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EDITORIAL NOTE

The nations and peoples of the South Asian sub-continent are bound by lasting ties of history and culture. The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) was set up in 1985 with the avowed purpose of promoting peace, stability, amity and progress among the member States, viz. Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

In pursuance of the decision of successive SAARC Summits stressing the importance of a greater degree of people-to-people cooperation, the Speakers of the Parliaments of the SAARC countries, at a meeting held in Kathmandu in 1992, resolved to establish the Association of SAARC Speakers and Parliamentarians. The Charter of the Association endeavours, among other things, to promote, coordinate and exchange experience among member Parliaments and to supplement and complement the work of SAARC and enhance knowledge of its principles and activities among parliamentarians; to provide a forum for exchange of ideas and information on parliamentary practices and procedures and for making suggestions; and to cooperate in international forums on matters of common interest.

The Parliament of India had the proud privilege of hosting the First Conference of the Association of SAARC Speakers and Parliamentarians in New Delhi during 22-24 July 1995. The Conference, inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, discussed matters of topical concern to Presiding Officers and parliamentarians. In his article, "The First Conference of the Association of SAARC Speaker and Parliamentarians : An Overview", the Editor discusses the salient features and varied activities of the Conference.

The deliberations at the Conference displayed a remarkable commitment on the part of the Delegates towards the promotion of democratic ideals. The discussions threw light on the varied aspects of the functioning of the system in member countries which indeed helped all participants to get an insight into its operational dynamics and gain valuable understanding from one another's experiences. The New Delhi Conference has indeed been a great success in bringing about greater understanding and goodwill among the Speakers and parliamentarians of the South Asian region, the Editor concludes.

While unveiling the portrait of the former Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at a function in the Central Hall on 20 August 1993, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, had stated that the Parliament building had more than 50 spots where the statues of great political leaders, parliamentarians and eminent sons and daughters of India could be installed. As advised by a Committee consisting of senior members of

Parliament, it was decided to install the statues of several prominent leaders in the parliamentary precincts.

On 1 June 1995, a statue of Bharat Ratna Pt. Govind Ballabh Pant was unveiled at the Entrance Hall to the Lok Sabha Lobby in Parliament House by the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao. The statue has been sculpted by the well-known artist, Shri Ram Sutar. The ceremony was followed by a meeting in the Central Hall of Parliament House which was attended by a distinguished gathering. The function was addressed by the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, the Deputy Chairman Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla; and the Secretary of the Govind Ballabh Pant Memorial Society and former Union Minister, Shri K.C. Pant. We reproduce in this issue of the *Journal* the texts of the Addresses delivered by the dignitaries on the occasion.

The visiting President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, His Excellency Mr. Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani addressed the members of Parliament on 18 April 1995 in the Central Hall of Parliament House at a function organized by the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG). The Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil also spoke on the occasion. The texts of the Addresses delivered at the function are included in this issue of the *Journal*.

Our readers would recall that starting with the June 1993 issue (Vol. XXXIX, No. 2), a new Feature "Our Budding Parliamentarians" was introduced in the *Journal*. In this issue, we feature a profile of Smt. Veena Verma, MP and her perceptions on different subjects of contemporary interest and items of business before Parliament. We would greatly welcome write-ups from our parliamentarians for this regular Feature.

This issue of the *Journal* carries our other regular Features, viz. Parliamentary Events and Activities, Procedural Matters, Parliamentary and Constitutional Developments, Sessional Review, Documents of Constitutional and Parliamentary Interest and Recent Literature of Parliamentary Interest.

It has been our constant endeavour to make the *Journal* more useful and informative. We would greatly welcome suggestions for its further improvement. We would also welcome practice and problem-oriented, non-partisan articles in the field of parliamentary procedures and institutions from members of Parliament and State Legislatures, scholars and others interested in the field of parliamentary political science.

-R.C.Bhardwaj
Editor

ADDRESSES AT THE UNVEILING OF THE STATUE OF PT. GOVIND BALLABH PANT

On 1 June 1995, a statue of Bharat Ratna Pt. Govind Ballabh Pant was unveiled at the Entrance Hall to the Lok Sabha Lobby in Parliament House by the Prime Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao. The statue has been sculpted by the well-known artist, Shri Ram Sutar. The ceremony was followed by a meeting in the Central Hall of Parliament House which was attended by a distinguished gathering. The function was addressed by the Prime Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, the Deputy Chairman Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla and the Secretary of the Govind Ballabh Pant Memorial Society and former Union Minister, Shri K. C. Pant.

We reproduce below the texts of the Addresses delivered by the dignitaries on the occasion.

—Editor

ADDRESS BY THE SECRETARY OF THE GOVIND BALLABH PANT MEMORIAL SOCIETY, SHRI K. C. PANT

On behalf of the Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant Memorial Society and on my own behalf, I extend a very warm welcome to all of you. We are grateful to the Prime Minister for unveiling Pandit Pant's statue. I can well imagine how pressed he must be for time at the fag-end of a very suspenseful and eventful Session.

The Honourable Speaker, Shri Shivraj V. Patil is not just the host of this function. It was he who mooted the idea of installing Pandit Pant's statue in Parliament House, he chose its location and even took the trouble of visiting the studio of the sculptor, Shri Ram Sutar while the statue was in the making. We are indebted to the Honourable Speaker for all the interest he has taken in this project.

All that was required of the Society was to donate the statue, which it has done with great pleasure. I also want to welcome Shrimati Najma Heptulla, Deputy Chairman to this function and I also thank her.

The Society regards the installation of Pandit Pant's statue in Parliament as a memorial to him as well as his co-workers in the epic struggle which brought freedom to India and to their unremitting labours to raise the edifice of the new Republic.

But in one sense the memorial is very personal to him. It embodies his deep commitment to the institution of Parliament and is a reminder of the contribution he made over decades to upholding the quality, dignity

and standards of representative bodies at the local, State and national levels.

The deep and abiding impact of Pandit Pant on his contemporaries in Parliament was brought home to me vividly when I was first elected to the Lok Sabha in 1962. They spoke of his unfailing courtesy, his mastery and marshalling of facts and his telling repartees. But most of all, they referred to his seemingly effortless ability to reply to long debates - point by point - without referring to notes. Of course, the secret lay in his prodigious memory and meticulous attention to parliamentary business in the midst of his myriad pre-occupations.

To my mind, nothing exemplifies his attitude to Parliament more poignantly than his last conscious moments. The date was 20 February 1961. The time was around 8.45 p.m. I had just come in and found him leafing through the voluminous verbatim record of Rajya Sabha debate, to which he had to reply next morning. When he complained of a headache, I insisted that he must rest. He asked me to send for Shri Asoke Sen, who was the then Law Minister. He somehow held on till Shri Sen arrived and asked him to reply to the debate. Then he lost consciousness, never to regain it.

He remained unconscious for about a fortnight. I was overwhelmed by thousands of visitors, letters, telegrams from all over the country expressing concern and sympathy.

As these memories crowd in upon me, one question stands out. How is one to explain the journey of a child, born in a remote village in the Himalayas which he loved, to the vortex of the freedom struggle and placed among the architects of modern India? What made this self-made man, who built up a roaring legal practice in a very short span of years, give it all up at the call of the Mahatma? What made him and his generation of leaders accept the rigours of non-violent resistance, years in jail, lathi charges, and the discipline of Gandhiji's code of conduct—purity of means and ends, and integrity in public as well as private life.

Part of the explanation lies in the *zeit geist*—the spirit of the time—which inspired heroic deeds. Part of it lies in Gandhiji's transformation of a political struggle into a moral challenge, which became an irresistible magnet for men and women of character, courage and vision. But a third element, which was common to the galaxy of remarkable men around Gandhiji, was their personal sense of commitment to the cause of India.

Times have changed and the past is behind us. But the need for idealistic young people in our public life is a continuing one.

Whatever the form of democratic system, its success will depend upon the quality and character of these young people. The question all

of us have to ask ourselves is: are such people being attracted to public life today?

Does the little boy with a big dream, born in a remote village, feel confident that he too has a chance to realise that dream? Thank you very much.

Jai Hind.

**ADDRESS BY THE SPEAKER, LOK SABHA,
SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL***

Honourable Prime Minister, Honourable Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptullaji, Honourable Leaders of the Opposition, Members of the Council of Ministers, Leaders of different Political Parties, Members of the Diplomatic Corps, other Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

We extend a very cordial welcome to all of you on the occasion of the unveiling of the statue of Pt. Govind Ballabh Pant. We thank you all for having graced this occasion. The Honourable Prime Minister has just now unveiled the statue. For this, we extend our deep sense of gratitude to the Prime Minister.

We, in consultation with the prominent leaders of different parties, have decided to install the statues of eminent national leaders in the precincts of Parliament House. These leaders belonged to various States. Their statues in Parliament would epitomize their ideals and ideas. By installing their statues, we place before ourselves the ideals and inspiring thoughts of the entire nation. During the last two years, we have installed the statues of Mahatma Gandhi, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru and Shri Yeshwantrao Chavan. In the near future, we are endeavouring to install the statues of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Smt. Indira Gandhi, Shri Jayaprakash Narayan, Shri Jagjivan Ram, Shri Kamraj, Dr. Zakir Hussain, Shri Sri Prakasa and some other national leaders.

These statues have been presented to us by the State Governments and various social institutions. We are thankful to them for donating the statues and for mooted the proposals in this regard. Our country is strong and united. Even in diversity our unity is enduring. Our Parliament is the living epitome of this unity. The installation of statues of these national leaders hailing from various States will further strengthen our emotional bonds. We hope that the ideals and ideas of our leaders will always motivate and inspire us.

Kaviguru Rabindranath Tagore portrayed Bharat as *maha-manav-sagar* (Great Ocean of Humanity). He also described India as *Shatdal*,

*Original delivered in Hindi

the hundred petalled lotus flower. All of us, our States, our religions, our languages are numerous streams of this *manav-sagar* and the petals of this lotus flower. We get a feel of this great ocean of humanity and the hundred petalled lotus in our parliamentarians hailing from various States and the same feeling shall be emanating from the statues installed here. We hope that we will be enlightened, encouraged and inspired by these great leaders.

Pt. Govind Ballabh Pantji's contribution to the freedom struggle, to the building of a modern India and to the enrichment of the ethos of parliamentary democracy has been invaluable and highly significant. When we were ushering in parliamentary democracy, he guided us in the right direction. He taught us the need for tolerance and magnanimity in the House. His sterling qualities of firmness, humility and oratory are well-known. Pantji was endowed with the qualities of head and heart and was a very balanced leader. He had no enemies. He could easily defuse an impasse or a deadlock with his characteristic wit and humour. His amicable and affable nature could disarm even his critics and endear him to one and all.

Apart from being an outstanding parliamentarian, Pantji was also an able administrator. As the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, he played a very significant role in the development of the State, gave it stability and ushered in a new era of development and progress. As the Union Home Minister, he left his indelible imprint in the hearts of all. He was intimately familiar with each and every department and even the minutest details of administration could not escape his vigilant eye. Pantji was a great humanist and patriot and this aspect of his personality found expression on many occasions - be it as a lawyer, social worker, administrator or as parliamentarian.

With high character and courage of conviction Pantji, all through his life, practised clean politics. Being a true Gandhian, politics for him was a means to achieve the greater end - that is, service to the nation and the humanity at large. Inspired by these noble goals, he elevated politics to a higher plane, to loftier standards.

His success in Indian politics was mainly due to his impeccable character, fearlessness and virtuous conduct. The humanistic approach to political problems was a source of strength to him. Whatever steps he took, these had fruitful and far-reaching effects. Pt. Pantji's ideas and ideals are as relevant today as these were earlier. Today, our task, particularly those of the parliamentarians, has increased manifold. In such a scenario, Pantji's ideals could inspire one and all.

The edifice of our nation has been erected strongly on the standards which epitomised the nation building task carried out by Pt. Pantji and leaders like him, the way they moulded our thinking, and the ideals they

imparted to us, will be a source of inspiration in the present and in the future too.

This beautiful statue, sculpted by Shri Ram Sutarji, has been presented to the Parliament by the Govind Ballabh Pant Memorial Society. For this, we thank Shri Ram Sutarji and the Govind Ballabh Pant Memorial Society.

I once again thank the Honourable Prime Minister for attending this function and unveiling the statue as also all of you for having graced the occasion.

**ADDRESS BY THE PRIME MINISTER,
SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO**

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Najmaji, Colleagues in Parliament, Excellencies and Friends:

It is a matter of great pride and satisfaction for all of us today. The statue of Pt. Govind Ballabh Pant in Parliament is our humble tribute to one of the great sons of India. I feel privileged and honoured by this opportunity.

Pantji's life and work have left an indelible mark on the freedom struggle and building up of our nation and his statue will always be a reminder and a source of inspiration to all of us. Pantji's life epitomized dedication, selfless service and commitment to the cause of nation-building. He was a valiant and brave freedom fighter spending many years of his life in jail. His contribution in saving Pandit Nehru's life during the protest against Simon Commission is legendary. He had to bear the after-effects of those lathi blows throughout his life, yet he took it all in his stride and that too always with a smile. Pantji combined in himself the zeal of a revolutionary, the outlook of a liberal, the wisdom of a counsellor, oratory and debating skill of the highest order and above all gentleness and straightforwardness of a sage. It was a combination of such sterling qualities which led Pandit Nehru to once remark that, 'Pantji was solid and majestic like the mountain he hailed from'.

Pantji's academic and intellectual brilliance made him into a successful lawyer. However, his heart and mind were devoted to alleviation of the problems of the people. He knew at first hand the problems and sufferings of the people of Kumaon. He could not keep himself away and soon devoted most of his time to spread literature and social reforms through Prem Sabha, a branch of the Kashi Nagari Pracharini Sabha. He started the Udayraj Hindu Sabha School in 1914 and established a Kumaon Parishad to spread political awakening and solve the problems of Kumaon.

He introduced free and compulsory education for the first time in Kumaon as Chairman of the Education Society of the Kashipur Notified Area Committee. His efforts at social and economic development and organising fights against injustices of the *coolie begar* system soon earned him a prominent place in the social and political life of Kumaon. The approach of Pantji underlines the need for strong ground level social work to build a political edifice. Even though he was being drawn into the national movement and the politics of party, he realised that politics cannot be sustained without integrating it with strong social work.

The country needed at that time people of his calibre to fight for independence. His in-depth knowledge and understanding of law, the qualities of an able lawyer and his eloquence in both Hindi and English, required his presence in all those fora where points had to be debated and arguments had to be placed. Pantji's parliamentary skill was recognised with his maiden speech in the U.P. Legislative Council. He became the Leader of the Swaraj Party up to 1930. He relentlessly and forcefully brought forward the problems and argued for self-determination. On the debate on appointment of Simon Commission, he stated, and I quote:

History has established two or three principles and they are indispensable. It has been repeatedly proved that unless and until a Constitution is framed and formulated by the representatives of the people of the country for which the Constitution is introduced, makeshift arrangements cannot put an end to the struggle for liberty, nor can they secure satisfaction or stability.

With telling effect, he recalled a speech which Simon had himself given in 1921 on the Irish Constitution Bill. This was quoted by Pantji and I quote:

Constitutions which promote prosperity and loyalty, and which have been found lasting Constitutions, have been framed by those who are to live under them themselves.

His parliamentary skill was seen in all its brilliance when he became Deputy Leader of the Congress in the Central Assembly. His interventions on Budget showed his deep grasp of all aspects of the economy and the problems of the poor. His interventions were sharp in logic and high in oratory, which truly focussed on the inability of the colonial Government to ameliorate the problems.

Summing up his intervention on the Budget, he said, and I quote;

The least that I should say about it is that it is a barbarous Budget. No civilised government dare present a Budget of this sort to any civilised community in any part of the world.

Pantji's parliamentary skill and his administrative ability were visible to all when he became the Prime Minister of U.P. in 1937, and then as Chief Minister of U.P. and as Home Minister here, he took care of all aspects of administration and was always willing to listen and reason. He had a profound grasp of the problems of the peasantry. It was under his stewardship that zamindari was abolished under the U.P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act. It was his approach that made the most vociferous of the critics into admirers both inside and outside the Legislature.

Pantji was a great constitutionalist. At the same time he realised the need for proper implementation of all the programmes. In this he was a great realist. He was a staunch believer in Panchayati Raj and soon after assuming office as Chief Minister had declared his intention to have a Panchayat in every village. As a true democrat and a Gandhian, he firmly believed in the need for Panchayat Raj. He stated and I quote:

We have our Legislatures but the solid and useful work that can be done by the Panchayats cannot be rivalled by any legislative body.

It is a matter of joy that by implementing the Panchayati Raj we have fulfilled one of his basic wishes.

Pantji represented and strove to achieve the high ideals of freedom struggle. As Home Minister, he continued to uphold those principles and tried to inculcate the spirit in the administrative machinery. He realised the complexities and difficulties of the administrative system and wanted the administrators to inculcate a missionary approach. While speaking on public services in a democracy he said, and I quote:

Let everyone of us resolve to spare no effort, to leave no stone unturned, to brave every hardship for achieving these ends, the ends that have been set before us for realisation, the vanishment of disease, filth, ignorance, poverty and unemployment and all that is ugly from this great ancient land so that it may once more regain its former glory and contribute its full towards making the world a better place to live in.

Pantji had worked in the Constituent Assembly. As Home Minister he made his presence felt administratively and as a legislator. He impressed all by his responsiveness and readiness and he was a great source and support to Pandit Nehru. His participation in the parliamentary proceedings inspired great leaders from all sides. His arguments were full of reason and substance. He was never dogmatic in his approach. His speeches cooled tempers and led to debates in a calm and dispassionate manner.

On his death, late Shri Bhupesh Gupta had said, and I quote:

We have always admired him from this side of the House for his intelligence, his patience and tolerance and his magnificent parliamentary skill. These are assets to a parliamentary democracy which we all cherish.

His was a towering personality. His contribution was felt in every sphere, both inside and outside Parliament. His approach was always long-term. Today when we reflect on his achievements, they continue to inspire awe and respect. Today, on this auspicious occasion, we must dedicate ourselves once again to continue to work as tirelessly as he did for the cause of nation-building. This would be our true homage to this immortal son of India.

Thank you.

**ADDRESS BY THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, RAJYA SABHA,
DR. (SMT.) NAJMA HEPTULLA***

Honourable Prime Minister, Honourable Speaker, Distinguished Ministers, Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Members of Parliament, Ladies and Gentlemen :

Today, to stand in this historic Central Hall and speak about Honourable Pantji, to me, is like lighting the course of sun. I never got an opportunity to work with him. Our generation has only heard or read about him. As the Honourable Prime Minister has just stated, Pantji was a member of the Constituent Assembly and made invaluable contribution to building the nation and its future. I have seen him a few times, that too from a distance. But whenever I read about him I realised the difference between the parliamentarians of those days and the present ones.

A true son of India, hailing from Kumaon, Pantji took many important decisions with indomitable courage and firmness like the mountains. He also had a soft heart and cool temperament like the streams flowing in the hills and was deeply concerned for the poor.

Honourable Speaker Shri Shivraj V. Patil deserves all praise for setting up this very fine tradition of installing statues of national leaders in the precincts of Parliament House and paying tributes on the birthdays of those leaders whose portraits adorn the Central Hall. It is essential that we and the future generations should remember that the frontline leaders like Pantji and other great leaders led the country in its great struggle leading to India's freedom and laid the foundations of the new nation with great perseverance, courage and sacrifice. It is up to us to strengthen this nation and set an example for generations to come.

*Original delivered in Hindi



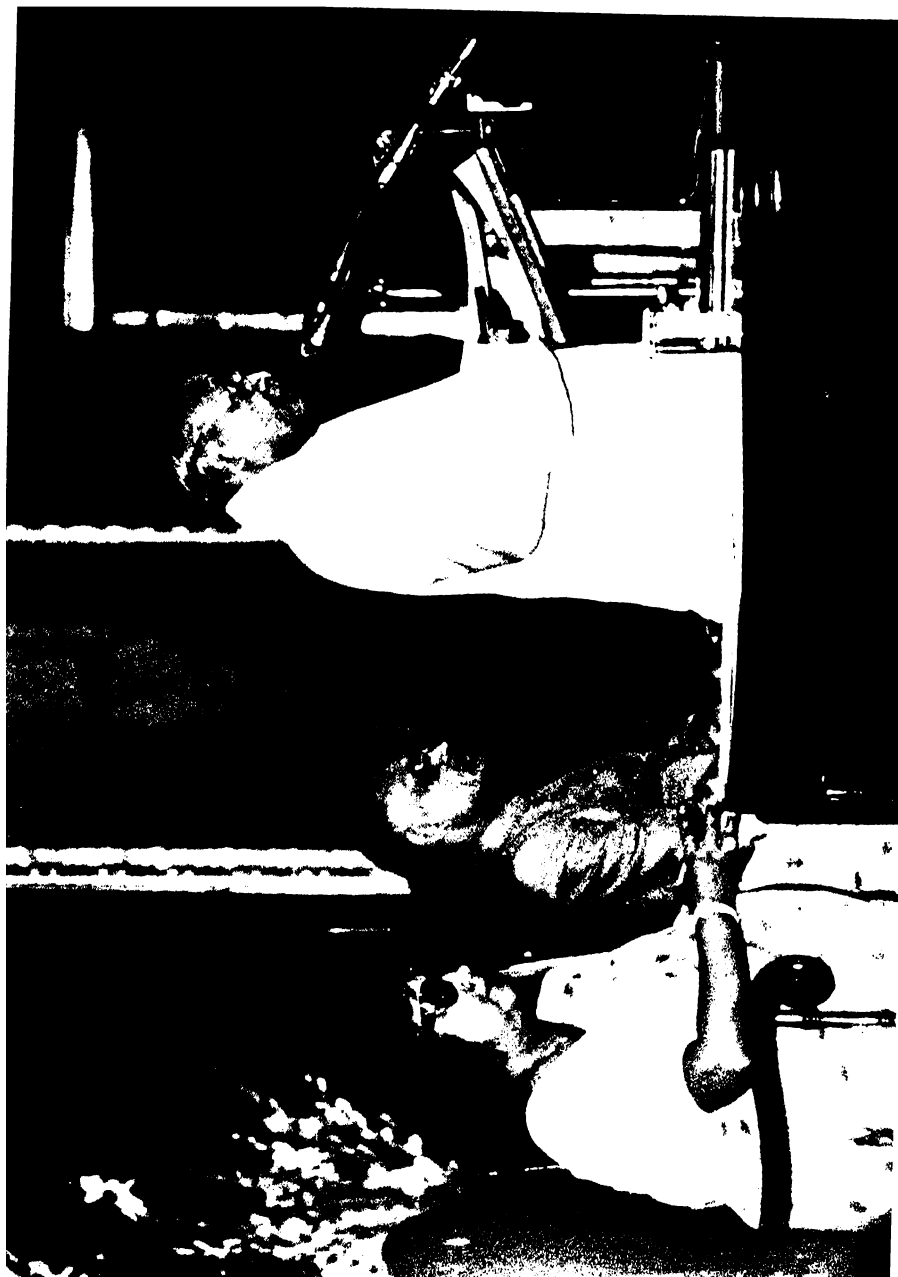


The Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao flanked by the Speaker, Luk Saptha Shri Shrinivas Y. Patel and the Deputy Chairman, P.V. Sathya Dev. (Smt. N. Sathya Heptulla)





The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shriyal V. Patil addressing the distinguished gathering





The Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla addressing the gathering





The statue of Pt Govind Ballabh Pant

With these few words, I offer my tributes to Pantji and thank, on behalf of the Honourable Speaker, our Honourable Prime Minister and other distinguished guests who have graced the occasion. I am aware that the Prime Minister is quite busy due to the ongoing Session and others are also preoccupied but still their presence on this historic occasion bears testimony to the fact that they have utmost faith in Pantji's philosophy.

