the past. So, what is the attitude of the Government in regard to the USA? Thirdly, whether the Union Government is thinking of making a united effort, in coordination with the State Government, to meet the challenge? We have been speaking on this issue in every Session but the situation has only deteriorated.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL (BALAGHAT): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the very first day of this Session I gave a Notice during 'Zero Hour'. Further more, I had expected discussion under the Rule 193. The yesterday's incident is just another incident which forms only a part of the series of such incidents. What I want to say is that the continuity of such incidents is confined only to Jammu and Kashmir. The terrorism which has plagued that state is a chronic malady. Now the entire country view the terrorism or an incurable disease. I do not agree with this opinion. I think, this problem can be resolved. Many speakers have expressed their views on this issue. But when the Chief Ministers of a number of States declined to enforce POTA, we, instead of trading charges with each other, we should have discussed this matter in the House. I come from a district where extremism having leftist leaning is at its worst. I do not want to dwell on this topic but where the question of Centre-State relation is involved, it requires a thread bare discussion in the House. It is not fair on part of the head of a state to dismiss a Central rule on one hand and ask for para military forces on the other hand. We are having divergent opinions as far as fighting terrorism is concerned. We will have to sort out our differences and evolve a consensus that only we will be able to combat terrorism in a better way. There are some obvious reasons for our difference. The issue of terrorists, who infiltrate from across the border, has been discussed in the House and we have suggested various measures therefor which includes attacking these terrorists camps. And that is to be decided by the Government. But what about those people who come and stay in India for months and years, they possess their passports and we registered vehicles and finally they execute their heinous terrorist designs. This has to be taken note of by the Government.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please put your question.

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: My point is that

whether the Government propose to hold a discussion in the House to sort out the problem arising out of the refusal by certain State Governments to implement the POTA in their respective states. POTA is necessary to curb terrorism. Or whether the Government, themselves, would like to implement the law?

16.00 hrs.

CAPT. (RETD.) INDER SINGH (ROHTAK): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will definitely put the question, but before that I would like to say something in this House.

First of all I would like to strongly condemn the incident occurred. However, this work has merely become formality in this House. Incident takes place, we observe formality and finish our duty by saying that the security arrangements have been tightened, the effective search operations are on to nab the terrorists and thereafter we put the whole thing on back-burner. Such incidents have been taking place since 1947. We lost the territory of Pak occupied Kashmir in the year 1948. We surrendered some of our area to China in 1962. We crossed across the Ichhogil Canal in the year 1965 and we returned later on, whatever we had captured. We could not have our say despite the fact, we were having one lakh prisoners of war of Pakistan in our custody in 1971. Have a look to other side of the world, a very small incident had occurred in Argentina. Had England attacked Israel after taking us into confidence? If Palestine provokes Israel a letter bit, does Israel attack Palestine after taking our consent? Did the U.S.A. seek our consent before taking action against Afghanistan? Did Russia bother to seek anyone's advice before taking action against Chechonya? Why are we depending on other countries? We took extensive diplomatic steps, when the supreme temple of our democracy i.e. Parliament was attacked. We did have some achievement also therefrom. Thereafter our army was deployed on the border, but after keeping it there for 7-8 months, we took a decision and our army returned from there. But we have not so far recognised the voice of the people there. I, being their representative would like to say that we cannot solve this issue only by making a fascinating or high sounding speech. The people are not happy to hear the fascinating speeches made in this House. I would like to ask the Government as to when we would take that step, whereas we know that who is the miscreant and who is harbouring the terrorists. There is a saying in our area which means that instead of nabbing the miscreants, we should eliminate the root cause of the militancy. Here terrorist is the miscreant in terrorism and its creator, the root cause, is Pakistan. I would like to ask only this much as to how long



[Capt. (Retd.) Inder Singh]

we should keep on waiting to check these activities of Pakistan or should we not take a decisive decision to take stringent action against it.

