

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

**Second Session
(Twelfth Lok Sabha)**



(Vol. V contains Nos. 31 to 18)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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CONTENTS

[Twelfth Series, Vol. V, Second Session (Part-II) 1998/1920 (Saka)]

No. 33, Thursday, July 30, 1998/Sharavana 8, 1920 (Saka)

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE	1
STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY	1—2
Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eight and Ninth Reports	
EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF INDIA (AMENDMENT) BILL-INTRODUCED	2
RE: DISMISSAL OF PRATAPSIKH RANE GOVERNMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF WILFRED D'SOUZA GOVERNMENT IN GOA	2—16
MATTERS UNDER RULE 377	22—27
(i) Need for construction of a bridge at Used ghat on Chambal river in Morena district, Madhya Pradesh	
Shri Ashok Argal	22
(ii) Need to direct Chandigarh Housing Board to allot plots to Co-operative Housing Societies early	
Shri Satya Pal Jain	22—23
(iii) Need to improve the functioning of Central Coalfields Ltd. and Bharat Coaking Coal Ltd.	
Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey	23
(iv) Need to send a team to Jalaun in U.P. to survey crops affected by weeds	
Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma	23
(v) Need to ensure availability of drinking water to all in the country by 2000 AD	
Dr. B.N. Reddy	23—24
(vi) Need to grant statehood to Vidarbha immediately	
Shri Vilas Muttemwar	24
(vii) Need to take over cement factory at Sawai Madhopur in Rajasthan to protect the interest of workers	
Shrimati Usha Meena	24—25
(viii) Need to preserve the natural beauty of Calcutta city	
Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay	25
(ix) Need to provide railway facilities at Hasanganj and Purva in U.P.	
Shrimati Reena Chaudhary	25—26
(x) Need to set up a Low Power Transmission Centre of Doordarshan in Kollam district in Kerala	
Shri N.K. Premachandran	26
(xi) Need to provide more funds to the State Government of Tamil Nadu for early completion of Hoganekkal drinking water scheme	
Shri K.P. Mohan	26

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
(xii) Need to ensure that Jute Corporation of India purchase raw jute from jute growers directly particularly in North Bengal	
Shri Amar Roy Pradhan*	27
STATEMENT BY MINISTER	28
Accident to Indian Airlines Dornier Aircraft at Cochin	
Shri Ananth Kumar	28

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, July 30, 1998/Shravana 8,
1920 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you after the papers are laid on the Table of the House.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report and Statement regarding review by the Government of the working of the International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution, New Delhi.

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY
AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
(DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table —

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1439/98]

1102 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Reports

[English]

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN (Thiruvananthapuram) : Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Energy :—

- (1) Fifth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fourteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Energy (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1997-98) relating to Department of Atomic Energy.

- (2) Sixth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fifteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Energy (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1997-98) relating to Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources.
- (3) Seventh Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Sixteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Energy (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1997-98) relating to Ministry of Power.
- (4) Eighth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventeenth Report of the Standing Committee on Energy (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1997-98) relating to Ministry of Coal.
- (5) Ninth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Eighteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Energy (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on the subject "Rural Electrification—Problems, Realities and Achievements".

1103 hrs.

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF INDIA (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Export-Import Bank of India Act, 1981.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Export-Import Bank of India Act, 1981."

The motion was adopted

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

1104 hrs.

RE: DISMISSAL OF PRATAPSIKH RANE GOVERNMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF WILFRED D'SOUZA GOVERNMENT IN GOA

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up issues pertaining to 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part-II, Section-2, dated 30.7.98.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA (Guwahati) : Sir, democracy was murdered in Goa. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : You should take care of your own party affairs ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI A.C. JOS (Mukundapuram) : You have murdered democracy.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : It will disintegrate further ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : He is saying that murder has been committed. We would like to know as to who has been murdered? He is speaking of murders committed in Goa...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER (Tenali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what has happened, yesterday, in Goa is nothing but a rape of the Constitution with the active connivance of the Central Government. I charge this Government of having connived with the Governor of Goa in dismissing the Government of Rane and bringing the Government of D'Souza.

Sir, it is unfortunate that this Party, which had been clamouring that Article 356 has been misused and that no Government should be dismissed except when it loses the confidence on the floor of the House, has generated a situation where they have not shown any respect to the constitutional provisions.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hazipur) : What is that testing going on there. Kindly get it stopped ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : What is this which is being shown on the screen in the House? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : This is not the time for making a trial of all these things in the House ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : The manner in which this Government has acted in conniving with the Governor of Goa clearly gives an impression to the nation and to the world that this Government does not have any faith in the Constitutional system. It has given a go by to the Constitutionalism and to the provisions of the Constitution...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi) : Who appointed the Governor? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : Let us recall on this occasion the case of Shri Somappa R. Bommai and the various other cases that have passed by where it has been decided categorically, and conventions and customs have been clearly laid down, that the test of

majority has to be necessarily on the floor of the House...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : We cannot discuss the conduct of the Governor in the House...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : Unfortunately, what the Governor has done is that under Article 164 of the Constitution...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT JOGI (Raigarh) : Shri Satya Pal Jain, you don't give a running commentary like this...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN (Amroha) : This is too much...*(Interruptions)* You are not to decide. You are nobody to decide that.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chetan Chauhan, I allowed Shri P. Shiv Shanker to speak. How can you question him? Please take your seat. After Shri P. Shiv Shanker speaks, you can say something. You please take your seat now. Please understand the procedure. I allowed Shri P. Shiv Shanker. How can you say anything? That is not the procedure.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN : We represent our Constituencies. People have expectations from us also.

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat, Shri Chetan Chauhan.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : I would like to make the position absolutely clear.