Let us hope and take a solemn pledge today to strive to follow the path trod by him all along his life so as to cherish his memory, and that shall be the real tribute to him.

Once again, I thank all of you for being with us on this occasion.

Namaskar. Jai Hind.

ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, HIS EXCELLENCY, MR. AKBAR HASHEMI RAFSANJANI TO MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

The President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, His Excellency, Mr. Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani addressed the members of Parliament on 18 April 1995 in the Central Hall of Parliament House at a function organized by the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG). The Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil also spoke on the occasion.

We reproduce below the texts of the Addresses delivered at the function.

—Editor

ADDRESS BY THE SPEAKER, LOK SABHA, SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL

To His Excellency, the Respected President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Dr. Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, Respected Prime Minister of India, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Honourable Ministers in the Government of Iran, in the Government of India, Honourable Leaders of different Parties in the Parliament of India, Honourable members of Parliament of India and Iran, Honourable members of Diplomatic Corps and Media and other distinguished guests, we have great pleasure in extending a very cordial welcome in this assembly. We are indeed very grateful to the Respected President of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Respected Prime Minister of India for agreeing to address this gathering on matters of mutual and international importance.

We are grateful to all other members of the audience for gracing this occasion.

India and Iran are countries which have nurtured lasting civilisations and have glorious past. What they have done for humanity shall always adorn the pages of world history. Philosophies they have developed about the inner and outer world of human beings help them to understand themselves, understand the nature and environment around them and to be in harmony and at peace with themselves and with all things around them and to become broad-minded, all inclusive and contribute towards the unity and integration among all human beings and things in existence. These philosophies were, are and shall be relevant. They may be correctly interpreted and followed. They may be wrongly interpreted also, which should be avoided.

In the present day world, India and Iran can cooperate in many fields. Their cooperation is bound to help them and other countries of the world. They can use the ancient unadulterated and unmisinterpreted wisdom and the modern science and technology in a harmonious fashion for the all round development of the peoples of both the countries and the world. It is only by generating understanding and cooperation, countries of the world can solve their problems and overcome their difficulties. India and Iran may take all necessary steps for these purposes. To achieve these objectives, members of the Executive, members of Parliament and people of both the countries can strive and function. Administrators, scientists, artists and leaders can contribute a great deal in bringing about a real and lasting understanding and cooperation between the two countries and the countries of the world.

We are very happy that the leaders and the peoples of both the countries are trying their best to bring about such cooperation and understanding.

All right thinking peoples would wish them all the best in their attempt to make their peoples and peoples of the world, more prosperous, happy and at peace with themselves and with things all around them.

Let us now please hear the Respected Prime Minister of India first and then the Respected President of Iran.

Thank you very much.

**ADDRESS BY THE PRIME MINISTER,
SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO**

Your Excellency, President Rafsanjani, Honourable Speaker, Ministers, Distinguished members of Parliament and assembled Guests :

It is a great pleasure to join in the welcome accorded to you, Mr. President, by this august gathering of parliamentarians. We know you as a scholar-statesman and a distinguished leader of a great and friendly neighbouring country.

Iran has been one of the crucibles of human civilisation, moulding tradition and custom and influencing the history of humankind. It is against this backdrop that we welcome you in the belief that your historic visit to India will be a landmark in our bilateral relations.

During your stay, you will have an opportunity of renewing your acquaintance with the life and culture of the people of India which displays unmistakable evidence of ancient contacts with Iran. The people of India value their traditional political, cultural and commercial ties with your country and its people.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru aptly described our ties in his book, *The Discovery of India*, and I quote :

Iranians and Indians..... according to a Persian legend, had got separated from each other, one going to the East and the other to the West. Their families had forgotten all about each other and the only thing that remained in common between them were the snatches of a few old tunes which they, still played on their flutes. It was through these tunes that, after a lapse of centuries, the two families recognised each other and were re-united.

We live in a fast-changing world that is entering a new phase in history after the end of the Cold War. Fresh opportunities are opening up even as we discern new threats to peace, and new hurdles to development. In order to preserve our political and economic independence and safeguard our security, we must work to promote universally accepted principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-aggression, and the peaceful resolution of disputes. Today we see ample evidence of heightened tension, instability, and conflict in areas where these important principles have been neglected or ignored. Staunchly independent countries like ours have a special role to play in ensuring that whatever world order comes into being is based on equity and justice.

There is also the urgent task of development. Being developing countries, this is an area of priority commitment for us. We are engaged in the endeavour to better the lot of our peoples, to give them a life of dignity and contentment, to accomplish self-generating economic growth and self-reliance. It has not been an easy task and in today's changed circumstances, we face new hurdles, whether it is in the form of conditionalities in trade or protectionist measures that deprive developing countries of their due share of the market. The voice of the developing world has been raised on such matters; it deserves to be heard, and what is more, it deserves a constructive response.

In our own country, as Your Excellency is no doubt aware, we are undertaking economic reforms designed to free the productive energies of our people. This process is carefully designed to judiciously tap the great potential in our economy. At the same time, Government's responsibilities towards the weaker sections of society are met by its enhanced commitment of resources to address their needs. Our rural development programme, for example, is a massive channelisation of energy and resources to eradicate poverty and provide our under-privileged citizens with intensified programmes in health, education and employment.

Excellency, India's global perspective in favour of peace and development is underpinned by its commitment to regional harmony and cooperation. The countries of South Asia are inheritors of rich and ancient civilisations. In the contemporary world, they face similar challenges of economic growth and social progress. India is of the firm view that cooperation among South Asian countries would result in strengthening the forces of peace and stability in the region and also reinforce each country's nation-building efforts. In this context, India's participation in the activities and growth of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) is a symbol of our dedication to regional friendship and cooperation. Such cooperation, we believe, can provide valuable inputs into the world's larger endeavour to overcome tensions and conflicts, and strengthen the forces of peace and security.

Looking beyond our region towards South-West Asia and the Gulf region, we in India see lands and peoples with whom our own history has been interlinked for centuries. Instability and conflict in this region are, therefore, a matter of concern to us. We are confident, nonetheless, that the sagacity and determination of the people of this vibrant region, rich in talent, resources and experience, will emerge triumphant from the challenges that contemporary history places before them.

Excellency, we believe that your visit to India reflects the will in Iran for expansion and consolidation of India-Iran relations. From our side, you will find a ready response, for we share your desire to take our relations to a higher level of mutually beneficial interaction. Let us derive inspiration from our past and use it to expand as well as deepen India-Iran bilateral relations today and in the future.

Thank you.

**ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF
THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, HIS EXCELLENCY,
MR. AKBAR HASHEMI RAFSANJANI**

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful, first of all, I have to thank the distinguished parliamentary members for providing me this opportunity to address you during your holidays. At the same time, I would like to thank His Excellency, Mr. Prime Minister and the Speaker of the Parliament.

Mr. Chairman, Esteemed Representatives, Distinguished Audience, it is a pleasure for me to thank you, the esteemed representatives of the people of India, for giving me this opportunity to be among you and talk with you.

I would like to convey the message of friendship of Iranian nation to the people of India. Our presence in your Parliament indicates our

deep-rooted interests towards India as well as close relations between the two ancient and great countries—Iran and India—in the present era.

The Islamic Republic of Iran and India, as the two great cradles of human civilizations, have lived together since remote past. Their profound historical and cultural similarities have bridged the hearts of their people. So we feel that we are not outsiders in your country and find ourselves at home with old friends. Thus, we should make any efforts to use all possibilities to deepen these sentiments and strengthen the existing relations between our two nations.

Elements such as regional political-geographical situation, membership in the great family of the Third World and Non-Aligned Movement and similarity of views on international issues, objectives and also, common cultural, economic and political interests, further bind the two countries to each other.

Iran and India, in a not-so-long past, were suffering from the influence and conspiracies of the arrogant powers and the two nations liberated themselves from the fetters of the arrogant powers in the light of initiatives of their noble, free leaders.

It is befitting here to commemorate His Eminence Imam Khomeini (P.B.U.H.), the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran and also the great Indian leaders such as Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Abul Kalam Azad, for the significant role each played in the liberation and exaltation of human beings and international community.

Today the two great powers of Iran and India, in spite of all machinations engineered by the world arrogance, to create discord, with a view to gaining domination over friendly countries of the Third World, are standing by each other. The roots of such solidarity lie in the heartfelt ties of the people, their reciprocal respect for each other's aspirations, as well as their proper understanding of the regional and global issues and problems.

In this connection, it is worthy of mentioning that the visits paid by His Excellency, President Sharma, and His Excellency, Mr. Rao, the Honourable Prime Minister of India to Tehran, as well as our presence, and the accompanying Delegation here, are all indicative of the determination of the two countries' leadership to materialize the objectives that are expected in the framework of expansion of the existing relations.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Audience, today, one of the problems, facing all countries in general, and the Third World and South countries in particular, is the unsystematic population growth, spread of poverty and hunger and lack of economic balance. The crisis that is about to emerge at the threshold of the 21st century, because of such factors, is noticeable; and ponderable variety of factors, such as population crisis,

pollution of environment because of industrial and technological advancement and reduction in energy resources, devastations caused by tragic natural disasters, political disorder caused by socio-economic instability in certain countries, and collapse of family ties because of arrogant cultural onslaught, have created circumstances that are seriously threatening all inhabitants of the earth, the North or the South countries alike.

We share your views that science and technology should be accessible to all, so that the existing problems in the societies could be solved. But the rich countries are always trying to impede the progress of the developing countries, while they themselves unlimitedly are utilizing, in fact exploiting, the resources of those countries.

We are also of the opinion that the world cannot progress, when the wealth and resources are concentrated in the hands of a few countries, while others are deprived of them. Fortunately, our countries have the rich resources and human power. And I hope that they will achieve a great success using these resources.

Excellency, Distinguished Audience, we have always been of the opinion that the Third World countries, through vigilance and considering the new international situation and their own possibilities and potentialities, are capable to solve their problems and consolidate their relations. One of the most important steps to achieve this goal is to try to preserve peace and stability and to carry on with effectiveness South-South Cooperation, and to put aside disputes and avoid hatred, hostility and discord.

The daily inhuman actions and atrocities of the Zionist regime, such as massacre of innocent Palestinian peoples even at sacred places, continuation of building Jewish settlements, in the occupied territories, and shelling of the defenseless citizens in South Lebanon, are all clear evidence of the vicious and aggressive nature of that regime.

We are opposed to the domineering policies of great powers, particularly U.S.A., and their efforts to exploit international organizations and fora for their illegitimate goals. We believe that it is necessary to study and review the structure of international organizations, in particular, the United Nations Organization on the basis of today's needs and respecting the right of the independent nations to live.

Regarding global issues, we also emphasize respect for international law, the U.N. Charter, principle of peaceful coexistence, campaign against international terrorism, general disarmament, elimination of weapons of mass destruction, transfer of advanced technology to the Third World, removing obstacles in the way of progress of weaker nations and non-interference of big powers in the internal affairs of the Third World countries.

We are also of the opinion that the end of Cold War has provided good opportunities for new forms of cooperation among the Third World countries especially in the economic field in the framework of regional organizations. Politically, the revival of the Non-Alignment Movement and solidarity of its member states can, to a large extent, facilitate the resolution of existing conflicts, and prevent eruption of regional and international tensions. In this very connection, we welcome the framework of regional policies, any efforts to preserve peace and stability in the region. In this connection considering the importance of Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf, we emphasize the withdrawal of foreign fleets from this region which tend to aggravate tensions. We also believe, that it is with the regional states to preserve security and stability in this region, not foreign powers.

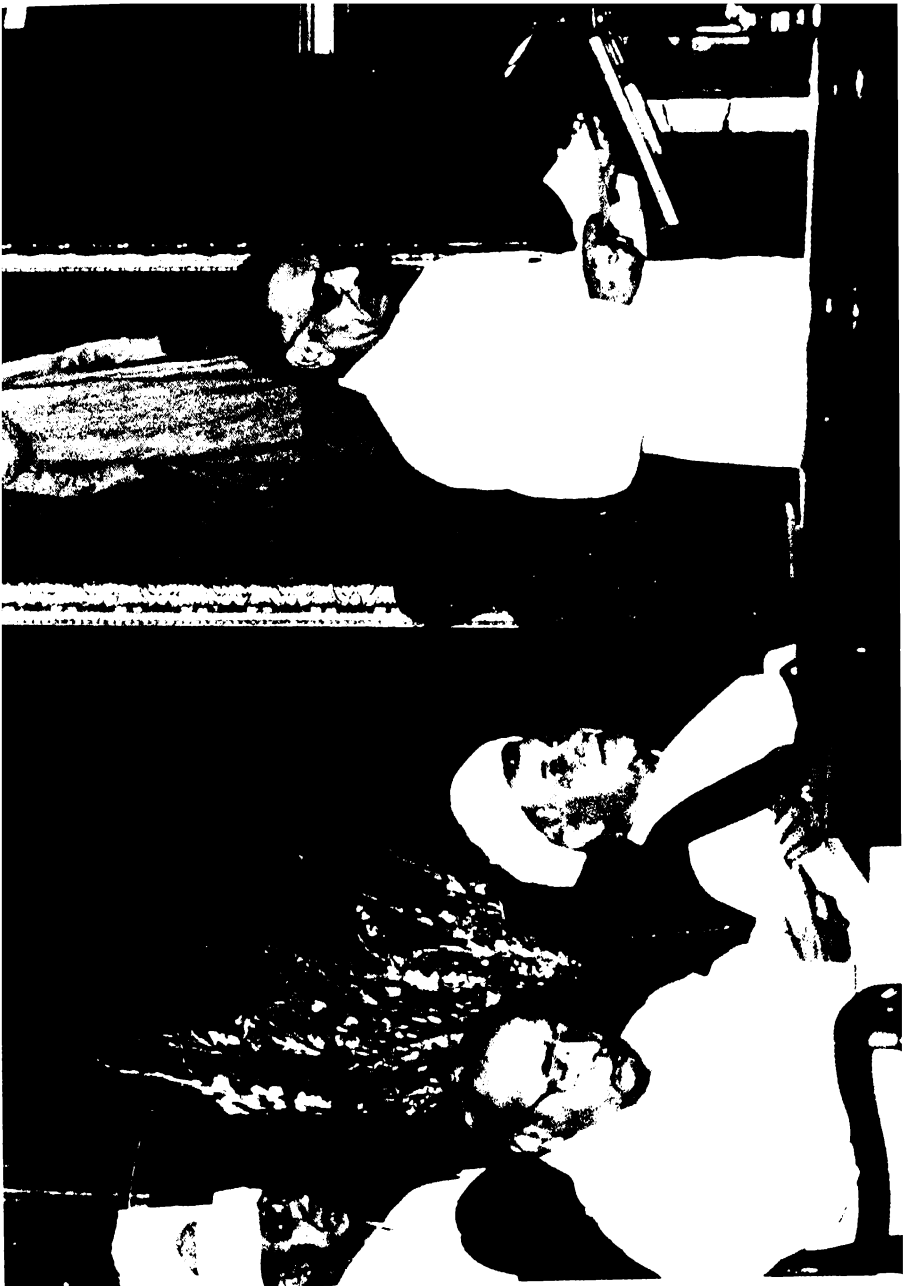
Recognizing the imperative of peace and security as the main supporting factor for the progress of countries, the Islamic Republic of Iran believes that regional disputes and conflicts can be peacefully resolved on the basis of internationally recognized principles, political dialogues and in the spirit of mutual understanding of parties to the conflicts.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Audience, the world of arrogance in its effort to break the traditional system of the countries and to create tensions in their societies, exploits various instruments, the most sensitive of them is creation of the religious and sectarian conflicts.

The history of India shows that the believers of various religions, as Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist, Zoroastrian, Christian and other religions have lived together in peace and tranquility. This principle that finds its origins in the genuine culture of the East, is recognized as "peaceful coexistence" in the contemporary political jargon, and is being respected by whole nations. We expect that now, as in the past, believers of all religions in India be encouraged to respect the principle of "peaceful coexistence", so as to prevent losing the potentialities and resources of the country and neutralize the satanic conspiracies.

The negotiations done concerning bilateral cooperation in the political, economic, commercial, technical, and cultural fields indicate that both countries enjoy good possibilities and thus can meet to a large extent, each other's needs. Up to now, a small part of these possibilities have been utilized and it is the responsibility of both countries' concerned authorities to find the suitable fields for further cooperation and take any action in this regard.

In this connection, the session of Joint Commission between the two countries can be an appropriate practical instrument for the development and enhancement of such cooperation. With regard to the world economic developments, the Islamic Republic of Iran expresses its desire, besides





The Prime Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao addressing the gathering



The President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, His Excellency Dr. Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjari, delivering his address



A view of the distinguished gathering in the Central Hall

the current cooperation between the two countries, to enter into a new phase of scientific, research and technological cooperation with India.

At the end, once again, I would like to express my pleasure and sincere appreciation for the warm hospitalities extended to me by the Government and the noble people of India and leave our friend's house with pleasant memories.

I pray to the Almighty God for the success of you, the elected representatives of the people of India in fulfilling your important responsibility. I also wish good health for the esteemed statesmen and prosperity for the noble people of India.

Vas-Salamo Alaikom Va Rahmato Ilah Va Barakato

THE FIRST CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SAARC SPEAKERS AND PARLIAMENTARIANS : AN OVERVIEW

DR. R. C. BHARDWAJ

Introduction

The nations and peoples of the South Asian sub-continent are bound by lasting ties of history and culture. The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) was set up in 1985 with the avowed purpose of promoting peace, stability, amity and progress among the member States, viz. Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

The success of efforts towards fostering greater cooperation depends to a large extent on the involvement of the people of the region and their commitment to the philosophy of the institutional arrangement. In pursuance of the decision of successive SAARC Summits stressing the importance of a greater degree of people-to-people cooperation, the Speakers of the Parliaments of the SAARC countries, at a meeting held in Kathmandu in 1992, resolved to establish the Association of SAARC Speakers and Parliamentarians.

The Charter of the Association endeavours, among other things, to promote, coordinate and exchange experience among member Parliaments and to supplement and complement the work of SAARC and enhance knowledge of its principles and activities among parliamentarians; to provide a forum for exchange of ideas and information on parliamentary practices and procedures and for making suggestions; and to cooperate in international forums on matters of common interest.

The Parliament of India has had the proud privilege of hosting the First Conference of the Association of SAARC Speakers and Parliamentarians in New Delhi during 22-24 July 1995. The Conference, inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao was attended by 84 Delegates—26 from India and 58 from the other member Parliaments. Forty-three observers from the Indian Parliament and the State Legislatures also attended the Conference. About 12 Delegates/Observers were accompanied by their spouses.

Inaugural Function

The Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao inaugurated the First Conference of the Association of SAARC Speakers and Parliamentarians

on 22 July 1995 at a solemn function held in the Plenary Hall of the Vigyan Bhawan. The Speaker, Lok Sabha and President of the Conference, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, the Speakers of the Parliaments of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, Mr. Shaikh Razzaque Ali, Mr. Dasho Pasang Dorji, Mr. Abdulla Hameed, Mr. Ram Chandra Poudel, Mr. Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani and Mr. K.B. Ratnayake, respectively, and the Deputy Chairperson, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla also addressed the distinguished gathering. Thereafter, the Business Sessions commenced in the Vigyan Bhawan.

In his inaugural Address, the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao described the Conference as a landmark in the history of SAARC which would contribute to the sense of regional community in South Asia and be an input in the process of consultations on setting and pursuing common goals. We are a region with a shared history and our shared experience provides foundations of commonality on which to build. It is for the elected representatives to harness this richest of resources into a cooperative and fruitful effort. As such, they should set in motion a new trend of developing popular links in the region. Peoples, societies and nations live by a vision. It is for the Parliaments to realize this vision for their citizens.

The Prime Minister said that SAARC's first steps were necessarily cautious. SAARC had to create a common ground before the member countries could stand on it. The nations moved with deliberation but, over the years, they have developed confidence and belief in shared purpose. The agenda has become broader and the content richer. The formation of the Association of Speakers and Parliamentarians is the strongest possible vote of confidence in the institution of SAARC, and one from which SAARC will derive strength, the Prime Minister added.

Earlier, welcoming the distinguished gathering, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil said that Parliaments in South Asia have followed a pattern of working, laws and rules which have many common points. He pointed out that democracies and parliamentary systems have to produce results in economic fields in a short time to meet the demands of the people by making use of the time in the best possible manner to produce acceptable results. Legislatures should have adequate number of representatives sitting in the House, proportionate to the number of voters. They should be fully accountable and reasonably stable. There is an imperative need to create conditions in which the different organs of Government could work and cooperate with one another. Legislatures have the onerous task of preparing the people to face the challenges in times to come and in the distant future. They have to function in a just, decorous and productive fashion. They also have to formulate procedures and rules which could make sufficient time available to them to transact the business. The Speaker also emphasized the need to

modernize the working of the Legislatures and also to equip those who run them with the facilities which could help them to perform better. He expressed the hope that the Association and its Conferences would contribute towards creating a better neighbourhood and a better place to live in.