16.04 hrs.

(DR. LAXMINAHAYAN PANDEYA *in the Chair*)

SHRI SHYAMACHARAN SHUKLA (MAHASAMUND): Mr. Chairman, Sir, as elaborate discussions are being held for a long time, I would try to express my views in brief. There are two aspects of the present issue before us, one is external and the second is internal. So far as the external aspect is concerned, many honourable members have expressed their views here wherein it has been said about Pakistan that it should be attacked. There should be war to penalise this country. Nobody can deny from this fact that our position is almost alike to that of the American forces in South Vietnam as those forces could not attack by crossing that limit, due to which they had to bear extensive loss in that war. Today, ours is also the same position.

Since both the countries are having nuclear powers, therefore, it is clear that we cannot fight war in the manner we did in olden time. It is necessary and it seems to us that gradually we have to prepare mentally for it that one or the other day we would have a nuclear war with Pakistan. We should prepare for it. Nuclear war is a separate issue, therefore, it is not proper to have open discussions in this regard. As has been mentioned that Pakistan is having its training camps and we are having the Prithvi Missile. So we can attack them with it. We will have to keep ourselves ready for any kind of retaliation on the part of Pakistan. We can do this also.

It is a different issue as to what will happen at the international level after this we will be pressurised. It is a separate thing. But it is clear that Pakistan does not bother for any thing at all and it is doing whatever it likes. There should be a separate discussions about that issue and all the parties should be invited for this discussion. It is not very proper to openly discuss on that issue in the House, as we know as to how powerful is our enemy and how to deal with it. There are so many such things. But by having discussions with the main leaders of all the parties. We have to think as to how to deal with Pakistan. We know that in the present international scenario, the USA to serve its own end it can go to some extent to pressurise Pakistan, but it cannot exert complete pressure on that country. Therefore, we can also not be fully assured on behalf of the USA so far as the question of keeping our own house in

order is concerned, be it the attack on our pilgrims visiting Amarnath. There had been several types of attack earlier also. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Shuklaji, please come to the point.

SHRI SHYAMACHARAN SHUKLA: The terrorists attack our BSF and Army Camps. But we have failed to find out their hide outs. We cannot attack those hide outs. They are having safe houses and getting shelter at different places and come out to attack despite our country being a powerful one and having large military and huge administrative machinery. What we are thinking about them and what we are doing in this regard? What is our intelligence services doing? We know that when our struggle for freedom was going on, our all the senior revolutionary leaders were. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shuklaji, please ask the question directly.

SHRI SHYAMACHARAN SHUKLA: All were caught by the intelligence continuously. But we fail to nab the miscreants migrated from Pakistan to Kashmir. Even we cannot reach their hideouts and are not able to take pre-emptive action. They manage to reach our centres and attack them successfully. Yet we sit idle. For this, I feel that we should spend more money on intelligence service in a very massive manner. I know that we cannot afford to man every house in Kashmir with an intelligence person, yet, we have to spend some more funds to beef up the intelligence service there. It can yield better results. There we should try for that.

Secondly, at physical level it seems to us that we are not putting that much force in Kashmir as we should. We should decide combing and search operation should be conducted once in two or three months in each and every house of every village of Kashmir. For that you deploy as much forces as you want and search each and every house therein. After fully identifying their hideouts, their tools or agents wherever the terrorists are hiding, can be attacked and annihilated. For that at present there is no need to keep our forces on our borders. No war is likely to take place there out of fear of nuclear war. You, may deploy as much forces as you like on the borders in front of each other, but there will be no war. You should deploy minimum forces on the border area near Rajasthan and Gujarat. We should deploy rest of the forces in Kashmir. ...*(Interruptions)* I have to say this much only. I will personally discuss with Advani Sahib in this regard in detail.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (PADRAUNA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very thankful to you. I shall not deliver a long speech. I have been listening to all the leaders and I am asking a straight forward question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ask a question straight away.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: There has been an attempt to mislead on your part. At the outset I would like to express my profuse thanks to the majorities residing in India.