MR. SPEAKER : Today I have 63 notices for Zero Hour. I want to accommodate all the hon. Members today.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : I would like to submit that I am not discussing the conduct of the Governor, but I am discussing the actions of the Governor. I can always find fault with the actions of the Governor without assailing his personal conduct. I am entitled to that under the Constitution and I am exercising that right. I would like to bring to your kind notice that the manner in which the Governor has saddled Wilfred De'Souza in the Government shows that Article 164 has been totally twisted. Under Article 164 of the Constitution where a Governor could appoint a Chief Minister, he cannot appoint *ipso facto* under his own discretion. He has always necessarily to go by the majority view of the legislature party. Unfortunately what he has done in this case is that he just saddled one person with the Chief Ministership and has gone to dismiss another Chief Minister which is setting a completely wrong precedent giving a total go by to the Constitutionalism in this country. I would just like to briefly bring to your notice the facts.

On the 24th of July, five of the MLAs were expelled. This matter was brought to the notice of the Speaker that five MLAs had been expelled. This was brought to his notice on the 25th of July itself. Then, on that day, two UGP Members and two independents had also joined. If five Members had gone out of the 23 Members who were there, the total strength being 39, 18 remained. Five Members having gone, two independents and two

UGP Members having joined, they made the entire situation to 22. This was the position which remained. I would not further go into the other details. What I would like to bring to your kind notice is that—all this had happened before 27th—on the 28th, the Governor addresses a letter to the Speaker and equally a letter to the Chief Minister...*(Interruptions)*. The letter that he has addressed to the Speaker reads like this. The letter has been sent to the Speaker at 2.30 p.m. It says :

"The House may, on 28th July, 1998, before transacting any other business, consider and dispose of the following matters in the order indicated, namely :

- (i) The Motion of Vote of Confidence in the Ministry headed by Shri Pratapsinh Rane;
- (ii) all stages of motions or motions for which notices have been given but not yet taken up;
- (iii) passing of all the remaining budgetary demands, and
- (iv) passing of the Annual Appropriation Bill and also the Supplementary Appropriation Bill."

This order has been issued by the Governor under Article 175 (2) of the Constitution. Equally, on the same day, he sent a letter to Shri Rane, the Chief Minister. At 2 O' clock he received that letter. The Governor says that by 3.30 p.m. the Chief Minister should prove his majority in the House. One-and-a-half hours' time was given to him. While sending it to the Speaker, he said that before transacting any business, this should be done. It is because 3.30 p.m. is the time when the Assembly meets. Therefore, hardly about an hour and a half's time was given to the Chief Minister. And, he proved his majority in the House. This is what has happened...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : Sir, this is a very important matter. So, kindly give us time. Coming to my original point, the entire business was transacted. The entire business was transacted for two days and all the matters were completed. Then, yesterday, lo and behold, the Governor decided to dismiss the Chief Minister, he installed the other Chief Minister without any rhyme or reason, without even showing that this man has the majority and he has given him twenty-one days' time.

The one aspect which I would like to bring to your kind notice at this stage is, the House may kindly recall that in the case of Shri Kalyan Singh in Uttar Pradesh, when Shri Bhandari had given three days' time, the entire House, and particularly the Opposition, including Shri Khurana, had found fault that sufficient time was not given to the Chief Minister to prove his majority on the floor of the House...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : They are following Shri Bhandari now...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : In this case, hardly an hour and half's time was given to Shri Rane and surprisingly to Shri De Souza, the Governor gives twenty one days' time for the purpose of proving the majority

in the House! This is something which is very strange. This shows the partiality, the manner in which the Governor has acted.

Having said this, I would like to bring to your kind notice yet a very peculiar situation in which the Central Government is actively conniving. The Centre's stand, as per their spokesman is that—I am reading from what has appeared in *The Hindustan Times*—"Centre tonight distanced itself from the Governor's action by saying that he had acted on his own under Article 174 of the Constitution." Under Article 174 of the Constitution, the Governor has to summon the House and he can prorogue and dissolve the House. Can a Governor, without the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers, under Article 163 of the Constitution, go to the extent of proroguing and dissolving a House? Are we giving these powers to a Governor? Is this the thinking of the Central Government?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad) : In the Gujarat affairs, we had proved our majority at Rashtrapati Bhavan when 94 MLAs were present. Yet the Government was dismissed by the then Governor...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA (Junagarh) : The Bhartiya Janata Party Government was also dismissed in Gujarat by the then Governor even when that Government had majority. Nobody uttered a word at that time...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : You will have your say...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : He is saying the same thing. You should first reply to this and then only you should say something...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : I am speaking on the basis of the facts. You will have your say. What I am trying to bring to your kind notice is that this is something very strange. If this is the situation which the Central Government perceives as constitutionalism, then this House could as well be prorogued or dissolved even without the decision of the Cabinet. This is a situation which is most unwarranted. This will create a constitutional chaos. This will be the case where the constitutionalism will be put to a test. I submit that the Central Government by its action, is trying to support the Governor and extricate itself. This extrication by itself shows the active connivance of the Central Government with the action of the Governor.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Shiv Shanker, please conclude. You have already taken 20 minutes.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : It is always the case of summoning of the House or of prorogation or of dissolution at the behest of the Cabinet. It cannot be done at the free will of the Governor...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : The two groups of the Congress are fighting against each other ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : Without going further, what I would like to bring to your kind notice is that the Governor has acted in a brazen manner, illegally and without any constitutional authority. The Governor's action is questionable. Therefore, I would submit that the Government should come forth immediately with the statement. They should immediately recall the Governor under Article 156 of the Constitution because the governor enjoys the authority during the 'pleasure' of the President.

Secondly, I would like to submit that the Government will have to find the way out as to how the constitutionalism has to be restored. It is for them to decide. They will have to find the way out to see the end of D'Souza's Government which is a usurper in Goa...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka) : In Gujarat also, the Bharatiya Janata Party government was dismissed by the then Governor even when the Government had proved its majority...(Interruptions) and R.J.P. Government was installed...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER (Tenali) : They will have to restore the Government of Rane. This is the only way out. They will have to find the way out; otherwise, this Government are totally incompetent and they are conniving with the Governor in unconstitutionality ... (Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : The Rajiv Congress has defeated the Sonia Congress...(Interruptions)

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA (Tura) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will not take more than three minutes. I will be very brief.