Speaking on the occasion, the Speaker of the Bangladesh Parliament, Mr. Shaikh Razzaque Ali said a forum of parliamentarians from the SAARC countries, through mutual exchange of views and experiences, could immensely contribute towards achieving the goals for which the SAARC had been set up.

Addressing the gathering, the Speaker of the National Assembly of Bhutan, Mr. Dasho Pasang Dorji said that it was the bounden duty of the parliamentarians to create a regional climate conducive to the well-being of our people. We must generate the political will for making regional cooperation a great success.

The Speaker of the Citizen's Majlis of Maldives, Mr. Abdullah Hameed described the Conference as an important step forward in enhancing collective thinking on regional issues and expressed the hope that the discussions to follow would help explore a qualitative change to the extent and level of cooperation that could take place within the framework of SAARC in addressing local challenges with regional thoughts.

In his Address, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Nepal, Mr. Ram Chandra Poudel pointed out that regional cooperation could be more effective if democracy is allowed to function smoothly. The Conference is an important milestone in taking cooperation from the theoretical to the practical sphere.

The Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan, Mr. Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani said that SAARC has served as a vehicle for greater interaction among officials and non-officials in various fields of endeavours. It is incumbent upon us to utilize all our resources for the betterment of our peoples, he added.

The Speaker of the Parliament of Sri Lanka, Mr. K.B. Ratnayake said that we are on the threshold of a new era of cooperation and understanding among the parliamentarians of our region which will give Parliaments a new dimension in serving our people.

Proposing a vote of thanks, the Deputy Chairperson, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla observed that our purpose and goals are common. Various problems faced by the people are taken up by all our Legislatures. Interaction at the parliamentarians' level enables us to share the experience and achievements in improving the lives of our fraternity. Conferences of this nature could facilitate evolution of a regional body which could enhance our efforts in human development and social security, she added.

Conference Sessions

After the inaugural function, the Conference Sessions commenced at the Vigyan Bhawan. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, who chaired the first half of the Session, extended a hearty welcome to all the Delegates.

SAARC Parliaments: Their Relations with the Executive and the Judiciary

The first Session, devoted to the subject "SAARC Parliaments: Their Relations with the Executive and the Judiciary" started with the Keynote Address by the Speaker of the Bangladesh Parliament, Mr. Shaikh Razzaque Ali. Presenting the distinctive features of the Constitutions of the SAARC countries, he said that the relationship between the Parliament and the Executive in a democracy is participatory in nature. Unreserved commitment to democratic norms, conventions and traditions is one of the most coveted ways to avoid confrontation between the Parliament and the Executive and to build up a harmonious relationship. An important imperative for the smooth functioning of parliamentary democracy is to provide for conditions to ensure the absolute impartiality of the office of the Speaker.

Speaking on the experience of Pakistan in working parliamentary democracy, with sufficient safeguards for separation of powers and checks and balances, the Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan, Mr. Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani said that there was an even distribution of powers between the principal organs of the Government and the system was working fairly well, as each of the organs remained more or less confined to its own exclusive spheres.

Participating in the discussion, Shri Inderjit, MP (India) said that democracy is a civilized form of Government based on discussions and consensus and the ultimate objective of the system is to ensure the greatest good of the greatest number. Supporting the idea that it is important to create conditions for the objective functioning of the Office of Speaker, he suggested that Speakers should not have to be subjected to the compulsions of electoral politics.

Mr. Jigme Tshultrim, member of the National Assembly of Bhutan, giving a brief description of the political system of Bhutan said that in the absence of a written Constitution in his country, conventions played an important role. This provides for a lot of flexibility in dealing with the problems of the people.

When the Session resumed in the afternoon, Shri Rabi Ray, MP and former Speaker, Lok Sabha highlighted the need for decentralization of political and economic power to effectively tackle the problem of poverty and called upon members to pursue this ideal on their return to their respective countries.

Prof. Wisva Warnapala, MP and Deputy Minister of Higher Education, Sri Lanka, described how the Executive Presidency of his country had led to decline of the traditional role of parliamentary control over the Executive. Mr. Batty Weerakoon, MP (Sri Lanka) said that a Parliamentary Select Committee was studying the question of reforming the Presidency. Mr. Akhtaruzzaman, MP (Bangladesh) called for a greater involvement of parliamentarians in administration. Mr. Abdullah Shahid, MP (Maldives) described the role and functions of the Citizens' Majlis and its relations with the Executive and Judiciary. Mr Uddhav Deo Bhatt, MP (Nepal) observed that the Executive, Legislature and Judiciary, though separate, were complementary to each other. Mr. Mahadev Prasad Yadav, MP (Nepal) highlighted various constitutional provisions in his country.

Participating in the discussion on 23 July, Mr. Abu Yusuf Md. Khalilur Rahman, MP (Bangladesh) said that the Parliament and the Executive were inseparable from each other. The Parliamentary Committees are there to ensure transparency of the Government *vis-a-vis* the Parliament and through Parliament to the nation. Former Union Minister, Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, MP (India) felt that one of the weaknesses of the parliamentary system as it functions today is the fact that sufficient time is not devoted to serious legislative business. Issues that are basic to the governance of the country and its progress should be given proper consideration by the Parliament. Mr. P. P. Devaraj, MP (Sri Lanka) said that what essentially matters in administering the country is not the nature of the constitutions as such, but the way in which the spirit and content of the provisions of the Constitutions are understood and given effect to.

Taking part in the discussion, Shri S. Jaipal Reddy, MP (India) shared the view that to ensure the smooth functioning of Parliament, the office of the Speaker should be made above political considerations and for this it is important to provide for the unopposed election of the Speaker to the Parliament. As an added safeguard, it should be laid down that a Speaker should never be considered for ministership. Giving a brief description of the unique characteristics of the Maldivian society, the Speaker of the Citizens' Majlis, Mr. Abdullah Hameed, said that the principle of separation of powers and checks and balances operates in Maldives only in a limited way. The current political system in Maldives goes well with the level of education and political consciousness of the people of the country who have the necessary freedom for political activities and expression.

Participating in the discussion, the Deputy Chairperson, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla observed that over the years, India has evolved its own parliamentary system with its own rules and practices. For a country like India with so many diversities, a parliamentary polity is perhaps the best suited system, and it has worked quite well in our country, she stressed.

Dr. J. Jayawardana, MP (Sri Lanka) emphasized that parliamentary institutions must be made approachable. SAARC countries are in the process of adjusting their democratic systems to new situations. Executive, Legislature and Judiciary are the three pillars of democracy, said the Speaker, Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly, Shri Kaul Singh Thakur. There should be a proper check and balance system among the three. Shri Md. Salim, MP (India) concurred with the views of Shri Kaul Singh Thakur and emphasized that the Legislature and the Executive should not come in conflict with each other. The Speaker, Bihar Vidhan Sabha, Shri Deo Narayan Yadav expressed the opinion that the collective responsibility of the Cabinet should be emphasized. Centralization of power in any individual or institution should be discouraged and public interest should be taken into account before arriving at any decision.

Smt. Kamla Sinha, MP (India) observed that certain aberrations have developed in democratic systems which needed correction and pleaded for giving better representation to women in decision-making in the SAARC region. Participating in the discussion, Mr. Mahesh Choudhary, MP (Nepal) described in detail the working of parliamentary democracy in his country. Mr. M. A. Jinnah, MP (Bangladesh) observed that even though there are differences among SAARC countries, there are many things in common. There is a need for building mutual confidence to get over the difficulties. Mr. Abdulla Farook Hassan, MP (Maldives) gave a detailed account of the relations between the Legislature and the Executive in his country.

The Chairman of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Council, Shri Hakim Habib Ullah called upon the Delegates to urgently take steps to stop the menace of violence in this part of the world. The Speaker of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly, Shri Hashim Abdul Halim said that the Legislature and the Executive must work in harmony, or else it might lead to judicial intervention. The Speaker, Delhi Vidhan Sabha, Shri Charti Lal Goel pointed out that a Legislature and its members essentially represent the people and as such, they have to fulfil the wishes of the people.

The discussion on the subject then came to a close.

Committee System in SAARC Parliaments

On 24 July, the Conference took up for discussion another topical subject, "Committee System in SAARC Parliaments". The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil chaired the Session. Delivering the Keynote Address, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee said that the Parliamentary Committees played a very useful role as an arm of the Legislature. Legislative functions have grown in magnitude and complexities over the years. Legislatures do not have

enough time to consider each matter in detail and Committees help them to carry out their activities efficiently and speedily. The question whether the Committee proceedings should be open to the Press is an important matter which needed careful consideration.

Shri Vajpayee said that though the Committee System is common to all countries, its structure differed from one country to another. However, one common feature is that Committees are creatures of Legislatures and remain subordinate to it. In India, the 17 Departmentally-related Standing Committees covered the entire gamut of administration. These Committees were making path breaking efforts in surveillance by Parliament, he added.

Participating in the discussion, Dr. Shanker Prasad Uprety, MP (Nepal) observed that the Committee is a training ground for parliamentarians. The Chairman of the Committee, who has a pivotal role, should be appointed on a non-partisan basis. He suggested that a Committee on Population should be formed as population boom is a problem common to the SAARC region. Shri P. Upendra, MP (India) suggested that the recommendations of the Committees should be given more weightage and should not be treated as merely advisory. He also suggested that a comparative statement of the Committee System in the SAARC countries be prepared and discussed in the next Conference. The Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan, Mr. Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani said that Committee System is one of the devices available to the members to ensure accountability of the Executive to the Parliament. The Chairman of the Committee in Pakistan is elected by the Committee members and the Minister is no longer the Chairman of the Committee as it used to be before 1992. However, the concerned Minister may attend the Committee meeting as an *ex-officio* member. Mr. Dasho Karma Gayleg, MP (Bhutan) said that in his country there is a Royal Advisory Council which intervenes and advises the Government. It may also establish a Committee in consultation with the National Assembly as and when necessary.

Mr. M. M. Zuhair, MP (Sri Lanka) said that the Committee System is one of the devices available to the members to call into account the Executive before the Parliament. He commended India for taking a lead role in establishing parliamentary committees. Praising the working of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in India, Shri Zuhair called upon the Members of SAARC Parliaments to follow the Indian example as there are minority groups in all these countries. He also emphasized the need for giving importance to such issues that concern all the people of the region apart from matters that strengthen parliamentary democracy.

Mr. Syed Shahidul Haque Jamal, MP (Bangladesh) referred to the Committee System existing in his country. Mr. Asfand Yar Wali, MP



सर्व संसद अध्यक्षों एवं सांसदों के संघ का प्रथम सम्मेलन
नई दिल्ली, 22-24 जुलाई 1995

FIRST CONFERENCE OF

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT





सर्व संसद अध्यक्षों एवं संसदों के संघ का प्रथम सम्मेलन
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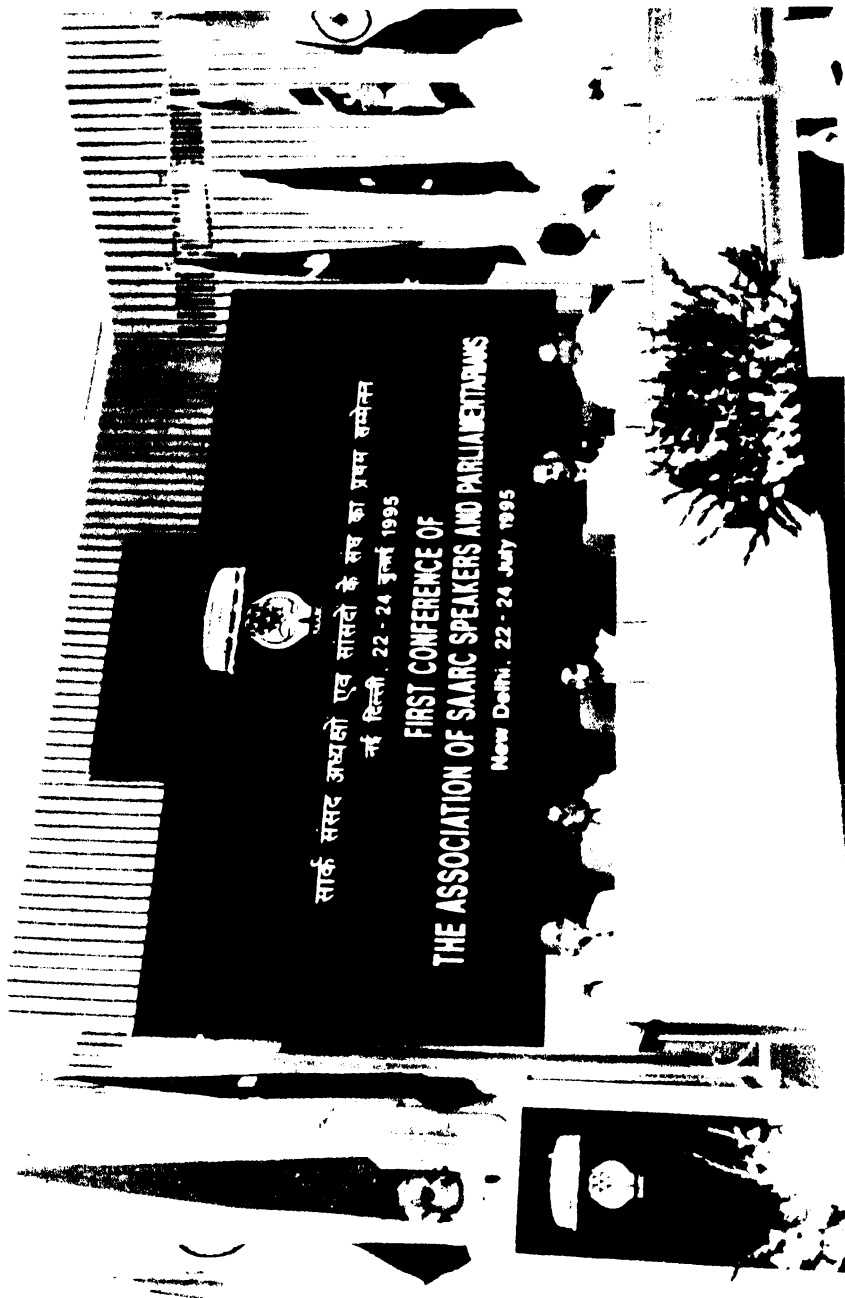
FIRST CONFERENCE OF

HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH INDIA

New Delhi, 22-24 July 1955



The Prime Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao inaugurating the Conference



The Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee delivering the Keynote Address on the "Committee System in SAARC Parliaments"



A view of the Business Session in progress

(Pakistan) felt that there was a need to make the functioning of the Committee System more effective. For this what is important is the spirit of sincerity with which all concerned with the working of the Committees should function.

Participating in the discussion, Mr. Ahmed Thasmeen Ali, MP (Maldives) observed that though there are many common features in the practices regarding the Committee System being followed in the SAARC countries, there are noticeable differences as well. It is important to ensure transparency and accountability of the Executive, he added. Mr. Kamrul Islam, MP (Bangladesh) felt that the ongoing exercise of parliamentarians for the exchange of ideas and experiences would help in finding solutions to the problems of the people of the South Asian region.

Presenting her assessment of the working of Parliament and its Committees, the Deputy Chairperson, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla said that the Parliamentary Committees which constitute an important component of Parliament have functioned quite successfully in India. There is a need to evolve a consensual view in favour of strengthening the Committee System in the SAARC countries, she added. The Committee System, if properly utilized, could contribute substantially towards improving the functioning of the Parliament, stressed the Deputy Minister of Higher Education, Sri Lanka, Prof. Wiswa Warnapala, MP.

Mr. Syed Javed Ali Shah, MP (Pakistan) suggested that with a view to ensuring proper accountability of the Government to Parliament, the Chairmanship of all Parliamentary Standing Committees should be with the members of the Opposition. Smt. Renuka Chowdhury, MP (India) proposed that the SAARC countries, representing one-fifth of the world population, should set an agenda for the betterment of their people so as to ensure that they cease to be identified as the third or fourth world and make themselves heard in the councils of the world. They should also seriously consider setting up a Common Committee to look into the vital problems of population control, education of the girl child, etc. Mr. Redwan Ahmed, MP (Bangladesh) felt that a strong Committee System could help immensely in establishing the supremacy of Parliament. He also called for the Committee proceedings to be thrown open to the Press.

Continuing the discussion in the afternoon, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, MP (India) suggested that the General Assembly of the Association of SAARC Speakers and Parliamentarians should have its own Committees. To begin with, there should be a Committee on Democratic Institutions and another on Regional Cooperation, both deriving their mandate from the Charter of the Association. These Committees can meet whenever required and report back to the General Assembly. He also called for moving away from national identity to a situation where there is a commonality of

approach cutting across national boundaries. Shri Kamal Chaudhry, MP (India) called for the establishment of a Committee on Population. He also suggested the winding up of the Consultative Committees, strengthening of the Standing Committees and a reduction in the sittings of Parliament. Smt. D. K. Thara Devi Siddhartha, MP (India) emphasized the need for giving more powers to the Parliamentary Committees to ensure the accountability of the Executive effectively. She suggested that the meetings of the Committees may be thrown open to the Press.

Mr. Md. Ahsanul Haq Mollah, MP (Bangladesh) said that the Committee System in Bangladesh is working well and is acting as a bridge between the people and the administration. Dr. Bharat Kumar Pradhan, MP (Nepal) expressed the view that discussions in the Committees should be free, frank and conciliatory and pointed out that the Chairmen of the Committees should be impartial in their actions. Shri Rana Chandar Singh, MP (Pakistan) suggested that there should be a Standing Committee on Minorities which should look into the problems of minorities in the SAARC countries.

Participating in the discussion, Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, MP (India) observed that the recommendations of the Committees should remain advisory in nature. Healthy conventions should be allowed to develop to avoid rigidity in the functioning of the Committees. Shri Inderjit, MP (India) said that there was a need to develop healthy democratic ethos. We should not think only for the moment but for future, he said.

The discussions then came to a close.

Valedictory Function

The valedictory function of the First Conference of the Association of SAARC Speakers and Parliamentarians was held on 24 July. Speaking on the occasion, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, thanked the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma for receiving the Delegates. He also thanked the Vice-President of India, Shri K. R. Narayanan for the Dinner for the Delegates and expressed his gratitude to the Prime Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao for inaugurating the Conference and for all the other encouragement and assistance provided for establishing the Association of the Speakers and Parliamentarians of SAARC. He specially thanked all the Speakers and Delegations from SAARC Parliaments and the Presiding Officers and members of State Legislatures in India for the keen interest and active participation in the proceedings of the Conference, the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources and other Ministers of the Union Cabinet, the Deputy Presiding Officers and Officers of both the Houses of Parliament and the media for their role in making the Conference a success. Shri Patil also conveyed to the Speakers and other members of the Delegations the appreciation of the people and parliamentarians of India for the manner in which they participated in the Conference.

Shri Patil said that the deliberations have acquainted the Delegates and others about the relations among the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary in the seven countries of South Asia and the Committee Systems followed by them. He expressed the hope that the deliberations of the Conference would help the member countries to refine their systems and to fine-tune them, if felt necessary. The Conference has taken off in a friendly and understanding manner, creating goodwill, and an inclination to cooperate in whatever fashion possible is itself a great achievement, observed Shri Patil.

Speaking at the valedictory function, the Speaker, Pakistan National Assembly, Mr. Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani expressed great happiness over the success of the Conference and thanked all concerned. Sharing the sentiments expressed by Mr. Gilani, the Speaker of Bangladesh Parliament, Mr. Shaikh Razzaque Ali said that the Conference was a tremendous success and thanked the host Parliament for the excellent arrangements made. Expressing his thanks, the Speaker, House of Representatives, Nepal, Mr. Ram Chandra Poudel said that his Delegation was returning home from the great land of Mahatma Gandhi with a renewed sense of faith in, and sense of commitment to, parliamentary democracy. Conveying sincere satisfaction over the deliberations of the Conference and the manner in which it was organized, the Speaker of the Parliament of Sri Lanka, Mr. K. B. Ratnayake, observed that parliamentarians of the SAARC should meet more frequently and exchange ideas as there was a great deal of commonalities between the cultures and peoples of the region and their problems. The Speaker of the Citizens' Majlis of Maldives, Mr. Abdullah Hameed thanked the host Parliament and expressed satisfaction at the outcome of the Conference. In his concluding remarks, the Speaker, National Assembly of Bhutan, Mr. Dasho Pasang Dorji, also greatly appreciated the manner in which the Conference was organized and stressed that Conferences like this would go a long way in building up people-to-people contacts.

Later, after the valedictory function, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil and all other Speakers from the SAARC countries addressed the Press and highlighted the achievements of the Conference.

During the course of the Conference, the Speakers' Council, the supreme authority of the Association consisting of the Speakers of the SAARC Parliaments, met twice - on 22 July and again on 24 July. The Council discussed matters of mutual interest.

Meetings of Secretaries-General/Secretaries

As a prelude to the First Conference of the Association of SAARC Speakers and Parliamentarians, the Secretaries-General and Secretaries of the Parliaments from the SAARC countries met in the Parliament

House Annexe on 21 July 1995 and deliberated on various issues of common concern. The discussion centered on the Televising of Parliamentary Proceedings and Computerization of the Information Service to the Members of Parliament and Satellite Linkage amongst the SAARC Parliaments. The Secretary-General, Lok Sabha and Secretary-General of the General Assembly, Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj chaired the meeting. Welcoming the Delegates, Dr. Bhardwaj said that the Secretary-General is the most important link between the House and the Speaker. The Secretary-General has to be patient, impartial, forceful, diplomatic and diligent and has to have a thorough knowledge of the practices and procedures not only of one's own Legislature, but of Legislatures elsewhere too.

Dr. Bhardwaj was later handed over the charge of the Secretary-General, of the SAARC Speakers' and Parliamentarians' Association by the outgoing Secretary-General, Mr. Abul Hashem, Secretary-General, of Bangladesh Parliament. Handing over the charge, Mr. Hashem said that the evolution of the Association, over the years, was in line with the developments across the world. The Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha and Co-Chairman of the Steering Committee of the Conference, Smt. V.S. Rama Devi also extended a warm welcome to the Delegates. She said that the Secretary-General, to be effective, should enjoy the confidence of all the Parties in Parliament and should be able to give equal importance to all the members, as each of them contributes in his or her own way in the functioning of Parliament.