Pakistan has always been hatching a plot that is why they have been sponsoring attacks on the Hindu temples so that a civil war may break out. The majorities are exercising restraint, therefore, I am all thanks for them as they do not let Pakistan's strategy to succeed. I visit villages. People have come to form an impression that the Government deliver a number of statements from time to time that they will deal with terrorism sternly but the statements prove hollow as the Government do not act at all. The country has witnessed so many terrorist attacks. First, the Parliament came under attack leading to the deployment of our troops along the border. There was enthusiasm in the people that now the Government would deal with terrorism. The six month long deployment of the Army on the border and their subsequent withdrawal has sent a message that the Government only talks of combating terrorism but actually they do not act.

Shri Mufti Mohammed Sahib has also been in the Ministry of Home Affairs of India. The terrorists had abducted his daughter and in order to secure her release all the terrorists were freed as a compromise. It was condemned all over the country. Presently he is a Chief Minister there. There is a feeling in the people as he often gives statements that he will accomplish what Jawaharlal Nehru and Sheikh Abdullah could not and he will release terrorists.

I would like to ask the hon'ble Home Minister whether it will not lower the morale of the people. Has it not emboldened the terrorists. Will these talks meant for appeasing them be of any advantage to the country. People are asking whether the Government of India were consulted by the Government of J&K before releasing the terrorists. On the one hand we are nabbing dacoits and on the other we are releasing them, so they will again indulge in dacoity. ...*(Interruptions)* Please listen to me. I have also listened to you. I would like to ask directly from the Home Minister as to how many terrorists have been released and how many terrorist attacks have taken place during the period. As far as I am aware, the incidents of terrorist attacks have increased so much as never before ever since the new

Government have come to power. It all has emboldened the terrorists.

I would like to know from the Hon'ble Home Minister whether the morale of the Armed forces has not come down when it is being said by the National Human Rights Commission that the number of the troops already deployed should be curtailed on humanitarian grounds? Today, terrorists are killing and attacking the Military and the Police forces should the army men plead for mercy on being confronted with them, saying, "Please, Sir, don't kill us we have come to see you. There are constant killings in J&K everybody, temples are being attacked, can't you mount an attack upon Pakistan. Don't you have the guts? The terrorists are sneaking into Kashmir. Will the Government empower the army to deal sternly with them? I would like to know from the hon. Home Minister the number of cases filed against the Army by The National Human Rights Commission? I would also like to ask the Home Minister whether he will assure the country as to how much forces will they keep for the safety of the temples keeping in view the increasing number of terrorists attacks on the Hindu Temples? If you keep whole of the army posted there what would happen to the rest of the country?

At last I would like to ask the Home Minister, whether he will ensure that no attacks on the temples take place and a befitting reply is given to terrorism? If the things go the same way, it may lead to a Civil war in the country. What are you going to do to avert this?

*[English]*

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (THANJAVUR): On behalf of the DMK Party, I strongly condemn the barbaric attack committed by the terrorists on Raghunath temple. Our deepest condolences go to the families of the deceased.

For the past few years not a single day had passed without the terrorist attack at one or the other place. How are we going to save our innocent people? We are ready to honour our friendly neighbour.

We should not expect a green signal from our neighbouring countries at the cost of innocent people. Our soldiers are ready to sacrifice their lives on the war front but not in this kind of a third-rate attack.

I urge upon the Government to put an end to it with a concrete measure.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (LATUR): Sir, I am on my legs to formally condole the deaths of our brothers in the incident that have taken place in Jammu and Kashmir.

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

I would just like to know from the hon. Deputy Prime Minister – if it is possible within the time available to him – as to what we would be doing to assuage the feelings of the people in Kashmir so that they cooperate to see that terrorist activities are controlled and contained. I would also like to know as to what steps will be taken to see that the terrorists are controlled and contained, and as to how the Government of India and the Government of Jammu and Kashmir will cooperate and coordinate their activities to achieve these objectives.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (PANDHARPUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, attacks are being committed by terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir. We ask the Government.