Sir, it is with a lot of pain and anguish that I am taking the floor. Shri Jain said, 'why do you not take care of your party?'. Maybe, he is very right. But today, the question has gone beyond party lines. Today, the question is, 'how do we take care of our Constitution?'. Today, the question is, 'how do we take care of our democracy?'. Today, the question is 'how do we take care of our country?'

What has happened in Goa yesterday? Similar situation happened in the State of Uttar Pradesh. I am not going into that. At that particular time, I was the Presiding Officer of this august House, and then the BJP leader Shri Jaswant Singh gave a notice of Substantive Motion under Rule 184 for recall of the Governor. The BJP is a responsible party. Shri Jaswant Singh had given that notice with very careful consideration. Our institutions which have been created by the Constitution of India are being today denigrated. I would come to that when the actual debate takes place.

I would only appeal to this House to take this issue very seriously because it will affect the future of our country and the future of our democracy. I applied my mind at that time as the Speaker of the House and

ultimately, I came to a conclusion that the action of the Governor of Uttar Pradesh could not be ignored in the interest of the preservation of our democracy, and therefore, I allowed the Motion under Rule 184 then. It could not be discussed because the situation changed in Uttar Pradesh and the Motion under Rule 184 was not moved in the House. I was not happy with that because I really wanted a serious debate on the floor of the House. Since it could not take place, I took this matter to the Conference of the Presiding Officer' at Shimla. In that Conference, the Presiding Officers passed a unanimous resolution, a special resolution on U.P. situation, on the role of the Governor.

Sir, I think., this is a matter which we should take very seriously as a nation. I would appeal to you, not to take this issue so lightly. Let us apply our mind together. Our institutions are in danger. Our country is in danger. Our democracy is in danger. I would plead with the hon. Speaker to please admit a Motion under Rule 184 and let us have a serious debate on this issue.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : ... (Interruptions)
At least give us the time of the Question Hour also. You have extended the House. So well organised the Government is.

Personally speaking, I am not surprised because the BJP have preached many things and have breached everything. As Shri Sangma rightly reminded us, the fulminations, if I may use that word without any derogatory sense, from the then Opposition Party, from the very articulate Deputy Leader of the BJP and other Members of the BJP, against what I also said wrongful action of the then Governor of UP. Exactly a similar action has been taken. Today it is being said you have done it, therefore we have done it. Therefore, let them say Congress is their idol and whatever illegalities and unconstitutional acts they have committed, you are scrupulously following them. Say that, you admit that, let us understand. That is their version.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I wish to express our deepest sense of objection and protest against the way it has been done, it happened in Goa. The Governor has arrogated to himself the powers of what the Legislative Assembly alone holds. I am not trying to be an expert. The Supreme Court of India has categorically stated that the Governor is not chosen by the people, the Legislative Assembly is chosen by the people. Representatives of the people sit in the Legislative Chamber; they do not sit and operate in the Raj Bhawans.

But, unfortunately by grossest misuse of the Constitution the Raj Bhawans have acquired more importance than the Legislative Chambers. This is precisely what is happening. What sort of constitutional propriety is there? A Chief Minister is given one-and-a-half hours time to move a motion for the vote of confidence. That is what we have got from the paper. Then they are asked to immediately pass the financial business in the House because he realised that if the financial business was not passed within the time allotted there will be constitutional difficulties. Therefore,

he forces the House to pass the financial Bills and then immediately dismisses the Government by withdrawing his pleasure. I cannot think of a more draconian and more near-fascist action of the Governor.

It has been very categorically said by the Supreme Court which I would like to quote just now. I hope my learned friends would not mind my quoting the Supreme Court. They are so impatient. It was contended before the Supreme Court that the Governor was justified in not giving time because it would have resulted in horse-trading. I am reading from the Bommai case at Page 127 of 1994, three Supreme Court cases, paragraph 118, Justice Sawant :

"It is not known from where the Governor got the information that there was horse-trading going on between the legislators. Even assuming it is so, the correct and the proper course for him to adopt was to await the test on the floor of the House which test the Chief Minister had willingly undertaken to hold".

He has not only willingly undertaken it, he has in fact gone through the process. In terms of the Governor's requisition he came to the House and obtained a vote of confidence.

Then, it has been said : 'through any day and any time the Governor chose' and they have done it.

Now, I quote again from the S.R. Bommai's case :

"It appears that the Governor was in a hurry to dismiss the Government and dissolve the Assembly."

Of course, that part has not come up because of various reasons.

I now quote what the other learned judge, Justice Jeevan Reddy, a party of the majority, said :

"The High Court, in our opinion, had held that the floor test was not obligatory. If only one keeps in mind the democratic principles underlying the situation and the fact that it is only the Legislative Assembly that represents the will of the people and not the Governor, the position would be clear beyond any doubt."

Then, he goes on to observe and I quote :

"The loss of confidence of the House was an objective fact which could have been demonstrated one way or the other on the floor of the House. In our opinion, wherever a doubt arises whether the Council of Ministers has lost the confidence of the House the *only* (the Supreme Court has put it, giving emphasis, in italics) way of testing it is on the floor of the House except in extraordinary situation where because of all-pervasive violence the Governor comes to conclusion ...(that it should be done some other way)."

No such thing has happened. This is an extraordinary situation where a Ministry is dismissed after obtaining a vote of confidence. I am not holding a

brief, *per se*, for Shri Rane or anybody else but the question that Shri Sangma has raised is a question of principle. It is a question not only of the year 1998 or of the Twelfth Lok Sabha but it is a perennial question.