Later, the Secretary-General and the Secretaries shared their views on the televising of parliamentary proceedings. Initiating the discussion, Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj said that televising of parliamentary proceedings is the best way to communicate good parliamentary performance to the people at large and thereby to enhance the public perception of Parliament and the legislative process. The Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha, Smt. V.S. Rama Devi pointed out that after careful thought and discussion, the Rajya Sabha had granted permission for telecast of entire proceedings.

Others who participated in the discussion were the Secretary-General of the Parliament of Bangladesh, Mr. Abul Hashem; the Secretary-General of the Parliament of Nepal, Mr. Jeeban Lal Satyal; the Secretary-General of the National Assembly of Bhutan, Mr. Tashi Phuntsog; the Secretary-General of the Parliament of Sri Lanka, Mr. Bertram Tittawella; the Director of the Citizens' Majlis of Maldives, Mr. Adam Haleem; the Secretary, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, Shri C.S. Janakiraman; and the Secretary, Karnataka Legislative Assembly, Shri N.H. Muttalageri.

When the discussion resumed after tea break, the former Secretaries-General of Lok Sabha, Shri S.L. Shakhder and Shri Avtar Singh Rikhy shared their experiences and ideas with the Delegates.

Later, the Session took up for discussion another topic of common concern, "Computerization of Information Service to the Members of Parliament and Satellite Linkage amongst the SAARC Parliaments". Initiating the discussion, the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj explained in detail the measures taken by the Lok Sabha Secretariat towards providing computerised information services to the members. The Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha, Smt. V.S. Rama Devi; the Secretary-General of the Parliament of Bangladesh, Mr. Abul Hashem; the Secretary of the National Assembly of Bhutan, Mr. Tashi Phuntsog; the Secretary-General of the Parliament of Nepal, Mr. Jeeban Lal Satyal; the Secretary-General of the Parliament of Sri Lanka, Mr. Bertram Tittawella; the Director of the Citizens' Majlis of Maldives, Mr. Adam Halem; the Secretary of the Haryana Vidhan Sabha, Shri Sumit Kumar; the Secretary of the Kerala Legislative Assembly, Shri J.M. James; the Secretary of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly, Shri N.H. Muttalageri; the Secretary of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, Shri C.S. Janakiraman; and the Secretary of the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly, Shri E.L. Lyttan also participated in the discussion.

Some Special Features

The Host Branch had made arrangements for local sight seeing tour of Delhi on the afternoon of 23 July. The Delegates and others visited the historic city of Agra on 25 July and Jaipur/Ajmer on 26 July.

Delegates were also guests of honour at Receptions/Banquets hosted by various dignitaries. The President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma hosted an 'At Home' at the Rashtrapati Bhawan on 23 July. Receptions/Banquets/Lunches/Dinners were also hosted by the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K. R. Narayanan; the Prime Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; the Minister of Water Resources and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Vidyacharan Shukla; the Deputy Chairperson, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla; and the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah. Several cultural programmes were also arranged.

A function for the First Special Postal Cancellation on the occasion of the Conference was held in Vigyan Bhawan on 22 July. The Cancellation was performed by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil.

To mark the Conference, the Lok Sabha Secretariat also brought out a Publication titled *SAARC Parliaments*. Edited by the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj, the volume carries detailed articles on various aspects of the political systems prevalent in the SAARC countries. Another publication titled *Biographies*, containing bio-data of the Delegates to the Conference, was also brought out by the Secretariat.

The Conference was given extensive coverage both by the electronic and print media. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil held two Press Conferences - on 21 July and 24 July. The inaugural function on 22 July was telecast live by the *Doordarshan*. The *Doordarshan* and the AIR as also the print media gave wide coverage of the proceedings daily. The Bulletin Desk of the Host Branch Secretariat issued four Daily Bulletins covering all activities of the Conference. A Library and Reference Counter functioned at the venue of the Conference to attend to on-the-spot information requirements of Delegates. Registration and Information Counters were functional right through the Conference days. Expert medical assistance was also available.

The Parliament Library Information System (PARLIS) and the National Informatics Centre (NIC) had set up a full-fledged Computer Centre at Vigyan Bhawan to provide a variety of on-line information to Delegates and others at the Conference venue. The Computer Centre put to use state-of-the-art computer and communication technology for storage and retrieval of information for this purpose. The Centre was linked to the Satellite-based NICNET. The host Computer stored information about the countries being represented, bio-data of Delegates and their arrival and departure details.

Conclusion

The First Conference of the Association of SAARC Speakers and Parliamentarians has contributed substantially to the further strengthening of parliamentary democracy among the member countries of the SAARC. The deliberations at the Conference displayed a remarkable commitment on the part of the Delegates towards the promotion of democratic ideals. The discussions threw light on the varied aspects of the functioning of the system in member countries which indeed helped all participants to get an insight into its operational dynamics and gain valuable understanding from one another's experiences.

The New Delhi Conference has indeed been a great success in bringing about greater understanding and goodwill among the Speakers and parliamentarians of the South Asian region.

OUR BUDDING PARLIAMENTARIANS*

SMT. VEENA VERMA

28 DEC 1985



Smt. Veena Verma's wife turned politician represents the transformation of an Indian woman from *purdah* to politics. As the wife of late Shri Shrikant Verma, the renowned writer and poet and member of Parliament, she came into close contact with Smt. Indira Gandhi and had the blessings of the first woman Prime Minister of India. Recognising her potential to be a leader of women in her own right, Shri Rajiv Gandhi launched her into politics as a member of the Rajya Sabha.

No wonder then that Smt. Veena Verma appeared straight on the national horizon as a member of Rajya Sabha, representing the State of Madhya Pradesh, in 1986. An M.A. in Sociology, her main interests are the welfare of the exploited and the downtrodden, particularly women and children, including the girl-child, and protection and promotion of their rights; the protection, promotion and propagation of cultural and social values; and the promotion of education, especially the education of women and girls. She also has an abiding interest in the propagation of literature and poetry, and promotion of Hindi language, literature and culture, besides the print and electronic media.

Smt. Veena Verma has proved her worth as a true representative of the Indian women through her activities in Parliament, making use of parliamentary devices like Questions, Private Members' Bills and Resolutions, Motions, Special Mentions, etc. In all her moves in the House and outside, one or the other of her concerns and interests are vividly discernible. A few significant moves made by her in the Rajya Sabha in pursuit of her varied concerns are recapitulated below.

Property rights of women: Smt. Veena Verma, in her maiden speech in the Rajya Sabha, made a fervent appeal to provide for economic security to women, since she felt that all talk of status of women in

*This feature is based on material received from Smt. Veena Verma, MP

society was hollow in the absence of economic status and security. This could be achieved only by conferring property rights on women. She pointed out that women, particularly married Hindu women, had no property rights. Since status devoid of economic content and property rights was meaningless, she stressed that it was necessary to provide economic security, standing and status to women. Social security and status were not possible in the absence of economic security, she observed and pleaded that a woman be given an equal right with her husband in the latter's property, both movable and immovable. This should devolve on her by virtue of her marriage itself. This alone could ensure her due social security and status in society, eliminating all chances of her becoming indigent.

Legislative measures : In her first attempt at legislation by way of a Private Member's Bill, Smt. Verma introduced a Bill, titled The Protection of Married Women's Rights Bill, 1988 which was aimed at providing for property rights for a married woman in the property of her husband, right from the date of marriage which alone, she felt, could protect Indian women from falling victims to destitution.

In another attempt to secure due protection and status to a woman, right from the very birth on to married life, and if ill-luck has it, further on to widowhood and desertion, Smt. Verma introduced the Women and Girls (Property Rights) Bill, 1993 which was a comprehensive measure to protect a woman from destitution by providing her an economic security cover throughout life by way of conferring property rights on her in her parents' property and then in her husband's property.

For providing their due status to women in society, Smt. Verma introduced two more Private Members' Bills, namely the Reservation of Jobs for Women in Government Services Bill, 1993 and the Working Women (Basic & Infrastructure Facilities) Bill, 1993. The former sought to give due share in Government jobs to women who have been subject to discrimination, deprivation and exploitation by way of reservation of at least 30% of posts for women and the latter for provision of basic infrastructural and other facilities for working women, such as creches and recreational facilities.

Children : Smt. Veena Verma's concern for protection and promotion of the rights and interests of children and for their welfare and development is just another facet of her concern for the weaker and exploited sections, the deprived and the destitute. With this in view, she initiated a comprehensive legislative proposal by way of introducing in the Rajya Sabha a Private Member's Bill seeking the setting up of a National Commission for Children.

Media : Another focus of Smt. Verma's interest — the development of the print and electronic media — is well discernible from the following steps taken or initiated by her:

Introduction of the Hindi News Pool on All India Radio : Hitherto all news for broadcast were pooled in English and the same had to be translated into Hindi and other Indian languages before being relayed. Smt. Veena Verma, through the Parliamentary Committee concerned and otherwise, impressed on all concerned to adopt Hindi as the news-pooling language and accordingly, the Hindi News Pool of A. I. R. was introduced on 14 August 1993.

Joint Parliamentary Committee Report on the Copyrights (Second Amendment) Bill, 1992 : As a member of the Joint Committee of Parliament on the Copyrights (Second Amendment) Bill, 1992, Smt. Veena Verma not only contributed substantially to the deliberations of the Committee, but sought to amend the principal Act on Copyrights so as to provide for reasonable return to the legal representatives of the author of a work, a writer, a musician, a dramatist, a sculptor or the like, before the work becomes public, after the lapse of the specified period. A Copyright is a property, she pleaded, and the author and his legal representatives are entitled to reasonable return to be determined by the copyright Board when the work is rendered public. It is a return for some valuable property, precious work of the author that is given to public for which society should be expected to pay back to the author or his legal representatives after the lapse of the period of copyrights, she stressed.

Additional National Channels on Doordarshan : Smt. Veena Verma has been vociferously fighting for the creation of additional national Channels on *Doordarshan*, instead of creation of numerous Metro Channels, to fight the onslaught of foreign television through satellite and cable TV networks which threatens *Doordarshan*. She has pointed out that since the Metro Channels serve only the metropolitan pockets of the society and the multitudes in the rural areas are deprived of the facility and the affluent amongst them are switching over to cable networks exposing themselves to foreign cultural invasion, more national Channels needed to be introduced to check the overseas cultural onslaught.

Smt. Veena Verma has also contributed her mite in making the coverage of parliamentary proceedings on *Doordarshan* and the A.I.R. effective and improving the exposure of Parliament on the media, by active participation in the Committee constituted for the purpose. She also contributed substantially in the opening of the *Doordarshan* Kendra at Bhopal, through varied means such as Parliamentary Questions, personal discussions with the Ministers and officials concerned and through regular correspondence.

Culture and education : The contributions of Smt. Veena Verma for the promotion of education and culture have been no less marked. She has been actively participating in parliamentary debates and discussions

having a bearing on the promotion of education, particularly girls' education.

She has also founded the "Shrikant Verma Smriti Puruskar" for the promotion of Hindi literature. The Puruskar is conferred every year on the author of a work in Hindi literature—poetry, drama or novel, published during the year—and adjudged the best by a Committee constituted for the purpose. A befitting Puruskar presentation function is organised annually on the birthday of the late poet and writer, Shri Shrikant Verma. The Shrikant Verma Trust also donated a sum of Rs. 2,00,000 to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund for relief of the victims of the earthquake of 30 September 1993 which befell the villages in the Latur-Osmanabad belt of Maharashtra.

Smt. Verma has been instrumental in the opening of the first Central School in Mysore in 1993 when, during her tour as a member of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language to Mysore, she was presented a memorandum pleading for the opening of a Central School at Mysore, especially for the children of Central Government employees whose services are transferable all over the country.

National and international activities : Through active participation in national and international Conferences, Smt. Verma has made a mark in the social and political circles in India and abroad, as a leader of the cause of women and children and promoter of our culture and literature. Some of the Conferences, Seminars, Programmes, etc. in which she participated include: (i) The First Global Convention of Overseas Indians in New York, August 1989 at which she delivered Keynote Address on "Perspective on Indian Women"; (ii) Delegate to the SAARC Seminar on Children, in Sri Lanka, September 1992; (iii) Indian Representative from Rajya Sabha on the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the Queen's Accession to the Throne, London, November 1992; (iv) Lectures on Hindi in International Context and Writer's Responsibilities and Contribution to the present stage of World Literature, organised by *Ska dinanisk* Indian Literature and Culture Forum, Norway, October 1993.

PARLIAMENTARY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

International Forum on "Parliament and Local Authorities: Tourism Policy Makers": An International Forum on "Parliament and Local Authorities: Tourism Policy Makers" was organised jointly by the World Tourism Organisation (WTO) and the Cadiz City Council at Cadiz, Spain on 16-17 March 1995 to study the implications of the growing decentralization of responsibilities for tourism development and promotion in favour of cities and regions, as well as Parliaments' involvement in defining and applying tourism policies.

The Indian Delegation to the Forum was led by Prof. K. V. Thomas, MP. The other members of the Delegation were Shri K. D. Sultanpuri, MP and Shri Dineshbhai Trivedi, MP. The Officer on Special Duty, Lok Sabha Secretariat, Shri A. N. Chopra was Secretary to the Delegation.

The following subjects were mainly discussed at the Forum:

- (i) Major qualitative challenges of tourism development in next twenty years;
- (ii) Local or regional experiences of tourism planning and development;
- (iii) Promotion and recreation management of tourism destinations;
- (iv) Sharing of tourism development responsibilities between the public and private sectors;
- (v) Sharing of responsibilities between the Central administrations and the local authorities in the tourism sector; and
- (vi) Sharing of tourism responsibilities at state level—Legislative power/Executive power.

The 93rd Inter-Parliamentary Conference : The 93rd Inter-Parliamentary Conference was held at Madrid, Spain from 27 March to 1 April 1995. The Indian Delegation to the Conference was led by the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla. The other members of the Delegation were Sarvashri Satya Prakash Malaviya, Jagesh Desai, Inderjit, Sartaj Singh Chattwal, Mahendra Kumar Singh, and Smt. Geeta Mukherjee, all members of Parliament. The Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat, Shri S. N. Mishra was Secretary to the Delegation.

The Conference mainly discussed and adopted Declarations/Resolutions on the following subjects:

- (i) The International community in the face of the challenges posed by calamities arising from armed conflicts and by natural or man-made disasters: the need for a coherent and effective response through political and humanitarian assistance - means and mechanisms adapted to the situation;
- (ii) Bioethics and its implications worldwide for human rights protection; and
- (iii) Parliamentary action for women's access to and participation in decision-making structures aimed at achieving true equality for women.

Besides, the Conference devoted three sittings to the General Debate on the Political, Economic and Social Situation in the World in which 105 speakers from 89 Delegations took part.

BIRTH ANNIVERSARIES OF NATIONAL LEADERS

On the birth anniversaries of those leaders whose portraits adorn the Central Hall of Parliament House, functions are organised under the auspices of the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG) to pay tributes to the memory of these noble sons and daughters of India. Booklets containing profiles of the leaders, prepared by the Library and Reference, Research, Documentation and Information Service (LARRDIS) of the Lok Sabha Secretariat are also brought out on the occasion.

The birth anniversaries of the following national leaders were thus celebrated during the period 1 January 1995 to 31 March 1995.

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, a function was held on 23 January 1995 in the Central Hall. The Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Shri Bhuvnesh Chaturvedi; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes to Netaji.

Lala Lajpat Rai: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Lala Lajpat Rai, a function was held on 28 January 1995 in the Central Hall. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid tributes to Lala Lajpat Rai.

Smt. Sarojini Naidu: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Smt. Sarojini Naidu, a function was held on 13 February 1995 in the Central Hall. The Speaker Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; the Minister of Textiles, Shri G. Venkat Swamy; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development, Shri Uttambhai Patel; the Deputy Chairman, Rajya

Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla; the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah; the Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Kum. Selja; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes to Smt. Naidu.

Dr. Rammanohar Lohia : On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Dr. Rammanohar Lohia, a function was held on 23 March 1995 in the Central Hall. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah; the Minister of Urban Development, Smt. Sheila Kaul; the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Shri Bhuvnesh Chaturvedi; the Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development, Shri Uttambhai Patel; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes to Dr. Lohia.

EXCHANGE OF PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS VISITING INDIA

Cyprus : On the invitation of our Parliament, the President of the House of Representatives of Cyprus, Mr. Alexis Galanos, accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Alessandra Galanos and the Deputy Secretary-General of the House of Representatives, Mr. Constantinos Christoforou visited India from 30 May to 4 June 1995.

The visiting dignitary called on the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K. R. Narayanan; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; and the Minister of Water Resources and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Vidyacharan Shukla on 30 May 1995. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil hosted a Banquet in honour of the dignitaries the same day. Mr. Galanos called on the Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Bal Ram Jakhar and the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Pranab Mukherjee on 31 May 1995. A discussion between the visiting dignitary and members of our Parliament was also held the same day.

Besides Delhi, they visited Manali (Himachal Pradesh).

Seychelles : On the invitation of our Parliament, a 6-member Parliamentary Delegation from Seychelles, led by the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Seychelles, Mr. Shelton Macmillan Jolicoeur visited India from 28 April to 5 May 1995.

The Delegation called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil and the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri R. L. Bhatia on 2 May 1995. The Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah hosted a Banquet in their honour the same day. They also called on the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K. R. Narayanan and the Minister of Water Resources and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Vidyacharan Shukla on 3 May 1995. A discussion between

the visiting Delegation and members of our Parliament was also held the same day.

Besides Delhi, the Delegation visited Udaipur, Jaipur, Agra and Bombay.

INDIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS GOING ABROAD

Austria : The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil led a 9-member Indian Parliamentary Delegation to Austria from 21 to 24 June 1995. The other members of the Delegation were the Minister of Water Resources and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Vidyacharan Shukla; Shri P.C. Thomas, MP; Shri Jagmohan, MP; Shri Nyodek Yonggam, MP; Md. Ali Ashraf Fatmi, MP; and Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar MP. The Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj was Secretary to the Delegation.

Egypt : The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil led a 9-member Indian Parliamentary Delegation to Egypt from 13 to 16 April 1995. The other members of the Delegation were the Minister of State in the Ministries of Human Resource Development (Department of Youth Affairs and Sports) and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Mukul Wasnik; Shri Rabi Ray, MP; Shri Jaswant Singh, MP; Shri Saifuddin Choudhury, MP; Shri Ajit P.K. Jogi, MP; and Shri Ish Dutt Yadav, MP. The Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj, was Secretary to the Delegation.

Hungary : The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil led an 8-member Indian Parliamentary Delegation to Hungary from 24 to 28 June 1995. The other members of the Delegation were Shri P.C. Thomas, MP; Md. Ali Ashraf Fatmi, MP and Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar, MP. The Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Dr. R.C. Bhardwaj was Secretary to the Delegation.

Turkey : The Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah led an Indian Parliamentary Delegation to Turkey from 22 to 25 April 1995 to attend the 75th Anniversary Celebrations of the Turkish Grand National Assembly. The other member of the Delegation was Shri Vijay Naval Patil, MP. The Deputy Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat, Shri O.P. Ghai was Secretary to the Delegation.

BUREAU OF PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES AND TRAINING (BPST)

During the period 1 January to 31 March 1995, the following Programmes/Courses were organised by the BPST.

Tenth International Training Programme in Legislative Drafting : The Tenth International Training Programme in Legislative Drafting, which started on 21 November 1994, concluded on 31 January 1995. Four officers from Afro-Asian countries, one officer from Lok Sabha Secretariat and one officer from Tamil Nadu Legislature Secretariat participated in the Programme. The Programme was designed to equip the parliamentary

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officials with basic concepts, skills and techniques required for drafting legislation so that they could render assistance to private members, if and when required.

Appreciation Courses in Parliamentary Processes and Procedures for Probationers of All India/Central Services and Officers of Government of India, etc. : During the period, the following Appreciation Courses were organised:

- (i) for (a) Audit Officers; and (b) Indian Audit and Accounts Service (13-17 February 1995);
- (ii) for Probationers of (a) Indian Railway Traffic Service; (b) Indian Railway Personnel Service; and (c) Indian Railway Accounts Service and P&T Accounts and Finance Service (20-24 February 1995);
- (iii) for Indian Revenue Service Probationers (6-10 March 1995);
- (iv) for Indian Information Service Probationers (13-16 March 1995); and
- (v) for Indian Administrative Service Probationers (27-31 March 1995).

Attachment Programmes : During the period, the following Attachment Programmes were organised:

- (i) for foreign participants attending Training Programmes at the Office of C&AG of India (4-5 January 1995);
- (ii) for participants attending Training Programme at the Office of C&AG of India (2-3 February 1995); and
- (iii) for Fellows from the Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies, (ICPS), New Delhi (6-17 February 1995).

Study Visits: At the request of various training and educational institutions, twenty-four study visits were organised during this period.

PRIVILEGE ISSUES

STATE LEGISLATURES

GUJARAT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Alleged obstruction caused to a member in performing his parliamentary duties by disconnecting his official telephone : On 10 March 1993, Shri Parsotambhai Rupala, a member, gave notice of a question of privilege regarding alleged obstruction caused to him in performing his parliamentary duties by the Telephone Department by disconnecting his telephone installed at his residence at the M.L.A. Quarters.

In his notice of question of privilege, Shri Rupala, *inter alia* stated that a bill for the month of April 1992 was sent to him by the Telephone Department in respect of telephone number 20766 provided to him as a member of the Legislative Assembly at his M.L.A. Quarter. The said bill, however, included an amount of Rs. 2950/- as outstanding for the period prior to the allotment of the telephone in his name. As he did not pay the bill for this period, his telephone was disconnected by the Telephone Department. As a result of this he was deprived of telephone facility which caused him hindrance in performing his duties as a member.

On 1 September 1993, the Speaker referred the matter to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation and report.

The Committee of Privileges, after examining in person the Chief General Manager and the General Manager, Telecommunications, Gujarat Circle, and after considering all other relevant documents, in their Eighth Report presented to the House on 12 July 1994, reported that it had framed some issues for examination: (i) whether causing obstruction to the members of the House in performing their parliamentary duties amounted to breach of privilege and contempt of the House?; (ii) Whether discontinuation of the telephone facility provided to the member of the Legislative Assembly amounted to breach of his privilege or contempt of the House?; (iii) if so, whether a breach of privilege or contempt of the House was caused by discontinuing the telephone facility provided to Shri Parsotambhai Rupala? and (iv) if so, what action should be taken against the persons responsible for the breach of privilege and contempt of the House?