"Kab tak karte rahenge atankwad kee ninda,

Ab band kar do Adwani Saheb, yeh tumhara dhandha,

Daal do Pakistan par yuddha ka funda,

Advani Saheb, pakar kar lao yehana,

General Musharaf ko jinda."

I mean to say that war is the only means by which Pakistan can be taught a lesson.

We all need to do this. We have been discussing it in each and every Session Attacks are continuing in J&K.

Only this much is our demand. ...*(Interruptions)*

Our demand is just merely that. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN (VIDISHA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is not a time for joke. He is cutting jokes. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am not cutting jokes. I am speaking seriously. We all are with you. We have been told in the House many times that terrorist attacks are continuing day in day out. It needs to be opposed and the whole of the country is with you. Despite all this our Parliament was attacked on 13 December. They could not come inside but. ...*(Interruptions)* The announcement of war against Pakistan needs to be made at the earliest. Until then terrorism will not end. When are you going to take steps for that? It is our question. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH BADNORE (BHILWARA): Sir, I would like to ask a specific question. Israel is one country which faces terrorism every day, even more than India, and has been facing terrorism for a long time.

16.19 hrs.

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

Even decades ago, it took a decision and went all the way to Entebbe and fought there in a foreign country. Have we been able to get some sort of cooperation from them? I am told that they are ready to cooperate with us in this grave hour. Have we tried to really establish some sort of cooperation because they can teach us a lot as to how to fight terrorism, for, fighting terrorism is not a very easy thing.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there have been debates several times in the House on the issue of terrorism. Though, it has been a convention in this House that no questions related to an incident are asked, once Government statement is made on the incident. Secondly, the convention of the House is that questions are asked in the form of clarifications. As the incident of yesterday was very tragic, therefore, Mr. Speaker today permitted that questions be asked and clarifications be sought but in spite of clarifications there will be a sort of debate on the question of terrorism.

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (MALEGAON): Mr. Speaker, Sir, please give me one minute's time to speak. I have not been given time, therefore, I walk out of the House.

16.21 hrs.

(Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale then left the House.)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Had I known it, he would also have spoken. To sum up, whole of today's discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED (MANJERI): I want to have a word.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I have already started now.

SHRI E. AHAMED: I associate myself with the sentiments expressed against the wanton attack. It is not acceptable. It shall not be allowed to recur. Whatever has happened, the Government should make an enquiry; due process of law should take its course and those responsible should be brought to book. Whatever is happening shall not be allowed to continue at all.

[*Translation*]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: By and large all the statements that have been made are constructive. Whatever has been said and the analysis given on behalf of the Government about yesterday's incident, has confirmed that the incident is a part of the cross border terrorism and Pakistan is responsible for that. Sympathy has been expressed for those killed and wounded and condolences have been expressed to the members of their families. The press did not give the information that one of those killed was a Muslim Citizen and the wounded include 7-8 Muslim citizens as the people of the Surrounding areas became victims to that. Especially most of the people have been wounded not by AK-47 but from the splinters of Grenades. Two three aspects frequently emerge in this regard - first the responsibility of fighting terrorism from across the border lies mainly with the centre as Somnathji has emphasised and therefore the responsibility of checking it is not so much of the State Government as that of the Central Government. I accept this fact and that is why when Syed Muti Mohammed Saheb had been here before taking oath of Chief Minister and called on Prime Minister and me, I had stressed this fact that as per our analysis there is two point agenda before your new government, that is going to be formed—first is to curb the cross border terrorism and second is to further the programmes for the welfare and development of the people of Jammu & Kashmir who have voted you to power. These two points are of such nature that the Central Government would want to extend its full cooperation towards their implementation and support them. I had drawn his attention towards it.