We, in this fiftieth year of Independence, are very happy, trying to tell the world that we have passed a formal resolution expressing our great determination to continue the principles of parliamentary democracy. We have asserted, reasserted and what not our faith in maintaining the decorum of the House. This House represents the nation. The Assembly represents the State or the people of that State. By ignoring Parliament or ignoring the Assembly, it is a declaration of war against the people who have expressed their opinion. If these appointed persons, these selected people will arrogate to themselves the power of the people of this country, we can never accept it.

I am very sorry but I have said that I am not surprised. I cannot expect good behaviour from them. I mean, good constitutional behaviour and not personal behaviour. When it comes to personal behaviour, they are excellent. I have the largest number of friends there. But I cannot expect good constitutional behaviour from them because of the way the Governors were appointed, because Raj Bhavans are allowed to be occupied by their leading functionaries who are active political participants. We knew that this was going to happen and Raj Bhavans were going to be additional places of conspiracy with a Government which does not have the mandate of the people, all sorts of wonderful combinations. This is a Government of packages. I said that the Prime Minister is in bond age and they are now taking the country for a ride.

We cannot but strongly protest against the misuse of the Constitution. This is nothing but, I am sorry to say, an addition to the list of incidents where there has been a rape of the Constitution through the Office of the Governor and we strongly protest against that.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been a member of this House for the past nine years approximately. All of us have faith in democracy. Our constitution is the foundation of the democracy. The implementation of provisions of constitution is carried out through several conventions. I have been witness to this trend in the House many a times during the last five years that whenever a person, group and a political party implements a provision of the constitution, it is examined from a different angle. My colleague and my senior colleagues right from Shri Sangma to Shri Shiv Shanker and Somnath ji have mentioned the turn of events in Goa.

When such an incident occurred in Gujarat, I was a Member of this House at that time also. That act was a severe blow to democracy. Suresh Mehta Government was in power in Gujarat at that time. When that Government was dismissed, you did not utter even a single word at that time. Shri Suresh Mehta had come to Delhi with 94 MLAs. He had two more MLAs on his side to prove majority. Those MLAs were presented

[Shri Harin Pathak]

before the journalists and their number was counted. However, the then governor dismissed the democratically elected government having the support of four and a half crore people of Gujarat with just a stroke of his pen. We kept on raising our voice in the House. However, none of the Hon'ble Members opposed it at that time. None of your allied party members and not even Somnath Bobu stood up to oppose this unconstitutional act. All of your colleagues supported the view that the Governor of Gujarat was well within his right to take the action that was taken in Gujarat ...*(Interruptions)* the House and this country will run by the same convention as are set by you. We claim to be representatives of the country... *(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to recount the incident that occurred on 21st of February, 1998. The next day i.e. on the 22nd February, the Lok Sabha elections were being held in the country including Uttar Pradesh but the Governor of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Romesh Bhandari made Shri Jagdambika Pal the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh that very night. Somnath Babu, where were you at that time? Was it not a violation of Constitution? The Congress, the United Front and your allied parties had supported it then. In this context, I would only say that what is obvious is not always the ultimate truth. When they are required to handle the matter, the action becomes constitutional and even when it is not constitutional, it is viewed from some other angle...*(Interruptions)* The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. Shri Madan Lal Khurana will make his own point but according to the report with me, Goa is rocked by internal fight in the Congress Party. Some Congress Members met the Governor and stated that they do not support Sonia Gandhi but they are with the Congress party formed by her husband late Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when a democratically elected government runs into problems or no longer remains stable, it becomes the duty of the Governor to hand over the governance to the person who has the majority or is expected to get the support of the majority, Whatever action was taken in Goa, was taken in accordance with the same convention but what happened in Uttar Pradesh was unconstitutional. You should express your remorse for it. This is my submission.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I fully, agree with the views expressed by Sangma ji just now as to how the incidents of defection are occurring in the country and how the Governments are being dismissed. I am not saying so in context of Goa. Rather, I am making a general point. I shall take up the issue of Goa later on. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of concern... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No, Please sit down.
...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : No, Please sit down.
...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I fully agree with Sangma ji that the way such incidents are occurring and the way some defectors are joining hands to topple the government, it sounds a warning bell for the democracy. If the opposition wants, we are prepared to sit together to find out a way to resolve this problem ... *(Interruptions)* you have already spoken now let me also put forth my views.

So far as the issue pertaining to Goa is concerned, I will speak on it as well. Hon'ble Somnathji is a good advocate. He is a capable person and pleads his case well but my point is that Shri Somnath should have presented this case at that time also when the matter pertaining to U.P. came up...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We had opposed it.

[English]

We have been consistently opposing this ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : You may have said so. But what I want to say is that in India...*(Interruptions)* You have no right to speak because you were in Cabinet then...*(Interruptions)* I would like to say that it has happened for the first time in the country... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It is not correct; it is incorrect. I know that. What he has been trying to do to Shri Sahib Singh Verma, he is trying to refer to us ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I had been listening to you. My submission is that this is the first such instance in the country wherein a Cabinet dismissed the government under Article 356. Did we get any justice? We met the president. He revoked the orders. Where did we get the justice from? Lok Sabha elections were held after a day and all the Members got together to dismiss the Kalyan Singh Government. From where did we get justice? We got it from the court. All of you got together and hatched the conspiracy to finish the BJP somehow or the time?... *(Interruptions)* You are speaking of constitutional behaviour now. I would have believe you had you stated your intention to withdraw the support to the government in case Article 356 is not removed. An oral speech was given but no action was taken. Hence I would like to say that this is not a serious problem and that is what I said at the outset also. I agree with Shri Sangma that keeping in view the future of this country and for the future of democracy, we must make such changes in the legislation so that such incidents do not recur...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Then you are not supporting the action of the Governor of Goa. You have to say that.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I am coming to that also. Had you restricted your speech to that point, I would have spoken on it but you have delivered sermons instead and I am replying to that only ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : You need some good sermons and not the RSS sermons...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let him complete, please.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : You are a good advocate. You can advocate the case of murderer as well but you remained silent when democracy was murdered and that is why

[English]

you are not a good advocate...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We are the only party who are consistently opposing the use of Article 356 of the Constitution. We are always opposed to this. No party has a better role in opposing than our party. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : When the Minister is giving reply, who do you all stand up?