The Committee, while considering the first issue, was of the view that as per the practice prevailing in the British House of Commons, an act which would obstruct or impede either the functioning of the House or a member of the House in performing his duties, would be treated

as a contempt of the House. Hence, the contention of the Committee in respect of the first issue was in the affirmative.

As regards the second issue, the Committee stated that the main intention behind giving such telephone facility to the members was to help them to remain in contact with their constituencies and to put forth more effectively the problems of their constituencies either in the House or before the Committees when they come to attend the meetings of Legislative Assembly or those of the Committees and thereby to enable them to perform their duties in the House or its Committees more smoothly and more easily. Hence, in respect of the second issue, the Committee held the view that discontinuance of the telephone facility provided to the Member constituted a breach of privilege of the Member and a contempt of the House. Hence the contention of the Committee in respect of the second issue was in the affirmative.

As regards the third issue, the Committee's contention was that the General Manager, Telecommunications, Gujarat Circle, informed the Committee that the telephone number 20766 provided to Shri Rupala at his residence was in safe custody before it was allotted to him and two extensions. An order was issued to provide connection of this telephone along with two extensions at Shri Rupala's residence. In pursuance of this order, a field unit of the Telephone Department went to the residence of the member at the M.L.A. Quarters to install the telephone. As the member did not want two extensions, he took only the main telephone connection without extensions. This fact should have been reported by the field unit to the officer issuing telephone allotment orders but they did not do so. As a result, the required corrections could not be made in the telephone allotment order and the billing unit had sent the telephone bill with rent for two extensions to which the member objected and instead of paying the bill, he informed the Telephone Department to send the bill after correcting the excess amount in the bill but no immediate action was taken by the Telephone Department resulting in the discontinuance of the telephone. The General Manager also admitted the fact that the discontinuation of telephone connection of the member was a fault on the part of his Department and he expressed regrets for the same.

After examining the Chief General Manager and other senior officers of the Telephone Department, the Committee felt that due to the negligence of the Department, the telephone of Shri Rupala was disconnected for no fault of his own. As a result of it, the member was deprived of the telephone facility for nearly nine months, including the days when the Assembly was in session and thereby caused obstruction to the member in performing his parliamentary duties. The Committee held that a breach of privilege and contempt of the House was caused by improperly disconnecting the telephone facility.

As regards the fourth issue, the Committee was of the view that the Chief General Manager (CGM) had described the incident as unfortunate and had expressed his regrets on behalf of the Telecommunications Department, Gujarat Circle, and had tendered an unconditional apology. He had also assured the Committee to take due care so that such incidents would not recur in future. In view of this, the Committee decided to recommend to the House not to take any further action in this regard.

The Committee expressed its displeasure at the carelessness shown by the Telecommunication Department at Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar in this particular case. The Committee also noted that the telephone connection of the member was not restored for nine months in spite of the matter having been brought to the notice of the Telephone Department. Also, the CGM did not submit his explanation to the Committee within the stipulated time which showed the casual attitude adopted by him. Moreover, the letter addressed to the CGM by the Committee remained unnoticed in his Department for 24 days compelling the member to raise the matter as a question of privilege.

The Committee further noted that a copy of the guidelines which were to be issued by the CGM as per his assurance given to the Committee during his evidence was not forwarded to it.

The Committee hoped that the Government of Gujarat would take necessary action by taking up the matter with the Department of Telecommunications so that necessary steps would be taken as regards the recommendations/instructions made by the Committee in its Report.

In view of the regrets expressed and unconditional apology tendered by the Chief General Manager, Telecommunications, Gujarat Circle, the Committee recommended that the matter might be dropped.

No further action was taken by the House in the matter.

MADHYA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Alleged obstruction caused to a member in performing his parliamentary duties by a Government officer : On 7 August 1991, Shri Likhiram Kavare, a member, gave notice of a question of privilege against Shri J.C. Tripathi, Principal, Government Secondary School, Newargaon Kalan, District Balaghat, Madhya Pradesh, for allegedly obstructing him in performing his parliamentary duties by not giving him any representation in the School Development Committee.

Shri Kavare, in his notice of question of privilege, *inter alia* stated that the School Development Committee of the Government Secondary School, Newargaon Kalan was constituted as required under Appendix IX of the Code of Education issued by the Department of Education,

Government of Madhya Pradesh. The Chairman of the School Development Committee was appointed by Shri J.C. Tripathi, Principal, Senior Secondary School, in violation of the norms laid down in this respect in paragraph 2 of Memorandum No. Ed/Misc/85/2697, dated 30 November 1985 issued by the Directorate, Public Teaching Institutes, Madhya Pradesh, which provided that the legislator in whose constituency the school was located would be appointed as Chairman of the School Development Committee to monitor the overall development of the school. In case the legislator expressed his inability to work as Chairman of the School Development Committee due to preoccupation, his representative would be appointed as the Chairman. Shri Kavare also stated that he addressed a letter to Shri Tripathi expressing therein his inability to work as Chairman of the Committee and requesting him to appoint his representative as Chairman of the School Development Committee. Shri Kavare alleged that in spite of his written request, his representative was not appointed as the Chairman by Shri Tripathi and the post was given to someone else which, according to the member, was a deliberate attempt on the part of Shri Tripathi to obstruct him in performing his duties as a legislator. He alleged that it amounted to breach of privilege and requested that action might be taken against Shri Tripathi.

On 10 December 1991, the Speaker referred the matter to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation and report.

The Committee of Privileges, after examining in person Shri J.C. Tripathi, the Secretary, School Education, Government of Madhya Pradesh, and Shri Likhiram Kavare, and after considering the written explanation of Shri Tripathi and all other relevant documents, in their Fourth Report, presented to the House on 11 September 1992, *inter alia* reported that Shri Tripathi, in his written explanation, stated that no obstruction was caused to the member in performing his duties of a legislator. Under the Code of Education, it was the head of the institution who had been empowered to constitute the School Development Committee. He further stated that the person nominated by Shri Kavare for the post of Chairman of the School Development Committee was an undesirable person. The Gram Panchayat, Newargaon Kalan, had passed a resolution on 14 December 1990, deciding to keep the school free from politics and groupism. They had also decided that the School Development Committee should not be constituted under the Chairmanship of a person of any particular party. In their resolution they had made it clear that being head of the institution, it was his moral and legal duty to keep the School free from party politics.

The Secretary, School Education, Government of Madhya Pradesh stated during his evidence before the Committee that Shri Tripathi had brought the matter to the notice of the Education Officer and the

Commissioner, Public Education, and both of these officers had issued clear instructions to constitute the School Development Committee under the Chairmanship of the person nominated by Shri Kavare.

The Committee was of the view that matters where no direct or indirect obstruction was caused in parliamentary duties or day-to-day administrative lapses would not come within the purview of parliamentary privileges. Administrative lapses might be considered by the members as derogatory to their dignity but they would not constitute breach of privilege.

The Committee noted that the *ex officio* rights given to legislators by the Government had been deliberately violated and, therefore, a question of propriety was definitely involved in the matter. The Committee, therefore, recommended that steps should be taken to ensure that such things would not recur.

No further action was taken by the House in the matter.

UTTAR PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Alleged disrespect shown to members by a Minister: On 25 November 1992, the Speaker informed the House that on 10 March 1992, Shri Lalji Verma, a member, gave notice of a question of privilege and contempt of the House against Shri Surya Pratap Shahi, Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs for alleged disrespect shown to some members of the House. According to the member, on 10 March 1992, when he, along with some other members of the House sat on a dharna in the House protesting against misbehaviour with women by police at Pathardera, the Minister threatened Shri Vishwanath Singh, a member and his associates with dire consequences.

Comments in this regard were called for from the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Minister, in his comments dated 15 May 1992 stated that he had great respect and regard for Sarvashri Vishwanath Singh, Lalji Verma and other members of the House and denied having made the remarks attributed to him.

After going through the contents of the notice of question of privilege and contempt of the House given by Shri Lalji Verma and comments of the Minister, the Speaker concluded that since the Minister had denied the alleged derogatory remarks attributed to him, while reiterating his respect for the members of the House, there was no need to conduct further enquiry into the matter as no question of privilege and contempt of the House was involved therein. Hence, he withheld his consent to the raising of the matter on the floor of the House.

Alleged disrespect shown to a member by a police officer: On 25 November 1992, the Speaker informed the House that on 11 March 1992, Shri Bhola Shankar Maurya, a member, gave notice of a question of

privilege and contempt of the House against Shri Hariraj Singh, Superintendent of Police, Badaun, for allegedly showing disrespect to him. The member had stated in his notice that despite assurances given by the Chief Minister in the House on 14 February 1992, no appropriate action had been taken by the police regarding the alleged attack on him on 26 January 1992 at N.A. Inter College, Bilasi, Badaun. Recapitulating the assurances given by the Chief Minister, the member had stated that one of the assurances pertained to the provision of adequate security to him. The member had alleged that no positive action had been taken in this respect and only two armed security personnel had been deputed for his security, as against his request for an additional shadow and an armed guard. The member further alleged that when he met Shri Hariraj Singh, Superintendent of Police, in connection with his security needs, he remarked that the member did not require any security and he might continue raising the matter in the Assembly and that nothing would come of it.

Comments on the matter were called for from the Chief Minister and the Superintendent of Police, Badaun. The Government (Ministry of Home Affairs) furnished the factual report together with the comments of the concerned S.P. The Government had *inter alia* stated that in respect of the alleged attack on the person of the member on 26 January 1992, a case was registered in the Police Station, Badaun. As regards provision of security, the member had been provided with one gunman and when he would be on tour in his constituency, two additional security personnel would be deputed for his security. The Superintendent, in his comments had clarified that neither he nor any of the police officials misbehaved with or shown any discourtesy to the member. It had further been clarified that when the member met the Superintendent of Police in connection with his security needs on 27 January and 18 February 1992, the member was informed that Government directives in this respect would be implemented. The Government in their factual report, endorsing the submissions made by the Superintendent of Police, stated that the S.P. had high regard for the member and the House and he did not use any derogatory language in respect of the member which might be construed to have constituted a contempt of the House.

After examining the entire matter, the Speaker came to the conclusion that the matter *prima facie* did not seem to come within the purview of question of privilege. Hence, the Speaker withheld his consent to the raising of the matter on the floor of the House.

WEST BENGAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Alleged misreporting of the proceedings of the House by a newspaper: On 18 June 1992, Shri Manabendra Mukherjee, a member, gave notice of a question of privilege against the Editor, Printer and Publisher of the *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, a Bengali daily, for allegedly

publishing a distorted version of the Chief Minister's speech delivered on the floor of the House on 9 June 1992, in the editorial column of its issue dated 13 June 1992, under the caption "The Shameless Politics of Death". The member, in his notice, alleged that the impugned editorial amounted to misreporting of the proceedings of the House and it cast reflection on the House as a whole.

On 19 June 1992, the matter was raised in the House. The Speaker observed that in the first instance, written explanations be called for from the Editor, Printer and Publisher of the *Ananda Bazar Patrika*.

On 26 June 1992, the Speaker observed in the House that a notice was moved by Shri Manabendra Mukherjee against the *Ananda Bazar Patrika* as regards the misreporting of the statement of the Chief Minister in the House on 9 June 1992. The Speaker further informed that the House had written to the *Ananda Bazar Patrika* for their comments to be furnished by 24 June 1992. But *Ananda Bazar Patrika* had not given any comments and wanted further time.

The Speaker sought the opinion of the House and a motion for referring the matter to the Committee of Privileges was accordingly moved and adopted by the House. However, since the term of the Committee of Privileges, to whom the matter was referred by the House on 26 June 1992 expired before the finalisation of the Report, the House referred it to the newly constituted Committee on 31 May 1994 as unfinished work of the previous Committee.

The Committee of Privileges, after examining in person the Editor of the *Ananda Bazar Patrika* and after considering the written replies of the Editor, Printer and Publisher of the daily and all other relevant documents, in their Second Report, presented to the House on 22 September 1994 *inter alia* reported that in his written reply as well as in the course of tendering oral evidence, the Editor, *inter alia* contended that it was a simple case of inadvertent mistake and without any malice since the speech of the Chief Minister in question was correctly published in the issue dated 10 June 1992 of the same newspaper. As such, in his opinion, no breach of privilege or contempt of the House had been committed. In the written reply dated 4 August 1994, the Editor assured to carry out necessary correction in this connection in the interest of fairness. During his deposition before the Committee, he stated that such rectification had already been published in the issue dated 12 August 1992 of the *Ananda Bazar Patrika* wherein the mistake on his part had been admitted as also an unqualified apology had been tendered for the same.

In the course of his deposition, the Printer and Publisher of the daily admitted his fault in publishing of the impugned editorial and also subscribed to the contention embodied in the corrigendum published in this regard. He agreed to send a copy of the daily dated 12 August

1992 containing such correction to the Committee since it had not been officially communicated earlier from his end. Accordingly, he sent a copy of the said issue together with his letter dated 20 December 1993.

The Committee found that the correct version of the Chief Minister's speech in question was published in the same news daily on 10 June 1992. But this had been wrongly quoted as well as critically commented upon in the editorial column of that very daily in its issue dated 13 June 1992. The Editor in his defence stated that it was a case of unintentional mistake and not a deliberate/wilful misrepresentation of facts.

The Editor claimed to have made amendments in respect of the editorial by admitting the error with an expression of unqualified apology for publication of an incorrect version of the Chief Minister's statement in the news daily subsequently. According to him this was sufficient to demonstrate absence of any *mala fide* intention on his part. The Committee carefully considered his contention and came to find that though the impugned editorial was published on 13 June 1992, the same was not corrected till 12 August 1992. Moreover, the said corrigendum was published at page 4 of the daily at a very inconspicuous place just below a plethora of letters addressed to the Editor. Such correction should have appeared at the earliest opportunity in a very prominent space as it related to the editorial itself.

The Committee, therefore, found that the plea taken by the Editor of the *Ananda Bazar Patrika* was not quite convincing. The Editor of a leading daily like the *Ananda Bazar Patrika* should remain ever vigilant in the matter of reporting news items or offering editorial comments on the proceedings of the House so that no error or misrepresentation of facts might creep into the publication. The Committee finally recommended that in view of the unqualified apology tendered by the Editor of the *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, the matter might be dropped.

No further action was taken by the House in the matter.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

LOK SABHA

Instance when a member was permitted to raise a matter in Sanskrit although notice was given in Hindi : On 31 March 1995, Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya, a member, sought permission to raise a matter under Rule 377 in Sanskrit although he had given notice in Hindi. The member submitted a Sanskrit translation and the matter was raised in Sanskrit. Thereafter, the matter was recorded in the proceedings of the House in Sanskrit.

Expunction of derogatory/allegatory remarks: On 25 April 1995, Shri P. G. Narayanan, a member, made some allegatory remarks against the Governor of Tamil Nadu, the Prime Minister and the Central Government, which were expunged by the Speaker.

On 8 May 1995, certain allegatory remarks against the Chief Election Commissioner made by some members while speaking on the issue of cancellation of certain bye-elections in the country, were expunged under orders from the Speaker.

On 10 May 1995, while raising a matter regarding alleged irregularities in Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL), Shri Suraj Mandal, a member, made some allegatory references against the Chairman, SAIL. On objection being taken, these references were expunged from the record.

On 15 May, certain allegatory or derogatory remarks made by some members during the discussion on an adjournment motion were expunged or not recorded under orders from the Speaker.

On 1 June 1995, during submissions regarding alleged attempts on his life by police and district officials in Machhli Shahar, Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, Shri Shivsharan Verma, a member, made allegatory references against the officers of Lok Sabha Secretariat, which were expunged under orders of the Deputy Speaker.

On 3 June 1995, while speaking on the political situation in Uttar Pradesh, Shri Rajveer Singh, a member, made certain allegatory references against the Speaker of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly. The Speaker, thereupon, observed that any reference to the Presiding Officer of any other Legislature will not go on record. Accordingly, these references were expunged by orders of the Speaker.

On 3 June 1995, the expression 'Musalman' used by the Minister of Welfare, Shri Sitaram Kesri against a section of members, was expunged by the Speaker.

Conduct of persons in high authority should be discussed through a substantive motion drawn on proper terms : On 25 April 1995, after the Question Hour, while allowing a member, Shri P.G. Narayanan to speak on the permission granted by the Governor of Tamil Nadu to prosecute the Chief Minister of the State, the Speaker observed:

.....the members, while speaking should not reflect upon the conduct of a person in high authority unless the discussion is based on a substantive motion drawn in proper terms. You shall have to bear this in mind. Otherwise. I will remove it from the record.

Accordingly, certain allegatory remarks made by Shri Narayanan against the Governor and the Prime Minister were expunged from the proceedings.

Instance when the House was adjourned on the demise of a member, even though he died the previous day: on 27 April 1995, obituary references were made by the Speaker, the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition on the passing away of Shri Tejsingh Rao Bhonsle, a sitting member, and three former members. Though Shri Bhonsle had died the previous day at Nagpur, on request of some members, the Speaker adjourned the House for the day without transacting any business.

Matters within the jurisdiction of the Speaker are not raised on the floor of the House : On 28 April 1995, during submissions on matters of urgent public importance, Shri Laeta Umbrey, a member, tried to raise the matter regarding security in the flats of members in South/North Avenues. Thereupon, the Speaker observed:

Matters which belong to us and pertain to us are not raised on the floor of the House.

The member was not allowed to raise the matter.

Instance when the House was adjourned before scheduled time : On 4 May 1995, after disposal of business in respect of the Budget (Railways), members desired that the next item (discussion and voting on Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Defence) might be taken up the next day and the House might be adjourned early. Discussion and voting on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence were taken up for a while and later, the Speaker, with the consent of the House, adjourned the House seven minutes before the scheduled time.

Instance when, an all-party parliamentary delegation was deputed to study a specific situation : The Secretary, Department of Jammu and Kashmir Affairs intimated that the Prime Minister had desired that a parliamentary delegation might be sent to Jammu and Kashmir to study

the situation arising out of damage caused to the Charar-e-Sharief Shrine by fire. After discussing the matter with the Leaders of Parties and Groups, it was decided to send a parliamentary delegation of 25 members (15 from Lok Sabha and 10 from Rajya Sabha) to Charar-e-Sharief. Accordingly, an all-party parliamentary delegation left Delhi by a special BSF flight for on 20 May 1995 and after visiting the area returned the same day.

Instance when due to sudden cancellation of sitting fixed for the last working day of the week on which the House was scheduled to sit, notices for raising matters under Rule 377 for the subsequent week were entertained from 1700 hrs on Wednesday: On 10 May 1995, consequent upon the cancellation of the sitting on Friday, 12 May 1995, (there was no sitting on Thursday, 11 May 1995, being a closed holiday on account of Id'ul Zuha) the Deputy Speaker announced that notices for raising matters under Rule 377 for the subsequent week would be entertained from 1700 hrs. on Wednesday, 10 May 1995. Notices received between 1700 hrs and 1800 hrs. that day were treated as received at the same point of time, and ballot was held to determine their *inter se* priority.

PARLIAMENTARY AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

(1 April to 30 June 1995)

Events covered in this feature are based primarily on reports appearing in the daily newspapers and, as such, Lok Sabha Secretariat does not accept any responsibility for their accuracy, authenticity or veracity.

—Editor

INDIA

DEVELOPMENTS AT THE UNION

Budget Session of Parliament: The Budget Session of Parliament commenced with the customary Address by the President to the members of the two Houses of Parliament assembled together on 13 February. Both the Houses were adjourned on 14 February to enable the members to take part in electioneering in the States going to the polls. Parliament re-assembled on 14 March and was adjourned again on 31 March to meet on 24 April to enable the Departmentally-related Standing Committees to consider the Demands for Grants of various Ministries/Departments and prepare their reports during the recess. At the conclusion of the Budget Session, the Lok Sabha adjourned *sine die* on 3 June and was prorogued by the President on 16 June. The Rajya Sabha adjourned *sine die* on 2 June and was prorogued by the President on 15 June.

Elections to Rajya Sabha: Shri Mohan Babu of the Telugu Desam Party was elected to the Rajya Sabha from Andhra Pradesh on 15 April.

Shri K. Karunakaran of the Congress(I) was elected to the Rajya Sabha from Kerala on 24 April.

Dr. Manmohan Singh of the Congress(I) and Shri Paragdhara Chaliha of the Asom Gana Parishad were elected to the Rajya Sabha from Assam on 5 June.

Death of former Prime Minister: Former Prime Minister Shri Morarji Desai passed away on 10 April.

Death of member: Shri Tejsinghrao Bhonsle, Congress(I) member of Lok Sabha representing the Ramtek constituency, passed away on 26 April.

Political developments : On 19 May, a Congress Workers' Convention was held in New Delhi. The Convention, attended by several dissident leaders, elected Shri N.D. Tiwari as Party President. It also passed a resolution revoking the expulsion of former Union Minister, Shri Arjun Singh from Congress(I).

Later in the day, the Congress(I) expelled Shri N.D. Tiwari from the party for six years.

Expulsion of MP from Party : On 31 May, the BJP President Shri L. K. Advani expelled Prof. K. Venkatagiri Gowda, MP, representing the South Bangalore constituency in the Lok Sabha from the primary membership of the Party for six years for 'continuous violation of party discipline'.

Expansion of the Union Cabinet : On 10 June, the Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao expanded the Union Council of Ministers by inducting three more Ministers of Cabinet rank. The new Ministers and their portfolios are : Shri K. Karunakaran : *Industry*; Shri Jagannath Mishra: *Rural Areas and Employment*; Shri A. R. Antulay : *Health and Family Welfare*.

AROUND THE STATES

ANDHRA PRADESH

By-election results : In the by-elections to the State Legislative Assembly, held on 27 May, the Telugu Desam Party candidates Shri H. Appayya Rao and Shri Narasimha Rajiv were declared elected from the Tekkali and Bhimavaram Assembly constituencies, respectively.

In the by-election from the Gorantla seat held on 5 June, Telugu Desam Party nominee Shri N. Kistappa was declared elected to the State Legislative Assembly.

Resignation of Minister : The Minister for Labour, Shri Patitala Ravi resigned from the State Cabinet on 6 April.