Today, this point has been raised time and again. If someone has said this, then he is merely criticising. At least in my statement, I have not criticised directly or indirectly the Government of that State. I do not say that the incident of yesterday was on account of the release of the prisoners. I believe that whichever Government might have been in power and whatever policy it might have followed in this regard, this incident could have taken place. The incidents that are taking place are there being sponsored by our neighbouring country as they are not willing to renounce their policy to carry forward the war of 1971 through terrorism. The Union Government is responsible for the security of the country. It is the resolve of the whole House to curb terrorism and if the Government of the State takes any important decision for fulfilling that resolve which affects the country's fight against terrorism, I would certainly expect that they should consult the Union Government.

Sir, I have been asked time and again whether the decisions taken are not correct or whether the decisions

have been taken in consultation with me then my reply is in negative. I have all along said that every state has got its jurisdiction. I would not object to it if the Government of the State wants to exercise its jurisdiction. Our friends from West Bengal are sitting here. I am not commenting on what's right or wrong. No one should object if a Member makes a comment on it. But at least I would not comment. One could hold one's own opinion but when it was said - "Is it not true?" Chaturvedijee and Jaipaljee probably asked whether it was not correct that every decision was taken in consultation with you, then my reply is in negative. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (KHAJURAHO): I still stand by what I said. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (SOUTH DELHI): The Home Minister is saying that he was not consulted. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: I said this is the context of the release of the secessionists. ...(*Interruptions*) The decision was taken after the consultation with the Central Intelligence Agency. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ, BIHAR): Hon. Minister is saying that he would not interfere in their rights. But this country is a federation and if due to the wrong decisions of the Government, the pride and security of the country gets affected, then what will be the role of the Union Government at that juncture. ...(*Interruptions*) Whether you would not be able to do anything at that time also, that is what we want to know from you? ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Today that question does not arise, that government has been formed just one month back. I know this much that before the formation of this government whatever. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR (AKOLA): Sir, I am on a point of order. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Under what rule are you on a point of order?

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Sir, I am on a point of order under Rule 356.

[Shri Prakash Yashwant Ambedkar]

The Congress Party which is a part of the Government ruling in the State has alleged that the Central Government has been consulted while freeing the terrorists while the Home Minister is saying that he was not consulted. I think this point should be clarified first.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I am not concerned.  
...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: If he is not clarifying, I would ask Shri Reddy to stand up and say whether he is going to move a privilege motion against the Minister or not. ...(Interruptions) It should not be that the House is being taken for a ride either by the Congress Party or the BJP. It is the Congress Party which is taking the House for a ride. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This point of order does not arise out of Rule 356 because the Rule is quite clear. Therefore, I disallow your point of order.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: The BJP is saying and the Home Minister is on record that he had not been consulted. This is misleading the House and the country also. ...(Interruptions) This point should be clarified. I want to know from the Congress leader whether he is going to stand by what he is saying or going to move a privilege motion against the Home Minister. ...(Interruptions) It is not an issue which should be taken lightly.

MR. SPEAKER: You have quoted the wrong rule and therefore, I am disallowing you.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I do not want to spoil the atmosphere in which the hon. Deputy Prime Minister started the debate and the other hon. Members responded to it.