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir I would like to say that so far as this matter is concerned I do not want to go into the details. I believe ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : Are you ready to recall the Governor or not? You may inform us on that point...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : You do not have the right to speak about the role of Governors...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Please sit down and listen to me...*(Interruptions)* I am coming to that...*(Interruptions)* You had given a call in U.P. and Gujarat also...*(Interruptions)* At present, I...*(Interruptions)* When you were speaking, I did not intervene. Now kindly listen to me. This was your own problem. 10 out of 26 members had left your party. More than one-third members had left your party. You did not enjoy majority in the House any longer. How the Governor took the action thereafter; what was done, The decision regarding Goa taken by the Hon'ble Governor and it was his personal decision. This decision was taken under Article 174 of Constitution. The Central Government ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA (Guwahati) : How can a Governor function as an individual? ...*(Interruptions)*

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM (Garhwal) : Sir, he is going on giving a speech. He is disturbing all the time...*(Interruptions)* You lectured us on how to behave. But how are you behaving now?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHUBANESHWAR KALITA : The Governor cannot function as an individual...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let him complete.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr Speaker, Sir, kindly ask them to take their seats...*(Interruptions)* Please let me conclude. The Governor has taken this decision under Article 174. The Central Government has nothing to do with it. The Governor submitted his report to the Ministry of Home Affairs. With regard to the allegation levelled by them, I have already stated that we are not involved. About Article 356, we have made it clear that we will not use it against any State or misuse it. Earlier also, we have said so and you must have seen for yourself that so many months have passed and so much pressure was exerted on us that if we use Article 356 against some States, the people of these States would be happy...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Athawale, please take your seat. What is this?

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : That we know, but despite that we have not used Article 356. We practise what we profess. We want to protect the Constitution, this is my submission...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to say something...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, Please understand the position.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHUBANESHWAR KALITA : Sir, he is a Member from Goa. He should be allowed to speak...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You please sit down first.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA (Marmagoa) : Sir, I was silently hearing the hon. Minister, Shri Khurana when he said that the Supreme Court restored the Government in UP...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : But the practice of this House is that once the Minister of Parliamentary

[Shri Ram Naik]

Affairs has replied, the same issue will not continue...*(Interruptions)* How can the same issue be continued? You cannot continue the same issue for a long time...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, not like this.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Ram Naik.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have called Shri Ram Naik.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I know that he is from Goa.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, no; I have called Shri Ram Naik. Then, he can speak. Let the Minister give his views.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, the deputy leader of the Congress Party has given his comments. ...*(Interruptions)* The ex-hon. Speaker also has given his comments. The CPI(M) leader also has given his comments. Then, you called the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to react. So, once he has given his statement, the issue should be over.

There are many other issues which other hon. Members want to raise. They should be allowed to raise those issues...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, no, please.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Sir, I was patiently hearing the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Khurana. As he has rightly said, the Supreme Court restored the Government in Uttar Pradesh. Now, same is the case in Goa. The Governor requested the Chief Minister to prove the majority within one-and-a-half hours...*(Interruptions)* Here is a copy of the notice where he says that within a day, he has to finish all this transaction. ...*(Interruptions)* The Finance Bill has been approved. The majority has been shown in the House. After that, the Governor has dismissed the Chief Minister.

For your information, when the Speaker has taken action, whether rightly or wrongly against the Members, they have gone to the High Court. The petition is supposed to come up for hearing at 10.30 a.m. today. I am asking as to what is the propriety of the Governor to dismiss the Chief Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, please take your seat.

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : You must recall the Governor immediately...*(Interruptions)* You must restore the Government, ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

11.53 hrs

(At this stage, Shri Francisco Sardinha and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

MR. SPEAKER : This is not good.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please resume your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : After raising the entire matter, this is not good. Please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am appealing to you to go to your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : After raising the matter, this is not the way.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, no; what is this?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You have raised the matter. Now, you are disturbing the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am appealing to you to please resume your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : There are other important issues to be raised.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You are obstructing other Members from raising other issues.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You have already raised the matter.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand that you are obstructing other Member from raising their issues.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You are not allowing other Member to raise issues.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : This is not the good way.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the House stands adjourned to meet again at 1 P.M.

11.56 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Thirteen of the Clock.

13.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at
Thirteen of the Clock.*

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please be seated

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand, the Chair wants to make some observations.

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Let me first make my point... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please allow me to make some observations.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please hear me first.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (Dhenkanal) : Yesterday, when Shri Yarrannaidu was in the Chair, he told me that he would put my name at the top... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You should hear me first.

I have received a notice from Hon. Ajit Jogi and Hon. P.J. Kurien, under Rule 184 of the Rules of Procedure. I am having the matter examined with reference to the facts of the case for which I am calling an official report from the Ministry of Home Affairs. I shall take a decision on the matter and get back to the House.

I would also like to intimate the hon. Members that this afternoon I have fixed a meeting of the BAC to discuss the business of the House. Members of the BAC will have an opportunity to raise the matter in the BAC as well. In the circumstances, I request all the Members to keep peace and facilitate orderly conduct of business of the House, as mentioned in the List of Business.

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Vijayawada) : The facts are already known. What more facts does the Government want?... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Does the Government want to say anything?

[Translation]

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA (Jhabua) : The Minister of Home Affairs should make a statement ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs would like to respond.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM : (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to give a sad news... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK (Panaji) : He is misguiding the House.