ASSAM

Reshuffle of portfolios : On 22 April, in a reshuffle of some portfolios, the Minister for Higher and Technical Education, Shri Golok Rajbonshi was given the charge of Power and Non-Conventional Energy while the Minister of State for Primary, Secondary and Adult Education, Shri Gautam Bora was given the charge of Social Forestry and Wildlife (Independent Charge). The Revenue and Land Reforms Minister Shri Mukul Sarma was entrusted with the charge of Education, while the Minister for Power and Municipal Administration Shri Devanand Kanwar was given Revenue and Land Reforms. The Finance Minister Shri

Jibakanta Gogoi was given additional charge of Municipal Administration. The Employment and Fisheries Minister Shri Sylvius Gondopan was given the charge of PWD (Plains).

BIHAR

Chief Minister sworn in : The Leader of the Janata Dal Legislature Party, Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Bihar for a second consecutive term on 4 April. The new Council of Ministers was constituted on 6 April. The Ministers and their portfolios are as under :

Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav (Chief Minister) : *Cabinet Secretariat and Coordination, Home (excluding Prisons), Industries, Personnel and Administrative Reforms, Higher Education, Civil Aviation, Finance (excluding Commercial Tax and National Savings) and other Departments which were not allocated to any other Minister.*

Cabinet Ministers : Shri Ramai Ram : *Rural Development*; Shri Raghunath Jha : *Food Supply, Commerce, Parliamentary Affairs; Building Construction and Housing*; Shri Jagadanand Singh : *Water Resources (excluding Minor Irrigation) and Tourism*; Shri Mahabir Prasad : *Health, Medical Education and Family Welfare*; Shri Mangani Lal Mandal : *Water Resources (Minor Irrigation); Institutional Finance and Programme Implementation*; Shri Ilyas Hussain : *Ways Construction*; Shri Shankar Prasad Tekriwal : *Mining and Minerals*; Shri Chandra Deo Prasad Verma : *Production and Prohibition*; Shri Tulsi Singh : *Planning and Development; Welfare (excluding Tribal Welfare)*; Shri Vidyasagar : *Labour and Planning*; Shri Upendra Prasad Verma : *Finance (Commercial Taxes and National Savings)*; Shri Ramjiwan Singh : *Agriculture*; Shri Gowardhan Naik : *Welfare (Tribal Welfare)*; Shri Inder Singh Namdhari : *Revenue and Land Reforms, Transport*; Shri Pashupati Kumar Paras : *Home (Prisons)*; Shri Tulsi Das Mehta : *Forest and Environment*; Shri Bijendra Prasad Yadav : *Urban Development, Law*; Shri Raghubans Prasad Singh : *Energy, Relief and Rehabilitation, Raj Bhasha*; Shri Avadh Bihari Choudhary : *Public Health Department*; Shri Bhola Ram Tulfani : *Animal Husbandry*; Shri Jai Prakash Narain Yadav : *Secondary, Primary and Adult Education*; Shri Brij Bihari Prasad : *Science and Technology*; Shri Abdul Bari Siddiqui : *Cooperation, Minorities Commission, Art, Culture and Youth; Information and Public Relations*; and Smt. Shanti Devi : *Sugarcane*.

Election of Speaker : Shri Deo Narayan Yadav of the Janata Dal was unanimously elected Speaker of the newly constituted State Legislative Assembly on 12 April.

Leader of the Opposition : On 17 April, the Speaker Shri Deo Narayan Yadav declared Shri Yashwant Sinha of the BJP as the Leader of the Opposition in the State Legislative Assembly.

Election results : Janata Dal candidates, Shri Janardhan Paswan, Shri Ramavatar and Shri Baiju Prasad, and an Independent candidate Shri Dilip Verma were declared elected to the State Legislative Assembly from the Chatra, Gopalganj, Hilsa and Sikta constituencies, respectively, in the elections held on 27 May.

GOA

New Governor : Shri Romesh Bhandari was sworn in as the new Governor of Goa on 16 June.

GUJARAT

Reallocation of portfolios : On 2 May, the State Cabinet was expanded with the induction of two Deputy Ministers, Shri Karsanbhai Patel and Shri Mansukhbhai Vasava. A minor reshuffle was also effected in the allocation of portfolios. The Forest Department which was under the charge of Finance Minister, Shri Suresh Mehta was entrusted to Shri Indra Vijay Singh Jadeja, while the Tribal Welfare Department held by Shri Fakirbhai Vaghela was allocated to Shri Kanjibhai Patel.

Of the two new Deputy Ministers, Shri Karsanbhai Patel was allocated Health and Family Welfare Department while Shri Mansukhbhai Vasava was given the Tribal Welfare Department. The Chief Minister would now look after the portfolios of Planning, Home, Industrial Policy, Urban Development, Rural Development, Information and Broadcasting, Tourism and Ports and all subjects not allocated to any Minister. Shri Suresh Mehta would be in-charge of Department of Finance, Industries and Mines, Environment, Law and Judiciary and Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs.

New Parliamentary Secretaries : Shri Tersi Damor and Shri Subhash Padvī took the oath as Parliamentary Secretaries on 2 May.

New Governor : Shri Naresh Chandra was sworn in as the new Governor of Gujarat on 1 July.

HARYANA

New Governor : Shri Mahabir Prasad was sworn in as the new Governor of Haryana on 14 June.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

By-election results : Congress(I) candidates Shri Kanwar Durga Chand and Shri Jagat Singh were declared elected to the State Legislative Assembly from Sulah and Kinnaur constituencies, respectively, in the by-elections held on 27 May.

JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Extension of President's rule : On 1 June, the Rajya Sabha adopted a Statutory Resolution providing for the extension of President's rule in Jammu and Kashmir for another six months from 18 July 1995. An identical Statutory Resolution was passed by the Lok Sabha on 3 June.

KARNATAKA

By-election result : Janata Dal candidate Shri V. Shivraj was declared elected to the State Legislative Assembly from the Yelahanka constituency in the by-election held on 27 May.

Death of member : Janata Dal Legislator Shri M.H. Jayaprakash passed away on 6 April.

KERALA

Expansion of Cabinet : On 20 April, Chief Minister Shri A.K. Antony expanded his Cabinet by inducting seven more Ministers. The Cabinet was further expanded on 3 May by inducting four more Ministers. The Ministers and their portfolios are:

Shri A. K. Antony (Chief Minister) : *General Administration, All India Services, Planning and Economic Affairs, Personnel and Administrative Reforms, Science, Technology and Environment, Election, Home, Vigilance, Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice, Jails, Information, Inter-State River Waters, Posts and Telegraph.*

Cabinet Ministers : Shri C.T. Ahamed Ali: *Public Works*; Shri Aryadan Muhammed: *Labour and Tourism*; Shri R. Balakrishna Pillai: *Transport*; Shri P.K.K. Bava: *Panchayats and Social Welfare*; Shri T.M. Jacob: *Irrigation and Culture*; Shri Kadavoor Sivadasan: *Forests and Rural Development*; Shri G. Karthikeyan: *Electricity*; Shri P.K. Kunhalikutty: *Industries and Municipalities*; Shri K.M. Mani: *Revenue and Law*; Shri E.T. Mohammed Basheer: *Education*; Smt. M.T. Padma: *Fisheries*; Shri C.V. Padmarajan: *Finance*; Shri Pandalam Sudhakaran: *Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes Development and Excise*; Shri M.V. Raghavan: *Cooperation*; Shri K.K. Ramachandran Master: *Food and Civil Supplies*; Shri V.M. Sudheeran: *Health*; Shri P.P. Thankachan: *Agriculture*.

By-election result : Chief Minister Shri A.K. Antony of the Congress(I) was declared elected to the State Legislative Assembly from the Tirurangadi constituency in the by-election held on 27 May.

MADHYA PRADESH

By-election results : Congress(I) candidates Shri Devvrat Singh and Shri Devendra Bahadur Singh were declared elected to the State Legislative Assembly from the Khairgarh and Saraipali constituencies, respectively, in the by-elections held 27 May.

MAHARASHTRA

Expansion of Cabinet : On 27 May, Chief Minister Shri Manohar Joshi expanded his Cabinet by inducting six Cabinet Ministers and 11 Ministers of State. The Ministers and their portfolios are:

Shri Manohar Joshi (Chief Minister) : *General Administration Department (excluding Protocol), Information and Public Relations, Sports and Youth Welfare, Urban Development and other Departments, parts of Departments or subjects not specifically allocated to any Minister.*

Cabinet Ministers : Shri Gopinath Munde (*Deputy Chief Minister*): *Home and Energy*; Shri Sudhir Joshi: *Revenue and Khar-Lands*; *Relief and Rehabilitation and School Education*; Shri Hashu Advani: *Finance, Planning*; Shri Promod Navalkar: *Transport, Cultural Affairs, Ports and Protocol*; Shri Anna Dange: *Rural Development*; Shri Liladhar Dake: *Industry, Textiles, Law and Judiciary and Parliamentary Affairs*; Shri M. S. Shivankar: *Irrigation and Command Area Development*; Shri Sabir Shaikh: *Labour Employment and Aukab*; Smt. Shobhthi Phadnavis: *Food and Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection*; Dr. Jayprakash Mundada: *Cooperation and Textiles*; Dr. Daulatrao Aher: *Public Health, Family Welfare, Medical Education and Drugs*; Shri Narayan Rane: *Dairy Development, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries*; Shri Haribabu Bagde: *Employment Guarantee Scheme and Horticulture*; Shri Babanrao Gholap: *Social Welfare, Women and Child Welfare, Ex-Servicemen's Welfare and Prohibition Propaganda*; Shri Govindrao Choudhary: *Tribal Development*; Shri Ganesh Naik: *Forest and Environment*; Shri Gagannath Patil: *Tourism and State Excise*; Shri Shashi Kant Sutar: *Agriculture and Water Conservation*; Shri Nirin Gadkari: *Public Works*; Shri Chandrakant Khaire: *Housing, Slum Improvement, House Repairs, Reconstruction*; Shri Eknathrao Khadre: *Higher and Technical Education*.

Minister of State : Shri Ashok Patil Dongnokar: *Public Works, State Excise and Prohibition Propaganda*; Shri Keshavrao Patil alias Babasaheb Dhabekar: *Rural Development and Employment Guarantee Scheme*; Shri Harshwardhan Patil: *Agriculture, Horticulture and Water Conservation*; Shri Anil Vasantrao Deshmukh: *School Education, Higher and Technical Education and Cultural Affairs*; Shri Sunil C. Kedar: *Energy, Transport and Ports*; Shri Prabhakar More: *Industries, Textiles, Home and Law and Justice Department*; Shri Jagdish Gupta: *Revenue, Forest, Relief and Rehabilitation and Environment*; Shri Gajanan Kiritkar: *Home, Tourism and Parliamentary Affairs*; Shri Rajabhau Thakre: *Dairy Development, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries*; Shri Gulabrao Gawande: *Sports and Youth Welfare and Irrigation*; Shri Prakash Mehta: *Labour, Employment, Housing, Slum Improvement, House Repairs, Reconstruction*; Shri Anil Rathod: *Food and Civil Supplies*; Shri Dilip Kamble: *Social Welfare, Tribal Welfare, Women and Child Welfare and Ex-Servicemen's Welfare*; Shri Ravindra Mane: *Finance, Urban Development and Planning*; Shri Suresh

Nawale: Public Health, Medical Education and Drugs; Shri Jaysinghrao Gaikwad: Cooperation.

By-election result: Congress(I) candidate Shri Ramdas Kisanrao Charoskar was declared elected to the State Legislative Assembly from Dinduri constituency in the by-election held on 27 May.

MANIPUR

Resignation of Minister: The Minister for Public Health, Shri V. Hangkhalian resigned from office on 4 April.

By-election result: Congress(I) candidate Shri Sarokhaibam Rajen Singh was declared elected to the State Legislative Assembly from Lemsang constituency in the by-election held on 27 May.

MEGHALAYA

New Governor: Shri M.M. Jacob was sworn in as the new Governor of Meghalaya on 19 June.

NAGALAND

By-election result: Congress(I) candidate Shri Wangyu Kongyak was declared elected to the State Legislative Assembly from Tehok constituency in the by-election held on 27 May.

ORISSA

By-election result: Chief Minister Shri J.B. Patnaik of the Congress(I) was declared elected to the State Legislative Assembly from the Begunia constituency in the by-election held on 27 May.

Death of member: Congress(I) member Shri Akhya Gomango, representing the Gunnupur constituency in the State Legislative Assembly, passed away on 21 April.

New Governor: Shri Gopala Ramanujam was sworn in as the new Governor of Orissa on 18 June.

PONDICHERRY

New Lt. Governor: Former Union Minister Smt. Rajendra Kumari Bajpai was sworn in as the new Lt. Governor of the Union territory on 2 May.

PUNJAB

By-election result: Akali Dal candidate Shri Man Preet Singh Badal was declared elected to the State Legislative Assembly from the Gidderbaha constituency in the by-election held on 5 June.

RAJASTHAN

Election of Speaker: Shri Shanti Lal Chaplot of the BJP was unanimously elected Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly on 6 April.

By-election results: BJP candidates Shri Bhawani Joshi and Shri Ramrichpal and the Congress(I) candidate Shri Brijendra Singh Soopa were declared elected to the State Legislative Assembly from the Banswara, Bhilwara and Bayana constituencies, respectively, in the by-elections held on 27 May.

TAMIL NADU

Members disqualified: On 20 April, the Speaker Shri Sedapatti R. Muthiah disqualified two AIADMK MLAs, Shri G. Vishwanathan and Shri Azhagu Thirunavukkarasu, from the membership of the House under the Anti-Defection Act for joining the Marumalarchi DMK led by Shri V. Gopalsamy, MP.

TRIPURA

New Governor: Shri Siddheswar Prasad was sworn in as the new Governor of Tripura on 16 June.

UTTAR PRADESH

By-election results: In the by-elections to the State Legislative Assembly held on 27 May, the Samajwadi Party (SP) candidates Shri Deepak Kumar, Shri Mir Afzal Ali and Ms. Manorama and the BJP candidate Shri Bawan Singh were declared elected from the Unnao, Sahaswan, Sarwan Khera and Katra Bazaar constituencies, respectively.

Political developments: The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) withdrew its support to the coalition Government headed by Chief Minister Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav on 1 June and staked its claim to form a new Government. All the eleven BSP Ministers resigned from the Ministry. On 3 June, the Governor Shri Moti Lal Vohra dismissed the Mulayam Singh Yadav Government and invited Ms. Mayawati of the BSP to form the new Government. Later, Ms. Mayawati was sworn in as the Chief Minister of the State and was given 15 days' time to prove her Government's majority on the floor of the State Legislative Assembly. Shri Ram Lakhan Verma was sworn in as Cabinet Minister and given the charge of the Department of Parliamentary Affairs.

A two-day Special Session of the Legislative Assembly was called by the Governor on 19 June. The House unanimously elected Shri Barkhu Ram Verma as Presiding Officer in place of the incumbent Speaker, Shri Dhani Ram Verma who, while adjourning the House *sine die* earlier, had declared the very sitting of the Legislative Assembly as unconstitutional.

On 20 June, the Legislative Assembly adopted a resolution for the removal of Shri Dhani Ram Verma as Speaker of the House.

The Chief Minister Ms. Mayawati won a vote of confidence in the House on 20 June.

On 26 June, the Chief Minister expanded her Cabinet. The new Ministers and their portfolios are:

Ms. Mayawati (Chief Minister) : *General Administration, Home, Finance, Energy, Intelligence, Information, Election, Institutional Finance, Public Enterprises, Housing, Justice, Judiciary, Cane Development, Sugar Mills, Industrial Development, Irrigation, Excise, Tourism, Agriculture, Environment, Uttarakhand Development, Medical Education, R.W.D., Youth Welfare, National Integration, Electronics, Technical and Higher Education, Planning, Food and Estate.*

Cabinet Ministers : Shri Lakhan Verma: *Forest, Small and Rural Industries*; Shri R.K. Chandhari: *Health, Science and Technology*; Shri Rajendra Kumar: *Revenue*; Shri Akbar Ali: *Jails, Homeguards and Political Pension*; Shri Hriday Narayan Dixit: *Panchayati Raj*; Shri Avadhilal Singh Yadav: *Dairy Development*; Ch. Jagbir Singh Gujjar: *Cooperatives*; Shri Ram Pal: *Social Welfare*; Shri Sukhdev Rajbhar: *Middle, Basic and Adult Education*; Shri Nandlal Patel: *Transport*; Shri Chain Sukh Bharati: *Rural Development and Regional Development*.

Ministers of State (Independent Charge) : Shri Shyam Lal Yadav: *Labour*; Shri Basheeruddin: *Minority and Muslim Waqf*; Shri Ram Kishore Bind: *Urban Development*; Shri Bishamber Prasad Nishad: *Animal Husbandry*; Shri Faujdar Prasad: *Horticulture*.

Ministers of State : Shri Nagmaddin: *Revenue*; Shri Bhagwat Pal: *Dairy Development*; Shri Ram Achal Rajbhar: *Transport*; Shri Dhuram Choudhary: *Parliamentary Affairs*; Smt. Sushila Saroj: *Social Welfare*; Shri Ishtiaq Ansari, Shri Angad Yadav and Shri Lalji Chauhan: *attached with the Minister of Forest, Small and Rural Industries*; Shri Heeramani Patel and Shri Ram Vilas Balmiki: *attached with the Minister for Jail, Homeguards and Political Pensions*; Shri Jairam Kushwaha and Shri Bhagwati Prasad Sagar: *attached with the Minister for Middle, Basic and Adult Education*; Choudhary Tejpal Singh and Shri Ram Dawar: *attached with the Minister for Rural Development and Regional Development*; and Shri Ghura Ram and Shri Praveen Singh Aron: *attached with the Minister of Health, Science and Technology*.

Formation of new Party : On 3 June, twenty-five MLAs belonging to the BSP announced the formation of a new party under the leadership of former Union Minister Shri Raj Bahadur. On 4 June, ten members returned to their parent party.

WEST BENGAL

By-election results: Forward Bloc candidate Shri Hafiz Alam, R.S.P. candidate Shri Amar Chaudhari and the CPI(M) candidate Shri Abinash Mahato were declared elected to the State Legislative Assembly from the Goalpokhar, Baranagar and Hura Assembly constituencies, respectively, in the by-elections held on 27 May.

DEVELOPMENTS ABROAD

AUSTRALIA

Resignation of Deputy Prime Minister: The Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Brian Howe resigned from office on 20 June.

BAHRAIN

Resignation of Government: The Government of Bahrain submitted its resignation to Amir Sheikh Isa Bin Salman Al Khalifa on 25 June.

BANGLADESH

Resignation of Minister: Industries Minister Mr. Zhairuddin Khan resigned from the Cabinet on 5 April.

FRANCE

New President: Mr. Jacques Chirac, who won the Presidential elections, took over as the new President of France on 17 May.

New Prime Minister: On 18 May, the President Mr. Jacques Chirac appointed Mr. Alain Juppe as the new Prime Minister.

MALAYSIA

General elections: The elected monarch, Yang di Pertuan Agong dissolved the Parliament on the request of Prime Minister Mr. Mahathir Mohammad on 6 April and called for general elections on 24 and 25 April. Mr. Mahathir Mohammad's National Front coalition was returned to power securing a two-third majority in the Parliament in the elections.

NEPAL

Dissolution of Parliament: On 13 June, King Birendra Bikram Dev Shah dissolved the Pratinidhi Sabha (lower House of Parliament) on the recommendation of Prime Minister Shri Manmohan Adhikari and fixed 23 November for holding the mid-term polls.

RUSSIA

New Deputy Prime Minister: The Director General of the Itar-Tass news agency, Mr. Vitaly Ignatenko was appointed Deputy Prime Minister on 1 June.

SOUTH AFRICA

New Deputy Minister : On 22 April, President Mr. Nelson Mandela appointed Ms. Brigitte Mabandla as Deputy Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology in place of Ms. Winnie Mandela, who resigned from Office on 17 April.

SOUTH KOREA

Removal of Minister : President Mr. Kim Young Sam dismissed the Education Minister Mr. Sim Suk-Hoo on 12 May.

THAILAND

Dissolution of Parliament : Prime Minister Mr. Chuan Leekpai dissolved the Parliament on 19 May and fixed 2 July for holding of elections.

DOCUMENTS OF CONSTITUTIONAL AND PARLIAMENTARY INTEREST

An International Convention Against the Taking of Hostages was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 17 December 1979. The Convention sought to develop international cooperation among the States in devising and adopting effective measures for prevention, prosecution and punishment of all acts of hostage taking. India decided to accede to the above Convention since it was one of the important Conventions aimed at fighting international terrorism. For the purpose of implementing the Convention it was proposed to amend section 364 A of the Indian Penal Code which provided punishment for the offence of kidnapping for ransom, etc. The Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 1995, thus, proposed to widen the scope of the said section by including therein situations where the offence was committed with a view to compelling foreign States or international inter-governmental organisations to do or abstain from doing any act or to pay a ransom.

The Bill, which sought to achieve the above objectives was passed by the Rajya Sabha on 22 March 1995 and by Lok Sabha on 24 May 1995. It received the President's assent on 26 May 1995.

The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes have been enjoying the facility of reservation in promotion since 1955. The Supreme Court, in its judgement dated 16 November 1992 in the case of the *Indra Sawhney and others Vs. Union of India and Others*, observed that reservation of appointments or posts under art. 16 (4) of the Constitution was confined to initial appointment and could not be extended in the matter of promotion. Since the representation of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in services in the States had not reached the required level, the ruling of the Supreme Court would adversely affect their interests. As such, it was necessary to continue the existing dispensation of providing reservations in promotion in the case of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. In view of the commitment of the Government to protect the interests of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, the Government had decided to continue the existing policy of reservation in promotion for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Accordingly, it was proposed to amend art. 16 of the Constitution by inserting a new Clause (4A) in the said article to provide for reservation in promotion for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

The Constitution (Seventy-seventh Amendment) Bill, 1995 which sought to achieve this objective, was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on 2 June 1995. It received President's assent on 17 June 1995.

We reproduce here the text of the above Acts.

—Editor

THE INDIAN PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1995

An act further to amend the Indian Penal Code.

Be it enacted by Parliament in the Forty-sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows :—

1. *Short title* : This Act may be called the India Penal Code (Amendment) Act, 1995.

2. *Amendment of section 364A* : In section 364A of the Indian Penal Code, for the words "any other persons" the words "any foreign State or international inter-governmental organisation or any other person" shall be substituted.