The only information which we had received was that before releasing the detainees, the Intelligence Agency was consulted, and not the Government or the Minister. The Intelligence Agency was consulted. They might have concurred or they might not have concurred, but it was consulted. That was our information. If that information is correct, releasing the detainees becomes the responsibility of the State Government as well as, to some extent, the Intelligence Agency because it was consulted. Nothing more than that. We are not blaming any Government.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Hon. Shivraj Patil jee is an enlightened person and he is well aware of the technicalities in this regard. I was surprised when Jaipaljee and Chaturvedijee referred to this point. The Intelligence Agencies are never brought in the scene. Neither do I bring them in the scene nor anyone else should do so. ...(Interruptions) I am making it clear that the Union Government has not been consulted in this regard. I would also like to add that when some detainees were released, the Home Secretary wrote to the Government of the State not to take any step in haste in this regard and it would be better if anything is done after proper consultation. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: They are getting the terrorists released. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: If you say like that, problems will arise, we do not want to come to that level. But I want to ask whether the Bharatiya Janata Party had not released the Hurriyat people, had they not talked with the Hizbul Muzahiddin. ...(Interruptions) we can ask a number of questions. ...(Interruptions) Do not say like that. ...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): They were not released for getting the release of the daughter of any Home Minister. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Terrorism has been bred only under your regime. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The way in which you want to hold the discussion is not good.

[English]

This is a very serious issue. People have been killed. Please think of that. Really the hon. Members have addressed this issue in a nice way. Let the same atmosphere continue. Let the hon. Minister reply.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I am thankful to the whole House, something might have come up between the discussions, but overall there is unanimity that whatever incidents of terrorism are going on is not being carried out by any terrorist organisation but our neighbouring country, is sponsoring it from across the border.

[English]

Terrorist organisations are evil, but terrorist states are even more evil.

[Translation]

This fact is not yet being understood by the whole world. The world thinks that terrorism is wrong and they identified that the source of terrorism in the world is Al-Qaeda and Taliban. But the world should also recognise that ISI is a big source of terrorism and that is a part of the establishment of Pakistan. When the Parliament was attacked on the 13th of December. I went to America on its invitation. Then I realised that they hold that terrorism is wrong.

They also accept that the terrorism being perpetrated in India is being sponsored by Pakistan, but it appears to them that the leader of Pakistan who is presently holding the reins.

[English]

He is our best bet.

[Translation]

It is right, we would not go ahead a certain limit, I am mentioning this fact because this assumption is totally wrong that India succumbs to foreign pressure while chalking out its policy. This Government does not come under any pressure. We do not accept this assumption. Mulayam Singhji is not present here, Akhileshji is sitting here, we think that whatever opinion the international community holds in context of combating terrorism is irrelevant. ...*(Interruptions)*

I was quietly listening to all. I would like to tell only this much that from the very beginning when we talked about combating terrorism, we thought that India would have to clinch a decisive victory over terrorism. The opinion of the international community is helpful in that. To seek the help of the international community, we drive this point home to them that they should not be in the confusion that terrorism which is pestering us today is a much distant phenomenon and this distance would save them. The Prime Minister of the country, Shri Vajpayeeji had addressed the American Congress.

[English]

"Do not think that your distance is always going to provide you immunity from this scourge of terrorism.

[Translation]

I am mentioning this fact because the effort, the Government of India is making to drive this point home to the international community, is deliberate. It is our effort that they should understand and to some extent they have

understood too. Had they not understood, they would not have exerted such pressure on them. But the pressure exerted is not upto the desired level. It is a fact that they are on one hand sponsoring terrorism and on the other hand, receiving financial assistance. That financial assistance is utilised against us. So, whatever we had to say, we told explicitly. But we have always tried to pinpoint as to what is the biggest menace to democracy. Therefore, we have constituted a joint working group with England, France, Germany. We signed extradition treaties with them also. We have also formulated a joint legal action treaty. All these efforts have got their utility but to a limited extent. Whatever major successes we have achieved till now have been accrued through our security forces, through our people. Ram Nagina Mishrajee has rightly said that the terrorists thought that in the atmosphere prevailing earlier in Gujarat, an attack on the Akshardham temple would again trigger off the flares of communal violence. Again, something would happen. This did not happen and if credit has to be given, it should be given to the people of India. Their intention became clear before the incident of Akshardham took place. The terrorists continuously attack. They had also tried to attack here but thereafter the people of Jammu-Kashmir responded in a right way. It is a matter of happiness for us.