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : The Minister of Home Affairs should make a statement.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I have to convey a sad news to the House. A small Dornier aeroplane I.C. 503 carrying three passengers and three crew members from Cochin to Trivendram has met with an accident. As this accident has taken place after 11 o' clock, the Civil Aviation Minister would make a statement in the House by today evening with full facts... (Interruptions)

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA (Guwahati) : A statement should also be given regarding the 12 people killed in a bomb blast in Assam... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : What about this?

SHRI A.C. JOS (Mukundapuram) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we want more details regarding the crash of the Dornier aircraft.

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister of Civil Aviation is going to make a statement on it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Would the Home Minister like to respond in regard to the notice of Motion under Rule 184?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as the development in Goa are concerned, I believe what you just now said had a reference to that. You said that you had received some notice in respect of which you would seek necessary information from the Home Minister and then take a decision. It is entirely up to you to decide upon the form in which the matter should come up here. What I would like to say at this point is that the decision has been taken by the Governor of the State under his authority and under the Constitutional provisions ... (Interruptions)

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : Are we going into the merits?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I am not going into the merits.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thought, when you made this announcement, that notice of a formal motion has been given and on that basis you will decide the admissibility... (Interruptions)

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we would like to know whether the notice under 184 has been admitted or not.

SHRI AJIT JOGI (Raigarh) : Sir, I gave notice for a motion under Rule 184 and I requested that the Governor of Goa should be recalled under Article 156 of the Constitution. Are you going to kindly admit that motion or not?

MR. SPEAKER : I have already said that it will be discussed in the BAC.

SHRI AJIT JOGI : All the facts are known to the Home Minister.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not even seen the motion that has been given notice of. I only heard you announce that you had received a notice from Shri Ajit Jogi and Shri Sharad Pauer in respect of which you will seek necessary information from the Home Ministry and then take a decision. We are willing to abide by whatever decision you are going to take because whether a motion of that kind can be admitted and can be discussed in the House is for you to decide. I will give you all the necessary information in this regard...(Interruption)

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Vijayawada) : All the information is available. What more do you want to know?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : At this point of time, I say that whatever has happened in Goa is not because of a decision of the Central Government. We have been informed about what has happened. We will give all the necessary information...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK (Panaji) : Whatever has happened there was at the instance of the Home Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI AJIT JOGI (Raigarh) : We have given a substantive Motion...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We will discuss it in the BAC.
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand the position.
...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA :Mr. Speaker, Sir, democracy has been butchured in Goa... (Interruptions) Such a Governor should be recalled... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please take your seats. You cannot stall the proceedings of the House like this.
...(Interruptions)

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Can you give assurance that Motion under Rule 184 will be accepted?... (Interruptions)

13.10 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Kantilal Bhuria and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand. Unless we have facts, how can we decide about a Motion under Rule 184?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is not good. This is not fair on the part of hon. Members.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is not good. This is not fair also.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Bhuria, please hear me. Without getting the facts, how can we decide a Motion under Rule 184?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Knowing all these things, it is not good to do like this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am appealing to the hon. Members to kindly go back to their seats. This is not good. Without having information, how can we decide a Motion under Rule 184?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Once again, I am appealing to the hon. Members to go back to their seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am requesting the hon. Members to go back to their seats. Without obtaining information, how can we decide a Motion under Rule 184? What is this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is not good. Please understand. There are other Members also who want to raise important issues.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is not good. I am appealing to you again, please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You have discussed this issue for one hour. You are not listening to the observations made by the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, these people are saying all this only to find place in the newspaper... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Once again, I am appealing to you to go back to your seats. This is my request to all of you. This is not the proper way to put forth your view.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Once again, I am requesting you to go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is this? This is not the proper way.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 4 p.m.

1317 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Sixteen of the Clock.

1603 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at three minutes past Sixteen of the Clock.

(SHRI V. SATHIAMOORTHY in the Chair)

...(Interruptions)

At this stage, Shri Francisco Sardinha and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Disturbing the proceedings of the House is not proper.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let us take Matters under Rule 377.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : This matter was already raised in the 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : Sir, I want to make a statement... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please just allow the Minister to make a statement.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Today's matters listed under rule 377 are to be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : All the Members are requested to cooperate to proceed with the business of the House.

...(Interruptions)

1604 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

(i) **Need for construction of a bridge at Used Ghat on Chamber River in Morena District (M.P.)**

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK ARGAL (Morena) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the foundation stone for the construction of a bridge at Used Ghat on Chambal river in Morena district was laid by the Government of the former Prime Minister, Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi. However, no action has been taken with regard to the construction of the above mentioned bridge.

With the construction of Used Ghat bridge, this district will be connected with Ferozabed and Agra districts of Uttar Pradesh and people will be able to travel easily.

Therefore, through you, I would like to urge upon the Central Government to kindly issue orders to the concerned department to start the construction of a bridge at Used Ghat on Chambal river in Morena District without further delay so that the people of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh are able to travel to and from one district to another in less time and at lesser cost.

(ii) **Need to direct Chandigarh Housing Board to allot plots to co-operative Housing Societies early.**

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Chandigarh is a Union territory and is facing a shortage of residential accommodation. Due to this very reason, many people have formed Housing co-operative societies to construct cheaper housing units collectively.

Chandigarh Administration has been allotting plots to such societies for constructing houses for the last several years. Thereafter the administration decided to allot land henceforth not for allocating plots but for the purpose of construction of flats. After that, several societies challenged this decision by filing suit in Punjab and Haryana High Court, but they did not get much success. After the ruling of the court, Chandigarh administration and Chandigarh Housing Board wrote to the societies and asked them to deposit some more money in addition to the amount already deposited with them earlier. At this, some people deposited the additional amount. Thus, many societies have already deposited 25 per cent of the total cost so far. Despite that, Chandigarh administration and Chandigarh Housing Board has not started making allotment of land to these people. Due to this, people are becoming agitated and have started demanding that land be allotted to them without further delay for construction of houses. They do not want to delay the construction of houses by even a single day in view of the constantly rising cost of construction. Therefore, I request the Central Government administration and Chandigarh Housing

* Treated as laid on the Table of the House.