THE CONSTITUTION (SEVENTY-SEVENTH AMENDMENT) ACT, 1995

An Act further to amend the Constitution of India.

Be it enacted by Parliament in the Forty-sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title* : This Act may be called the Constitution (Seventy-seventh Amendment) Act. 1995.

2. *Amendment of article 16* : In article 16 of the Constitution, after clause (4); the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

"(4A) Nothing in this article shall prevent the State from making any provision for reservation in matters of promotion to any class or classes of posts in the services under the State in favour of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes which, in the opinion of the States, are not adequately represented in the services under the State."

SESSIONAL REVIEW

TENTH LOK SABHA THIRTEENTH SESSION

The Thirteenth Session (Budget Session) of the Tenth Lok Sabha was held in three phases. The first phase of the Session commenced on 13 February 1995. The House was adjourned on 14 February 1995 to enable members to take part in the electioneering in the State going to the polls. The House reassembled on 14 March and was adjourned again on 31 March 1995 to meet on 24 April 1995 to enable the Departmentally-related Standing Committees to consider the Demands for Grants of various Ministries/Departments and prepare their reports during the recess. The House was adjourned *sine die* on 3 June 1995 and was prorogued by the President on 15 June 1995.

A brief resume of some of the important discussions held and other business transacted during the third phase* of the Session, *i.e.* from 24 April 1995 to 3 June 1995 is given below.

A. DISCUSSIONS/STATEMENTS/RESOLUTIONS

Motion of Thanks on the Address by the President: On 25 April 1995, moving the Motion of Thanks on the Address** by the President, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar said that the focus of the economic policy over the four decades since independence had been the poor and the deprived. During this period, the middle class had grown from an estimated 20 million to upwards of 200 million. That was why the economic reforms programme had always comprised two distinct elements - one, market orientation and two, massive direct State intervention in favour of 700 million people. So far as the domestic political scene was concerned, Punjab was tranquil and at peace with itself and was back to being the most valuable contributor to the economy of India and the defence of its frontiers. There was little doubt that after five long years the political process was slowly returning to life in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. What remained beyond question was the Government's success in containing militancy.

*The resume of business transacted during the first two phases has been covered in *The Journal of Parliamentary Information* (Vol. XLI, No. 2, June 1995)

**For the text of the Address, see *The Journal of Parliamentary Information* (Vol. XLI, No.2, June 1995)

The member said that it was a measure of our high standing in the comity of nations that we had repeatedly triumphed in the UN forums over attempts to call into question the unity, integrity and sovereignty of our country. We must remain faithful to the basic ideology of our nation, our basic principles of democracy, nationalism, secularism, socialism and nonaligned movement. The present Government had provided good governance, solutions to pressing political problems, a trebling of the rate of employment, a stable and growing economy, deep concern for the poor and a high status for the country. That was a national task which needed the backing of the people and the support of the House, he added.

Participating in the discussion*, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee called for more transparency in dealing with the situation in Jammu and Kashmir. He suggested that there should be general amnesty before holding elections there. There could not be any compromise at the cost of the unity and integrity of the nation. In a developing country, the State had a role to play. As such, the State should be free from corruption and should have compassion for the poor. There was a need for introspection, Shri Vajpayee added.

Taking part in the discussion on 26 April, Shri Somnath Chatterjee said that the Address by the President not only gave a misleading picture of the real situation prevailing in the country but also concealed many important facts which should have been highlighted. The Government, through its economic and industrial policy, had brought the country to such a situation where its future was at stake.

Shri Indrajit Gupta stated that the provision for reservation of one-third of all the Panchayat posts and seats for women was a welcome step. We would have to stand together on certain fundamental principles and values, without which the country could not survive.

Shri Chandrajeet Yadav urged that the future of the country should not be endangered and appealed to the Government to see the reality and not to allow the situation to turn explosive.

Participating in the discussion, Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi called upon the Government to solve the problems faced by the minorities.

Shri E. Ahamed said that the Government should take positive steps to bring all secular and democratic forces together. Minorities should be

* Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvaswari Rajnath Sonkar Shastri, K. D. Sultanpuri, Kadambur M. R. Janardhanan, Khagapati Pradhani, Chinmayanand Swami, Mohan Rawale, Jagmeet Singh Brar, Syed Masudal Hossain, Shravan Kumar Patel, Bhogendra Jha, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri, Prof. K.V. Thomas, Prof. Venkateswari Ummareddy and Smt. Saroj Dubey

given representation in the Government Service in proportion to their population.

Shri Sharad Yadav observed that efforts should be made in the direction of the uplift of the weaker sections and backward classes.

Shri Yaima Singh Yumnam referred to the situation in the State of Manipur and stressed that there should not be any appeasement policy.

Replying to the debate, the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao said that the country had come a long way since 1991. In this long journey, we had come to a point where we could look to the future with a certain amount of confidence and optimism and that was the main thrust of the Address by the President. As regards the industrial sector, the Prime Minister said that there was no discrimination against the local investor or the local industrialist; in fact, protection had been given wherever necessary and that would continue to be given. So far as the social sector was concerned, several new programmes for the alleviation of poverty and increase in employment opportunities had been set in motion.

On the situation in Kashmir, the Prime Minister reiterated that steps had been intensified to control militancy. The delimitation process was under way and the work of revision of electoral rolls would be completed shortly. There had been a noticeable increase in the pace of developmental activities in the State. Conditions there were improving for the electoral process to be taken up, he added.

The Motion was adopted.

General Discussion on the Budget (Railways), 1995-96, Resolution regarding the Ninth Report of the Railway Convention Committee and Demands for Grants, 1995-96 and Demands for Excess Grants, 1992-93: On 2 May 1995, the Minister of Railways, Shri C. K. Jaffer Sharief moved that the House approve the recommendations contained in paragraphs 56 to 65 of the Ninth Report of the Railway Convention Committee, 1991, appointed to review the rate of dividend payable by the Railway Undertaking to General Revenues as well as other ancillary matters in connection with the Railway Finance and other General Finance, which was presented to Lok Sabha on 14 March 1995. Along with this Resolution, the House also held the General Discussion on the Budget (Railways), 1995-96, the Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways), 1995-96 and the Demands for Excess Grants of the Budget (Railways), 1992-93.

Initiating the discussion, Shri Ram Naik said that the financial position of Railways was not good and the targets fixed by the Ministry had not been achieved. Railways must make commercial use of the surplus land available with them. As such, Railways have a great role to play in the field of commercial and industrial production.

Participating in the discussion*, Shri Sobhandreeswara Rao Vadde called for allocation of more amount for doubling of lines. Efforts should also be made to procure more wagons. As regards employees' welfare, more schools and degree colleges should be opened, he suggested.

Taking part in the discussion on 3 May, Shri Yaima Singh Yumnam reiterated his demand for construction of a railway line connecting Imphal. It was necessary not only for the people of Manipur but also in the interest of the country.

Participating in the discussion on 4 May, Shri P. G. Narayanan said that a survey had been undertaken twenty years ago for a railway line from Mettupalayam to Samrajnagar and from Samrajnagar to Mettur via Satyamangalam. Since the survey had found the project feasible, he urged the Minister to take up the new Railway line during the current year.

Replying to the debate, the Minister of Railways, Shri C. K. Jaffer Sharief said that the Standing Committee on Railways had scrutinised the Budget and the performance of Railways. In the background of constraints, a considered approach for allocation of funds was adopted under different Plan Heads. The most important thing presently was gauge conversion. The Standing Committee on Railways were in favour of a unigauge system. Apart from long-term gains, it would open up newer areas for economic development and provide alternative routes. This would, in addition, provide flow of traffic and lesser transit time, thereby improving the availability of rolling stock. Railways had introduced many transit trains to attract tourists. In the year 1995-96, Railways would be providing faster, cleaner and more reliable passenger services.

*Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Sharad Dighe, Basudeb Acharia, Vijay Kumar Yadav, A. Asokaraj, Rajveer Singh, Ayub Khan, Ramchandra Marotrao Ghangare, Sukhdev Paswan, Sriballav Panigrahi, Chhedi Paswan, A. Charles, Upendra Nath Verma, Nurul Islam, D. D. Khanoria, Vishwanath Das Shastri, Sudhir Sawant, M.V.V.S. Murthy, K. P. Reddalah Yadav, Shiv Raj Singh Chauhan, Haradhan Roy, Sant Ram Singla, Kashiram Rana, Rajesh Ranjan alias Pappu Yadav, Bheru Lal Meena, Kodikkunnil Suresh, Kamla Mishra Madhukar, Sarat Pattanayak, Hari Kewal Prasad, Umrao Singh, Surendra Pal Pathak, Gopi Nath Gajapathi, Sivaji Patnaik, Ram Kripal Yadav, Bapu Hari Chaurse, Anna Joshi, A Venkata Reddy, Brahma Nand Mandal, Rampal Singh, Amal Datta, A. Prathap Sai, Devendra Prasad Yadav, Oscar Fernandes, Ramashray Prasad Singh, Ram Singh Kashwan, Prem Chand Ram, Prithviraj D. Chavan, Ram Prasad Singh, Subash Chandra Nayak, Tej Narayan Singh, S. Sivaraman, Syed Masudal Hossain, Mohan Rawale, Guman Mal Lodha, Manikrao Hodalya Gavitt, Inderjit, Hannan Mollah, Prabhu Dayal Katheria, Ashta Bhujia Prasad Shukla, Narain Singh Chaudhari, Bhawani Lal Verma, R. Jeevarathinam, Jitendra Nath Das, Uddhab Barman, Lal Babu Rai, Ajoy Mukhopadhyay, Dr. Mumtaz Ansari, Dr. Viswanatham Kanithi, Dr. Laxminarain Pandey, Dr. Ravi Malik, Dr. Vasant N. Pawar, Dr. Satyanarayan Jaitiya, Dr. K. V. R. Chowdhary, Dr. Asim Bala, Dr. G. L. Kanaujia, Dr. Chattrapal Singh, Dr. Sudhir Ray, Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar, Dr. Kartikeswar Patra, Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat, Prof. Susanta Chakraborty, Dr. Grijia Vyas, Prof. (Smt.) Malini Bhattacharya, Smt. Kersharbhai Sonajirao Kshirasagar, Smt. Saroj Dubey, Smt. Dili Kumari Bhandari, Smt. Suseela Gopalan and Kum. Sushila Tripathi

The Research Design and Standards Organisation under the Ministry of Railways had made some notable achievements. Workers' participation in management would be taken a step further by involving the labour federations at the apex level in important matters of Railway working, he added.

The Resolution was adopted. All the Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Railways), 1995-96 were voted in full. All the Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) 1992-93 were voted in full. The Appropriation (Railways) Bill No. 2 and No. 3 of 1995 were passed.

Atrocities on women and problems faced by them: Initiating a discussion under Rule 193 on 25 May 1995, Smt. Geeta Mukherjee said that a description of the atrocities committed on women could be endless. All political and social workers should rise to the occasion to face this challenge. In addition to the National Women's Commission, State level and District Level Commissions should be set up. It was absolutely essential to spread a network of family counts in every State. Similarly, all police stations should have women's cells. Smt. Mukherjee appealed to all sections to rise above political considerations and act for ensuing justice to women, protecting them from atrocities and for creating conditions for their equality.

Participating in the discussion*, Shri P. C. Thomas said that change was required in all walks of life. Education was one field where much could be done for women. Political parties should give representation to women in all their forums, he suggested.

Replying to the discussion on 26 May 1995, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home affairs, Shri P. M. Sayeed said that the Government was doing its best to foster awareness in women so that they would be able to stand up for their rights. The Home Ministry, in conjunction with the Ministry of Welfare and other Ministries, had been constantly taking various steps and interacting regularly to contain the increasing incidence of crime against women. The Union Government had also been writing periodically to the State Governments to take effective measures under the existing laws.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Women and Child Development), Smt. Basava Rajeshwari said that the ultimate solution to gender atrocities would be to change attitudes. Government had set up the National Commission for Women to oversee the working of legal and other safeguards for women. Nine States had already passed laws setting up

*Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri A. Charles, Pawan Kumar Bansal, Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee, Prabhu Dayal Katheria, Ram Kripal Yadav, Hannan Mollah, Tej Narayan Singh, Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar, Dr. Girija Vyas, Prof. Girija Devi, Prof. Savithri Lakshmanan, Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, Smt. Santosh Chowdhary and Smt. Suseela Gopalan

State Commissions for Women. A Central Advisory Committee on Child Prostitution had been set up the previous year, she added.

Situation arising out of the burning down of Chrar-e-Sharief in Kashmir: Moving an adjournment motion on the subject on 15 May 1995, Shri Somnath Chatterjee demanded to know as to what steps and precautions the Government had taken to ensure that the shrine was fully protected and called upon the Government to list the steps that had been taken to ensure that similar situations would not develop with regard to other shrines. He expressed the view that the political process had to be revived with the active involvement of the people at large.

Participating in the discussion,* the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee said that if strict action had been taken in a planned manner initially, the incident could have been averted. The entire development showed a picture of helplessness and lack of direction and policy on Kashmir. As such, the Government should resign forthwith, he added.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Salman Khursheed said that the situation in Jammu and Kashmir could not be blamed entirely on any single event, person or decision. The elections would have to be held in Kashmir not as a solution but as a panacea that would begin the solution and negotiations with militants would have to take place at a psychological level.

Taking part in the discussion, Shri Chandra Shekhar suggested that the Government should not order elections in a hurry. It should be ensured that the people who wanted secession of Kashmir from India would not succeed in their evil design.

Shri Sharad Yadav said that elections should be held in Kashmir only if the conditions were conducive for the process. If the Government wanted to restore the political process, the active involvement of the Hindu and Muslim migrants should also be ensured.

Shri Indrajit Gupta said that the sentiments of the people would have to be respected and taken into account and Government should take it as its primary duty to protect the shrines.

Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi pointed out that the Government had been diluting the provisions of art. 370, gradually resulting in a feeling of alienation among the Kashmiri people.

* Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvaswari Mani Shankar Aiyar, P. C. Chacko, Arjun Singh, Chiranjit Lal Sharma, Surya Narain Yadav, George Fernandes, Abdul Ghafoor, Sudhir Sawant, Jaswant Singh, D. Venkateswara Rao, Suraj Mandal, Hannan Mollah, Mohan Rawale and Bhogendra Jha

Shri P. G. Narayanan said that in view of the Government's plan to hold elections in Jammu and Kashmir, a Parliamentary Delegation should visit the State and assess the situation.

Shri Chitta Basu stated that a political solution could be arrived at only by a continuous dialogue with all those who were concerned.

The Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao said that the whole country was feeling the anguish of the disaster. Terrorists from Pakistan—trained, armed, funded and despatched by Pakistan—were responsible for this tragedy. An all-party Delegation of members of Parliament would be going to Jammu and Kashmir. As regards the economic package, several very large projects had been operationalised. The Government was amenable to advice and would come back to the House with whatever strategy was proper, he added.

Replying to the debate, Shri Somnath Chatterjee said that until political activity or political process started in the State, the question of elections there should not arise.

The Motion was negatived.

On 29 May 1995, making a statement on the relief and reconstruction in Charar-e-Sharief, the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office and Minister of State in the Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Science and Technology, Shri Bhuvnesh Chaturvedi stated that a multi-party Delegation of members of Parliament had visited Charar-e-Sharief on 20 May 1995.

The Union Government and the State administration in Jammu and Kashmir had been taking all measures to ensure that the reconstruction money would not only reach the affected people but would be properly and effectively utilised. Directions had been issued that there should be no delay in the assessment of the damage for the purpose of determining the amount of *ex gratia* payable. An Empowered Committee had been set up by the State Government under the Financial Commissioner to supervise and monitor relief and rehabilitation measures. The State Government had also arranged for the senior officials in charge of various activities pertaining to relief and rehabilitation to be posted in the town itself, the Minister added.

Statutory Resolution regarding approval of the continuance in force of the Presidential Proclamation in respect of Jammu and Kashmir : Moving the Resolution in 2 June 1995, the Union Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan said that according to the existing constitutional position, the maximum permissible period of five years of President's Rule in the State would expire on 17 July 1995. During the last one year, as a result of sustained and intensive anti-militancy operations by the security forces and other measures taken by the Government, there had been an overall

improvement in the situation. The attitude of the people had also undergone a change indicating their disillusionment with the activities of the militants and a desire for peace and normalcy. However, the dastardly action in Chrar-e-Sharief did cause a set-back. In the wake of these developments, a multi-party Delegation had visited the State and interacted with various sections of the people. The feed-back from the Delegation as well as discussions with leaders of various national parties and with the Chief Election Commissioner who visited the State, showed a general consensus that an elected Government must be restored in the State but holding elections before 17 July would not be practicable. A decision was taken after due consideration and deliberation, that art. 356 of the Constitution in its application to Jammu and Kashmir might be amended to enable continuance of the Presidential Proclamation for a further period upto one year after 17 July 1995. The Resolution before the House sought an extension of President's Rule only for 6 months from 18 July 1995.

Taking part in the discussion*, Shri E. Ahamed said that the Government must be serious enough to formulate the quantum of autonomy to be given to the people of Kashmir and announce it so as to make the people to understand the importance of elections and to bring about an elected Government in the State.

Participating in the discussion on 3 June, Shri Indrajit Gupta said that during the past five years, the political process in Kashmir had been completely stopped. There was no political input of any kind. The situation must change and the people there must be made to feel that the Government was seriously preparing to give them the opportunity to elect their representatives. The responsibility of free and fair elections lay equally with the Government and on all the other political Parties.

Shri Yaima Singh Yumnam supported the idea of granting a certain degree of autonomy, within the framework of the Constitution, to the State of Jammu and Kashmir if that would help in settling the problem. He urged that the same status should be accorded to the States in the North-Eastern Region, including Manipur.

Replying to the debate, the Union Home Minister, Shri S. B. Chavan said that it had become necessary to bring about a constitutional amendment extending the President's rule by six more months. He expressed the view that autonomy, especially in the context of the

*Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Jaswant Singh, Ram Vilas Paswan, Saifuddin Choudhury, Gopi Nath Gajapathi, B. Akbar Pasha, Mrutyunjaya Nayak, Hari Kishore Singh, Inderjit, Devendra Prasad Yadav, Pramotes Mukherjee, S.M. Lal Jan Basha, Bhogendra Jha, K.D. Suttanpuri, Mohan Rawale, Syed Shahabuddin, Nawal Kishore Rai, Md. Ali Ashraf Fatmi, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri and Smt. Saroj Dubey

Sarkaria Commission's Recommendations, would have to be properly understood. In Jammu and Kashmir, Government would endeavour to accelerate the pace of developmental activities.

The Resolution was adopted.

Some aspects of the investigation and trial of Shri Rajiv Gandhi assassination case : Making a statement in the House on 3 June 1995, the Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce, Shri P. Chidambaram said that at the request of the Government of Tamil Nadu, a Special Investigation Team (SIT) had taken over the investigation of the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case on 24 May 1991. Within the limit of one year prescribed by law, the SIT had thoroughly investigated the case and filed the charge sheet on 20 May 1992. Of the 41 accuse, 26 were facing trial, 12 were dead and three were absconding. 250 charges were framed by the Designated Court against the accused in November-December 1993. 134 witnesses had been examined so far. Besides, a large number of documents and material objects had been marked.

During the course of the investigation, the SIT had cited V. Prabhakaran and Pottu Amman, both of whom were absconding, as accused. On 31 January 1992, the prosecution obtained an Order from the Designated Court which proclaimed V. Prabhakaran and Pottu Amman as absconders and issued non-bailable warrants of arrest against them. On 10 February 1992, the Proclamation regarding the absconders was published in leading newspapers in Sri Lanka. The Government of Sri Lanka expressed practical difficulties due to the situation prevailing in the northern part of the country in serving the Proclamation orders or even pasting them. At the instance of the SIT, on 27 December 1993, *Interpol* circulated a Red Corner Notice to all member countries against the two accused. Both notices specifically mentioned that the extradition of the accused would be requested. In response, the authorities in Sri Lanka informed the SIT that the absconding accused were in Jaffna where there was no civil administration and no inquiries could be conducted.

After a careful review of the legal position, the stage of trial and the materials brought on record, Government had concluded that it would be appropriate to invoke the applicable laws of India and Sri Lanka and ask for arrest and extradition of V. Prabhakaran and Pottu Amman and Akila, another accused in the case. Hence, the SIT was advised to obtain fresh warrants of arrest against the three accused. On 29 May 1995, the Designated Court had granted fresh non-bailable warrants of arrest against the said three accused for their apprehension and extradition to India. The Court had also permitted the SIT to transmit to the Government of Sri Lanka the documents required for the purpose of extradition. Accordingly, three requisitions had been sent to the Government of Sri Lanka for the extradition of the accused, the Minister added.

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

*Finance Bill, 1995**: Moving that the Bill be taken into consideration, on 18 May 1995, the Union Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that he had proposed a five-year tax holiday for the development of transport infrastructure. It had been decided that entrepreneurs would be allowed to choose the initial year from which they would avail of the five-year tax holiday. In the Budget for 1995-96, the Government had proposed to enlarge the ambit of deduction of tax at source by including payment made by persons other than individuals and Hindu undivided families in pursuance of contracts for advertising, broadcasting and telecasting and transport and catering. It was proposed to reduce the deduction from two per cent as fixed earlier to one per cent in the case of advertising agents. As regards prescribing standards for computing business income with effect from assessment year 1997-98, Government would consult expert bodies like the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India while laying down such standards. The Minister expressed the hope that with the changes proposed to be made, the Budget would achieve the objective of giving a strong boost to the economy, while avoiding any burden on the common man and indeed promoting relief in some critical areas.

Participating in the discussion** on 22 May, Shri Yaima Singh Yumnam said that there should be a change in the criteria for the distribution of public funds for development programmes.

Shri Chitta Basu said that under the New Economic Policy, the lot of the people had not improved. The claim of the Government that the Policy had brought about an upswing in the Indian economy was not a reflection of the reality of the Indian life, particularly insofar as the lower strata of the society was concerned. Shri P.C. Thomas was of the view that there should be some reduction of tax in the small scale industrial sector as well as in the agricultural sector.