Friends, as I have told you that my colleague Shri I.D. Swami and Shri Chamanlal Gupta, who is elected from Udhampur and Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence, both of them have gone there. The Defence Minister, Shri George Fernandes left for Jammu short while after this incident. I will meet them tonight and talk with them in this regard.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when I had gone to Washington in January, I was repeatedly asked

[English]

"Is there going to be a war between India and Pakistan?"

[Translation]

Whether there would be a war between India and Pakistan? I always replied that you were attacked on 11 September, 2001 and you said that

[English]

terrorists have declared a war on America.

[Translation]

We have been facing such attacks for the last 15-20 years.

[English]

A war is going on.

[Shri L.K. Advani]

[Translation]

Therefore, the terrorists attacked at Raghunath Temple in Jammu yesterday.

[English]

It is just one battle.

[Translation]

The battles which took place in earlier days

[English]

including the battle on our Parliament,

[Translation]

their intention was not good and our armed forces foiled their intentions. Had they entered the temple they could have played havoc.

[English]

We should know that in all these battles we have been successful.

[Translation]

We have been successful, we have not been defeated. But it is mentioned that as if we have been defeated. People asked that why the Government did not alert the intelligence agencies. I can say only this that there is general alertness that the terrorists intend to attack at temples or such sensitive spots. If our intelligence agencies have specific information about terrorist attack, they inform the security forces in this regard. Many times such specific information has been given on the basis of which probable terrorist actions are foiled but it is not possible always. When two terrorists armed with A K-47 come and start firing, there is no alternative but to eliminate them. In the first attack at the temple three terrorists were eliminated and in the yesterday's attack both the militants were eliminated - one in the night and the other in the morning.

[English]

These are achievements of our security forces.

[Translation]

If we win such battles one by one, then it should not be considered our failure.

[English]

We are determined even to win the war, though how that would come depends on so many factors.

[Translation]

Someone has rightly said, I would not like to say in this regard but it has been discussed repeatedly. It is correct

that at the time of deployment the plan was different. There were objectives which did not get implemented. There were some reasons of non-implementation. As Pakistan did not accept two years back that infiltration takes place from Pakistan, arms have been provided to the terrorists, we have terrorists camps and we are spreading cross-border terrorism and it said that we are not operating terrorism in Jammu-Kashmir.

[English]

There is no such thing as terrorism.

[Translation]

Whatever is happening in Jammu-Kashmir is freedom struggle. As a result of the pressure exerted on Pakistan after September 11 and particularly December 13 incidents, it had made statements publicly twice that we would not allow to emerge our area as a platform of terrorism. We will stop infiltration. The Government of India did not rely on their statement. Even then also the Government of India told the foreign countries, international community that we welcome the statement of Pakistan and it is a good statement. They say that they would not encourage terrorism. It is a good statement. But we will not rely on their statement till they do not take proper action in this regard. We have repeatedly told them for the last 6-8 months that we do not rely on it because they are not doing it in practice. They are operating terrorist activities and spreading violence in the country in the same manner as they were doing earlier. We have adequate proof about it. These activities have been increased recently. Terrorist activities had come down immediately after the election but it has been increased during the last 3-4 days. I have mentioned its reason in my statement. We do not know but we can speculate. One reason is that the main leader of Lashkar-e-Tayyeba has been released and the other is the election during which they may play the card of farce however, it did complete its course from election to the formation of Government episode.

The released leader of Lashkar-e-Tayyeba has publicly appealed for increasing terrorist activities. Later on, it has been confirmed. We say not only on the basis of their statements. I have made a statement that we monitor their communications in India. It has been speculated on the basis of the monitoring that Al-Mansoor, a cover name of Lashkar-e-Tayyeba has done it. I felt that I should inform the hon. Members on the basis of the speculation. But I can say that the whole country is united over this issue and we will not only win this battle but we will also win the war which has been going on for the last 15 years. I have no doubt in this regard.