[Shri Satya Pal Jain]

Board to issue orders for allotment of land to such housing societies for the construction of houses immediately.

(iii) Need to improve the functioning of Central Coalfields Ltd. and Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih) : Sir, the losses of Central Coalfield Limited and Bharat Coking Coal Limited are mounting. As per my information, B.C.C.L. is incurring a loss of approximately one crore rupees daily. There are several reasons for that - non availability of proper accommodation facility for the employees working in these companies, non-payment of the arrears before retirement and irregularities in appointments made on compassionate grounds. The efficiency of employees has declined due to these very circumstances. Similarly posting at the same place for a longer than the stipulated period in case of certain employees holding sensitive posts is giving rise to wrong practices. The Management has to approach the court with regard to those displaced due to which lakhs or rupees of the Government are wasted. All the suggestions made to improve the style of functioning of the management have proved to be useless. Wasteful expenditure is increasing in C.I.L.

Therefore, the Government is requested to constitute a parliamentary and expert committee in order to bring improvement in the management of C.C.L. and B.C.C.L.; provide proper accommodation facility to the employees of the company with immediate effect and make arrangement for transfer of employees holding sensitive posts for a longer period against the rules with immediate effect.

(iv) Need to send a team to Jalaun in U.P. to survey crop affected by weeds

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA (Jalaun) : My constituency, Jalaun is an agricultural area. Majority of the population of this area is dependent upon agricultural products for a living. I would like to draw your attention towards a major agricultural problem affecting the Kuthond area. In the month of December, a yellow thorny weed starts growing with the crop in the entire cultivable area. This weed stunts the growth of the crop and eliminates the possibility of growing any other crop. The farmers of this area are affected by this problem and are bearing losses. This weed is also causing damage to the crops of farmers of Madhogarh and Rampara areas besides Kuthond.

I would like to make a demand to the Central Government to send a team from the Centre between the months of February and April to survey the problem caused by the weed and resolve it so that the farmers of the area are relieved.

(v) Need to ensure availability of Drinking Water to All in the Country by 2000 A.D.

[English]

DR. B.N. REDDY (Miryalguda) : In spite of the importance of drinking water supply mentioned in the

National Agenda by the Central Government and the assurance given to the people by the responsible persons, the state of affairs is very bad, when we go to the villages, where we find our women in the countryside walking miles together to fetch water. I request through you, Sir, that this Government should take this item very seriously and do take the necessary measures to provide drinking water (potable) to all in the country by 2000 A.D.

(vi) Need to grant Statehood to Vidarbha immediately

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Nagpur) : Sir, the Union Government have agreed to grant Statehood to Uttaranchal, Chhatisgarh, Delhi and very recently Pondicherry respecting sentiments and aspirations of the people but mainly out of political compulsions without accepted norms of economic viability, size of populated area, infrastructure facilities and potential viability etc. However, in doing so, it is a matter of great concern, the most valid demand for restoration of Statehood has been deliberately ignored by the ruling Party who has committed in its manifesto to restoration of Statehood to Vidarbha and have deliberately forgotten their commitment to the people.

This is very strange and deceptive attempt to suppress the popular upsurge among people of Vidarbha over the issue of restoration of Statehood granted by S.R.C. in 1956 on the basis of rational or valid criteria. The experiment of merger with Maharashtra has failed miserably as will be clear from the mounting backlog in development in all sectors of developmental activities. Dandekar Committee has highlighted mounting economic backlog of Vidarbha and expressed concern about the neglect of Vidarbha in the development process. The people of Vidarbha are convinced that their economic progress is possible only in separate Vidarbha. There is a growing public upsurge on the issue of restoration of Statehood to Vidarbha. All the people's representatives from Parliament to down below Panchayat Samities have supported the demand in a democratic and peaceful manner so far. All the political parties including BJP have supported the demand for restoration of Statehood to Vidarbha.

In the face of all this, ignoring the popular demand would tantamount to perpetuating the gross injustice leading to serious consequences. The Government should respect the aspirations of the Vidarbhaites.

(vii) Need to take over Cement Factory at Sawai Madhopur in Rajasthan to protect the interest of workers

[Translation]

SHRIMATI USHA MEENA (Swai Madhopur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Cement factory located at my constituency, Swai Madhopur (Rajasthan) has been lying closed for the last 10-12 years, due to which around 15,000 employees and labourers have been rendered unemployed. The Government of Rajasthan has sold the factory to private owners who have started retrenchment of the factory workers and instead of taking

into consideration the facilities due to them, have instead ousted them from the factory accommodation and have started torturing them by cutting off the power and water connections. These employees have not received their P.F. and gratuity amount. These people are leading their lives in very trying circumstances in absence of any regular pay. Their children are virtually on the roads and nobody is there to listen to their woes.

I request the Central Government to acquire the above mentioned factory and re-employ the unemployed workers so as to improve their financial position.

(viii) Need to preserve the natural beauty of Calcutta City

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North-West) : Over 300 years ago, Jobe Charnak of Joan Co. landed at the village of Sutanati, which eventually gave birth to the great city of Calcutta. Sutanati does no longer exist except in history books and old documents, but it is a fact that it existed on the bank of Hoogly river within the geographical limits of the present Calcutta North West area, more precisely, between Beghbazar and Nimtala Burning ghat. When the city started to grow during the British rule, this area became a Port of Calcutta and later on it was developed and maintained through Calcutta Port Trust. Not only did they do civil maintenance but also the law and order was handled pretty well by the Calcutta Port Police. The inhabitants of near localities like Jorabagan, Aihiritola Beniatole, Sovabazar, Kumartuli, Baghbazar etc. not only did use to come for a dip in the holy river Ganga but also came for pleasure strolls or just to sit around and enjoy the serenity. It was such a safe place that even women did not fear to frequent the area.

This was the place where people used to come to breathe, to reflect and to get united with nature. This was the atmosphere of place even some 25 years ago. But it is not the same now.

The Calcutta Port Trust has become totally negligent towards civil maintenance, the police vigil has vanished, the bathing ghats are in dangerous condition and have become death-traps and the whole area has become safe heaven for anti-social elements and their nefarious activities. The steel-railways along the Strand Bank Road have long been stolen and very recently erected barricades by the circular Railway authority have been either damaged or removed. Moreover, Calcutta Municipal Corporation has started to dump garbage at the riverside. It has become such a horrible place even a beggar will fear to tread.

The Surface Transport Ministry is urged upon to intervene immediately and take all necessary steps to restore the old beauty of Calcutta.

(ix) Need to provide Railway facilities at Hasanganj and Purva in U.P.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY (Mohanlalganj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, my Parliamentary constituency is

Mohanlalganj, Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh) which comprises five assembly segments of Lucknow and two assembly segments of Unnao. There is no rail line in both the Hasanganj and Purva assembly constituencies. The facility of Roadways buses is also not satisfactory due to which the people face difficulties in travelling. It takes two hours to cover the distance which should be covered within half an hour. The poor people face many problems. Hence I request to lay a rail line and construct a railway station there.

(x) Need to set up a Low Power Transmission Centre of Doordarshan in Kollam District in Kerala

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon) : The T.V. programmes relayed from the Trivandrum Doordarshan Kendra have not got a clear access to the people residing in Kollon district. So, I request that a low-powered Transmission Centre may be set up anywhere in Kollam constituency in order to safeguard the interest of the T.V. viewers in the Kollom district.

(xi) Need to provide more funds to the State Government of Tamil Nadu for early Completion of Hoganekkal drinking water scheme

SHRI K.P. MOHAN (Dharmapuri) : Though the Hoganekkal Falls are in the neighbourhood of Dharmapuri, yet about 20 lakh people living in 14 Panchayat Union areas of Dharmapuri have to rely on ground water for drinking water purposes. Ground water available at these places is found to be a health hazard as it contains heavy fluoride. which is very harmful for the health. Therefore, to solve the drinking water problem of the people living in these Panchayat Union areas of Dharmapuri, the Hoganekkal Drinking Water Scheme at a cost of Rs. 636 crore was initiated as a Joint Project involving both the Central and State Governments with about 85 per cent of Japanese assistance. The said project was finally cleared by the Central Government in March this year. The remaining 15 per cent of the total cost of the project was to be shared equally by the Central and State Governments, that is 7.5 per cent each by the Central and the State Governments. Now after the Pokharan-II Nuclear Test, the committed fund from Japan is not forthcoming as declared by that Government. Now the people of the above places fear whether their ambition to have good drinking water through the said project will be fulfilled or not. Even after fifty years of our Independence, the people living in the above places are deprived of drinking water. As the State Government's fund position is depleted, I urge upon the Central Government to release funds immediately for the said project and also take up the matter with the Japanese Government for flow of committed funds from Japan.

(xii) Need to ensure that Jute Corporation of India purchase raw jute from jute growers Directly Particularly in North Bengal

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN (Coochbehar) : Sir, raw jute is coming in the markets of North Bengal, particularly in the districts Coochbehar, Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling and W. Dinajpur. There is no purchaser. The Jute Corporation of India is not taking adequate measures to purchase raw jute. Jute is a cash crop. About three crore people are directly involved in producing raw jute. About 60 lakh workers are working in jute industry throughout the country. We earn foreign money at the rate of Rs. 1,000 crore every year. But the poor raw jute growers are being forced to sell their raw jute at the rate of Rs. 250/- to Rs. 300/- per quintal for W.R. 4 or 5 quality, which is not even the half of the rate of support price as announced by the Central Government.

I like to draw the attention of the hon. Commerce Minister to come forward to save these poor raw jute growers from the clutches of middlemen and send necessary direction and money so that officers may start purchasing raw jute from the growers only.
...(Interruptions)

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Chair requests all the Members to resume their seats. All of you may cooperate. Please go and resume your seats.

1606 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

MR. CHAIRMAN : A very important statement is to be made by the Minister. Please resume your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have already shown your feelings twice.

1607 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary went back to his seat)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now statement by Minister.

1600 hrs.

**STATEMENT BY MINISTER
Accident of Indian Airlines Dornier
Aircraft at Cochin**

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : With a deep sense of shock and anguish, have to inform this august House that an Indian Airlines Dornier DO-228 aircraft VT-EJW crashed at Cochin soon after take off at 1104 hours today while operating flight IC-503 from Cochin to Thiruvanthapuram. It has been reported that soon after take off the aircraft nose dive and hit a building near the Naval hangar and caught fire. The aircraft was under the command of Capt. Shiv Raj Singh and Capt. Manish Sharma as Co-Pilot and Shri Sajid, Flight Purser. In addition, the following three passengers were on board:

1. Shrimati Vijay Kalyani Kanaujia
2. Shri Samala Raju
3. Shri Sasikanth Ramani

The crash-fire tenders extinguished the fire and the occupants were evacuated and taken to hospital in critical condition. I am sorry to inform the House that the six persons have lost their lives. It has further been reported that in addition to the above six persons another three persons were killed on the ground. Cochin is Naval airport where the Airports Authority of India maintains a Civil Enclave.

The DGCA has appointed Director (Air Safety) Mumbai, as Inspector of accidents under Rule 71 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 to investigate the accident.

In view of the seriousness of the occurrence I propose to appoint a Committee of Inquiry under Rule 74 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 to hold an inquiry into this unfortunate accident. I am sure that this august House will join me in conveying our heartfelt condolences and sympathies to the members of the bereaved families.

The DG and I are proceeding to Cochin for an on-the-spot inspection.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House stands adjourned at 11 a.m. on July 31, 1998.

16.09 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, July 31, 1998/ Shravana 9, 1998 (Saka)

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