Participating in the debate, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee said that there was a need to further strengthen the Standing Committees and make them more effective. About 40 per

*The Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 15 March 1995

**Other members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvaswari Ramashray Prasad Singh, V. S. Vijayaraghavan, Girdhari Lal Bhargava, Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee, Udaysingrao Gaikwad, Mohan Singh (Deoria), K. P. Reddaiah Yadav, Bijoy Krishna Handique, B. Raja Ravi Verma, Anadi Charan Das, Kalka Das, R. Jeevarathinam, Amal Datta, Bheru Lal Meena, Rameshwar Patidar, M. Krishnaswamy, Syed Shahabuddin, B. Akber Pasha, Bhogendra Jha, Ram Tahal Choudhary, Harish Narayan Prabhu Zantye, Sriballav Panigrahi, Mohan Rawale, Inderjit, K. T. Vandayar, Bolla Bulli Ramaiah, Ram Kripal Yadav, Srikanta Jena, Jaswant Singh, Ram Nagina Mishra, Dr. Debi Prasad Pal, Dr. S. P. Yadav, Dr. Mumtaz Ansari, Dr. Ramkrishna Kusmaria, Dr. Vasant N. Pawar, Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat, Prof. Ram Kapse, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) R.G. Williams, Prof. Rita Verma, Smt. D.K. Tharadevi Siddhartha, Smt. Chandra Prabha Urs and Kum. Frida Topno

cent people in the country were living below the poverty line. As such, we must ensure that the various provisions made in the Budget would provide some sort of succour to them.

Replying to the debate, the Union, Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that in the last four years the Indian economy had made a remarkable turn around and the economic prospects and the processes of economic reform in India had turned out to be much smoother than in most other countries. The growth rate of our economy had increased. There should be no fear that any international institution, be it the World Bank or the International Monetary Fund, or any other country, could dictate our economic policies.

The Minister then moved that the Bill, as amended, be passed. The motion for consideration was adopted and clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill was taken up. Taking part in the discussion, Shri Somnath Chatterjee said that the Government should sit with trade unions and decide about the revival of various units, many of which, he felt, could be revived.

The Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh replied to certain points raised by members.

The motion was adopted and the Bill, as amended, was passed.

*The Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 1995** : Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 24 May 1995, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Shri P.M. Sayeed said** that the International Convention against taking of hostages, which was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 17 December 1979, was one of the important Conventions aimed at fighting international terrorism. The Convention declared the taking of hostages as an offence of grave concern to the international community and accordingly any person committing an act of hostage taking should either be prosecuted or extradited. The offence of hostage taking was not defined in the Indian law. The Bill sought to amend section 364A on kidnapping for ransom, etc. to make it clear that kidnapping a person, to compel the Government or a foreign State or an inter-governmental organisation or any other person, was punishable under that section.

The Bill was passed.

*National Environmental Tribunal Bill, 1992**** : Moving that the Bill be taken into consideration, on 24 May 1995, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Shri Kamal Nath said that the

* The Bill, as passed by the Rajya Sabha, was laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 23 March 1995

** Those who took part in the discussion were : Sarvashri Bhogendra Jha, Syed Masudal Hossain, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri and Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat

*** The Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 18 August 1992

Bill sought to fulfil a long felt demand for some mechanism for effective and expeditious relief and compensation for damages to persons, property and environment, particularly to victims of accidents in hazardous industries or operations. The Bill further sought to establish a Tribunal with its benches in each State and Union territory. The Tribunal would not be bound by the procedure laid down in the Code of Civil Procedure but guided by the principles of natural justice. The Tribunal would enjoy powers vested in a civil court.

Participating in the discussion*, Shri Chitta Basu said that there should be constant effort to see that industrialisation would take place in an eco-friendly atmosphere.

Shri P.C. Thomas stated that the Tribunal should be empowered to send experts to make on-the-spot study and assess actual loss or damage sustained in an eventuality.

Replying to the discussion, the Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Shri Kamal Nath said that the State Pollution Control Boards would have to be strengthened.

The Bill, as amended, was passed.

*Trade Marks Bill, 1993***: Moving that the Bill be taken into consideration, on 25 May 1995, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development and Department of Heavy Industry): Smt. Krishna Sahi said that the Bill sought to amend the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958. The need to amend the said Act had arisen because of developments in trading and commercial practices in India and abroad. The Bill which was introduced in the Lok Sabha in April 1993 was referred to the Departmentally-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry. The Committee had presented its report on the Bill making suggestions for amendments in certain sections. The Government had agreed with the suggestions of the Committee and accepted the amendments.

Replying to the debate*** on 29 May, the Minister said that suitable provision to protect the interests of the traders had been made in the

* Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Guman Mal Lodha, Mohan Singh (Deoria), Ram Kripal Yadav, Prithviraj D. Chavan, Ashta Bhuja Prasad Shukla, Sriballav Panigrahi, Bhagwan Shanker Rawat, Hannan Mollah, A. Asokaraj, P.C. Chacko, Ram Naik, Syed Shahabuddin, Ram Prasad Singh, Kamla Mishra Madhukar, Gopi Nath Gajapathi, Oscar Fernandes, Dattatraya Bandaru, Lal Babu Rai, Virender Singh, A. Charles, Tej Narayan Singh, Bheru Lal Meena, Ramashray Prasad Singh, Dr. Kartikeswar Patra, Dr. Sudhir Ray, Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu and Smt. Geeta Mukherjee

**The Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 19 April 1993

***Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Bhagwan Shanker Rawat, Ramashray Prasad Singh, Girdhari Lal Bhargava, Ram Kripal Yadav, Syed Shahabuddin, S.S.R. Rajendra Kumar, Sriballav Panigrahi, Dr. Sudhir Ray, Dr. Mumtaz Ansari, Prof. Rana Singh Rawat, Prof. Ram Kapse and Prof. (Smt.) Savithri Lakshmanan

Bill. The proposed changes were based on practical realities of the Indian market and not dictated by any particular country or organisation.

The Bill, as amended, was passed.

*Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions (Amendment) Bill, 1994**. Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill, on 29 May 1995, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance, Shri M. V. Chandrashekhara Murthy said that the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 had come into effect from 27 August 1993. The Act provided for the establishment of Tribunals for expeditious adjudication and recovery of debts due to banks and financial institutions and for matters connected therewith. To begin with, Government had decided to set up 10 Tribunals. It was also decided to set up an Appellate Tribunal at Bombay with jurisdiction on all the Tribunals. Five Tribunals had so far been established. Government had so far not been able to make the remaining Tribunals functional mainly because of the non-availability of suitable officers for manning the post of Presiding Officers. With a view to attracting competent persons, it had been proposed to raise the retirement age for the Presiding Officer of Debt Recovery Tribunals from sixty to sixty-two years and from sixty-two to sixty-five for the Presiding Officer of the Appellate Tribunal.

Participating in the discussion** : Shri Chitta Basu stated that it was not the inadequacy of the Tribunals which was responsible for the sorry state of affairs in the banking industry. There were other ailments and maladies too which needed attention.

Shri P.C. Thomas said that the infrastructure for the Tribunals must be provided on a priority basis. This would ensure that the Government was serious in its efforts.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance, Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy replied to the debate on 30 May 1995.

The Bill, as amended, was passed.

*Constitution (Eighty-Sixth Amendment) Bill, 1995****. Moving that the Bill be taken into consideration, on 2 June 1995, the Union Minister of Welfare, Shri Sitaram Kesri said that the Supreme Court, in its judgement dated 16 November 1992 in the case of Indira Sahni and others versus Union of India and others, had said that there would be no reservation

*The Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 12 December 1994

**Others who took part in the discussion were : Sarvashri V. Dhananjaya Kumar, A. Charles, Bolla Bulli Ramiah, Guman Mal Lodha, S.S.R. Rajendra Kumar, Syed Shahabuddin, K.D. Sultanpuri, Girdhari Lal Bhargava, Dr. Mumtaz Ansari, Prof. Susanta Chakraborty and Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat

***The Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 31 May 1995

in promotions. In the decision, it had also been stated that it would not affect the reservation in promotion upto the subsequent five years from the date of the said order. The Supreme Court had also held the reservation of 27 per cent for the Other Backward Classes (OBCs) as valid. Government had issued orders accordingly. The Supreme Court judgement had put a question mark on the reservation in promotion for the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and in Parliament members had expressed their concern over the matter. Outside too, several organisations had expressed similar concern. On 14 January 1995, an all-party meeting was held to discuss the points arising out of the Supreme Court judgement. Meetings of leaders of all political parties were held again on 28 April 1995 and 4 May 1995. During the meetings, there was unanimity on the issue of reservation in promotion to Scheduled Castes/Tribes.

Participating in the discussion*, Shri P. G. Narayanan said that the Backward Classes had felt deprived for a long time insofar as opportunities in jobs and admissions to educational institutions under the Centre were concerned.

Welcoming the Bill, Shri Chitta Basu stated that at the earliest opportunity the Government should make appropriate amendments in the Constitution to bring about the changes desired by members at the all-party meetings.

Supporting the Bill, Shri Yaima Singh Yumnam suggested that when the rules would be made it should be ensured that nobody was victimised.

Replying to the discussion, the Union Minister of Welfare, Shri Sitaram Kesri assured the House that so far as the question of reservation for OBCs was concerned, Government would make some provisions for them in the same manner as it had done for the Scheduled Castes/Tribes on the basis of general consensus.

The Bill, as amended, was passed.

C. QUESTION HOUR

During the Session, in all 32,103 notices of Questions (27,238 Starred, 4,842 Unstarred, 23 Short Notices Questions) were received. Out of these, 840 Questions as Starred, 8,508 Questions as Unstarred and 1 as Short Notice Question were admitted. 14 Unstarred Questions were deleted/postponed/transferred from one Ministry to another.

*Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Kalka Das, Nitish Kumar, K.P. Reddaiah Yadav, K.D. Sultanpuri, Ratilal Kalidas Verma, Syed Shahabuddin, Manikrao Hodalaya Gavit, G.M.C. Balayogi, Rup Chand Murmu, Chhedi Paswan, Suraj Mandal, Anandi Charan Das, Kamla Mishra Madhukar, Srikanta Jena, Dattatraya Bandaru, Mohan Rawale, Dr. R. Mallu, Dr. Mumtaz Ansari and Smt. Geeta Mukherjee

Daily average of Questions : The average number of Starred Questions answered orally on the floor of the House during the Session was three. The maximum number of Starred Questions answered was seven on 27 March 1995 and the minimum number was two on 16 and 22 May 1995.

The average number of Questions in the Unstarred List came to 202 against the prescribed limit of 230, the minimum being 135 questions on 3 May 1995 and the maximum being 232 on 28 March 1995.

Half-an-Discussions : In all, 27 notices of Half-an-Hour Discussions were received during the Session. Out of these, three notices were admitted and one was discussed. Two notices could not be discussed as members did not get first priority in the Ballot and others were disallowed.

D. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the Session, references were made on the passing away of the former President of India, Giani Zail Singh and the former Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai. Obituary references were also made on the passing away of Shri Chandulal Chandrakar and Shri Tejsingh Rao Bhonsle, both sitting members; Shri M. Satyanarayana and V.C. Kesava Rao, both members of the Constituent Assembly and the Provisional Parliament; Smt. Hansa Mehta, member of the Constituent Assembly; and Sarvashri Madhu Limaye, V.T. Patil, Robin Sen, Tika Ram Paliwal, P.R. Chakravarti, M.K.M. Abdul Salam, Ram Kishan, Chandra Shekhar Singh, P. Gangadeb, K.V. Ramakrishna Reddy, K.K. Singh, E.K. Imbichibava, Vutukuru Rami Reddy, Balasaheb Patil, N.R.M. Swamy, K. Suryanarayana, R.R. Morarka, Chaudhary Dilip Singh and Smt. Zohrabai Akbarbhai Chavada, all former members.

RAJYA SABHA

HUNDRED AND SEVENTY THIRD SESSION*

The Hundred and Seventy-third Session of Rajya Sabha was held in three phases. The first phase of the Session commenced on 13 February 1995. The House was adjourned on 14 February 1995 to enable the members to take part in electioneering in the States going to the polls. The House re-assembled on 14 March 1995 and was adjourned again on 31 March 1995 to meet on 24 April 1995 to enable the Departmentally-related Standing Committees to consider the Demands for Grants of various Ministries/Departments and prepare their reports during the recess. The House was adjourned *sine die* on 2 June 1995 and was prorogued by the President on 15 June 1995.

*Contributed by the Research and Library Section, Rajya Sabha Secretariat

A resume of some of the important discussions held and other business transacted during the third phase* of the Hundred and Seventy-third Session, i.e. from 24 April 1995 to 2 June 1995, is given below.

A. DISCUSSIONS

Motion of Thanks on the Address by the President : The discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the Address by the President** took place in the Rajya Sabha on 25, 26, 27 and 28 April 1995. On 25 April 1995, moving the motion Shri Suresh Pachouri referred to the achievements of the Government with regard to the country's foreign exchange reserves, exports and imports, Mahila Samridhhi Yojana, friendly relations with other countries, etc.

Referring to the need to maintain communal harmony, the member said that all problems faced by the country could be resolved through joint efforts. There was the imperative need to expose the forces that wanted to disintegrate the country in the name of religion. He suggested that a combined document of reports of various judicial enquiry committees on communal riots be prepared and placed before the public so that the forces which were responsible for communal tensions and riots could be exposed. Concluding, the member said that in the present-day atmosphere of religious fundamentalism, political parties should play a constructive role.

Replying to the discussion*** on 28 April 1995, the Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao said that the thrust of all programmes had been on the uplift of the downtrodden. These programmes were oriented in the best interests of the poorest of the poor. He informed that the Government had launched an employment programme which was the largest in the world. Rs. 30,000 crore had been allocated for rural employment programmes in the preceding five years.

Refuting the criticism that the reform programmes had been unfair to the Indian industry and weighted in favour of foreign investors and industries, the Prime Minister said that the policy of the Government provided a level-playing field to all industrialists. When any foreign

*The resume of the business transacted during the first two phases|| has been covered in *The Journal of Parliamentary Information* (Vol. XLI, No.2, June 1995)

**For the text of the Address, see *The Journal of Parliamentary Information* (Vol. XLI, No. 2, June 1995)

***Other members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Satya Prakash Malaviya, Dipanker Mukherjee, Jagdish, Prasad Mathur, Viren J. Shah, Shankar Dayal Singh, S. Madhavan, Ish Dutt Yadav, V. Narayanasamy, Vayalar Ravi, E. Balanandan, Rameshwar Thakur, J.S. Raju, Chaturanan Mishra, G.G. Swell, Janeshwar Misra, P. Upendra, Sangh Priya Gautam, David Ledger, Digvijay Singh, Jagmohan, Mohammed Atzal alias Meem Atzal, Dr. M. Aram, Smt. Chandra Kala Pandey, Smt. Kamla Sinha and Smt. Basanti Sarma

company had sought fiscal or tariff concessions, it had been advised that specific concessions were not part of the Indian system. Government was consistently monitoring that aspect to ensure that the Indian companies were not put to any disadvantage. Moreover, where the Indian companies, for reasons of infusion of capital and technology, sought to allow the foreign companies to enhance their equity stake, Government had accorded the requisite permission. As regards the criticism that domestic industry had been adversely affected by the policies of the Government, the Prime Minister said that the provisional financial results for 135 major companies for the six-month period ending in September 1994, had shown a high level of profits. The advantages of foreign investments were availed of not by multinational giants but by small and medium companies.

Referring to the steps taken by the Government to ameliorate the conditions of the weaker sections, the Prime Minister informed that special programmes for the poor and weaker sections had been initiated during the preceding four years which included the revamped public distribution system, employment assurance scheme, Mahila Samridhi Yojana, etc. Food subsidy to the most backward blocks of the country had been increased to Rs. 5,200 crore in the current year.

The Prime Minister said that the current year was going to have a record wheat crop, and to make gainful use of that, Government had planned to release 20-30 lakh tonnes for the mid-day meals programme. Government had undertaken a new Urban Poverty Alleviation Scheme to cover 345 grassroot towns with a population between fifty thousand and one lakh. A provision of Rs. 100 crore had been made for the current year. The creation of a new rural infrastructural development fund, expansion of the mid-day meals scheme and a group life insurance scheme of the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) were to be implemented by the Panchayats.

Referring to some other measures, the Prime Minister stated that an amount of Rs. 1,000 crore had been provided during the current year to construct ten lakh houses under the Indira Awas Yojana for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and freed bonded labourers in villages. Government would solve the housing problem of ex-servicemen through the Indira Awas Yojana in the coming years. So far as the Terrorists and Disruptive Activities Prevention Act (TADA) was concerned, he assured the House that necessary legislation would be brought after consulting the leaders of the Opposition parties. Steps had been intensified to control militancy in Jammu and Kashmir through operations against terrorists. The security forces had achieved significant success there. A number of detainees had been released. As regards developmental schemes, a Special Plan assistance of Rs. 993 crore was given to the State in 1994-95. These schemes were being closely

monitored. The people there had availed of the benefits under the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and the employment assurance scheme. The Uri Hydro Electric Project and the Dulhasti Project would improve the power supply position in the State considerably. Efforts were being made to create the conditions which would satisfy the Election Commission to hold elections there.

Concluding, the Prime Minister assured the House that there was no question of any outside pressure compelling the Government to delay or compromise on the defence requirements of the country.

*The Budget (Railways), 1995-96**: The discussion on the Budget (Railways), 1995-96 took place on 3, 4, 8 and 9 May 1995. Initiating the discussion on 3 May 1995, Shri Triloki Nath Chaturvedi said that there had been slow growth in the passenger traffic and rail freight. He suggested that Government should have annual meetings with Chief Ministers of the States, industry associations and members of Parliament so that it could ascertain the genuine requirements of the people of various regions. He *inter alia* suggested that the concessions for sportsmen which were withdrawn earlier should be restored to them. The two critical areas where review needed to be carried out were electrification and gauge conversion. A review of the on-going electrification of low density lines should be carried out. Facilities should be provided for academics and intellectuals for attending annual conferences in different parts of the country.

The member said that the Railways were losing not only the short-distance traffic but also the long haul traffic to other modes of transport. The Railways' financial performance also needed to be looked into. Every year the revenue of the Railways turned to be lower than those shown in the Budget. The techniques of budgeting were also faulty. Infrastructure was going to be a major bottleneck in the coming years. The present means and methods were no answer to the long-term requirements of the Railways.

Replying to the discussion** on 8 May 1995, the Minister of Railways, Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief referred to the Konkan Railway project

*The Budget (Railways), 1995-96 was laid on the Table on 14 March 1995

** Other members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri B.K. Hariprasad, Jalaudin Ansari, Virendra Kataria, Md. Salim, K. Rahman Khan, J.S. Raju, Radhakishan Malaviya, S. Austin, Ramji Lal, P. Upendra, Mohinder Singh Kalyan, Shankar Dayal Singh, Maheshwar Singh, Digvijay Singh, Ish Dutt Yadav, Satish Pradhan, Tara Charan Majumdar, Mohd. Masud Khan, Bhadreswar Gohain, Jagmohan, Surinder Kumar Singla, Naresh Yadav, H. Hanumanthappa, K.M. Khan, Sangh Priya Gautam, Moolchand Meena, S.S. Surjewala, Jagesh Desai, Sudhir Ranjan Majumdar, Dr. Bapu Kaldate, Dr. Jagannath Mishra, Dr. B.B. Dutta, Prof. I.G. Sanadi and Smt. Saria Maheshwari

which was based on equity participation by the respective State Governments and the Centre, *i.e.*, the Ministry of Railways. The Minister said that whatever commitment had been made to the House in the Budget speech was based on whatever information the Government had on the Konkan Railway Project.

Continuing his speech on 9 May 1995, the Minister informed that the Standing Committee of Parliament on Railways had considered it obligatory on the part of the Railways to develop a railway network throughout the country, including the inaccessible tribal areas. During the preceding two decades, Railways had laid 2,200 kms. of railway lines in the backward and tribal areas. The basic reason which had forced the Railways to freeze certain projects was acute resource constraint. On the contrary, certain projects were defroze. The present procedure for taking up new line projects fulfilled what the Standing Committee had proposed. In that regard, the target for 1994-95 was fixed at 155 km. and for 1995-96 at 165 km. The Railways had made unigauge project as an important thrust area beginning from 1992-93. The twin objective of increasing the capacity of the gauge system and improving its efficiency at the same time was being achieved by the unigauge project.

As budgetary support in percentage terms was declining, there was a great pressure for the generation of internal and extra-budgetary resources. The Railways had initiated steps to associate private enterprise through schemes to invest in production of wagons and certain other railway projects. A number of new line projects had been proposed to be taken up in 1995-96, after necessary approval.

Referring to the steps taken by the Government for upgrading the quality of catering, the Minister informed that the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation was being set up. Care had been taken to exclude second class passengers and articles of mass consumption like foodgrains, sugar, etc. from the fare and freight increase.

As regards the non-filling of the posts reserved for SCs/STs by the Railways, instructions had been given to fill these posts immediately. Similarly, it had been decided to restore the travelling concessions to artists and sports persons. Government had taken certain decision to ensure more supervision in the field of activities such as safety and other administrative conveniences, the Minister added.

*The Budget (General), 1995-96**: The discussion on the Budget (General), 1995-96, took place on 10, 16, 17, 18, 24, and 25 May 1995. Initiating the discussion on 10 May 1995, Shri Sunder Singh Bhandari said that Government had adopted some populist measures in the Budget. But the question that needed consideration was as to when would the common man get the desired relief. The economic situation of the country was not

* The Budget (General), 1995-96 was laid on the Table on 15 March 1995

yet under control. Debts has been increasing day by day. Even the trade balance was not in a favourable position. The annual Plan allocation had decreased and resource mobilisation was in a critical position.

The member said that whenever there was a scarcity in the country, efforts had been made to meet that by imports which was a temporary measure. There should be a long range perspective for meeting the demands. The relief announced in the Budget should reach the consumer, he emphasised.

The member said that India's demand for food would double by the year 2020 and Government should consider adequate measures to meet that demand. There should be requisite capital investment for increasing the agricultural capacities. Government should also pay special attention for increasing the production of pulses. The cultivation of the coarse grain area should not be diminished in any case.

The member pointed out that proper attention would have to be paid on the defence of the country. Budget and expenditure on defence would have to be reviewed and weaponry system should be changed. Unemployment should be reduced progressively. Retrenchment of labour should be stopped. Small scale industries should be protected. The range of capital investment in small industries should not be increased so as to protect the interests of poor people living in villages.

Concluding, the member said that the amount of Rs. 200 crore provided for Research and Development in the field of small scale industries was inadequate; it should be increased to at least Rs. 2000 crore. Similarly, exemption limit of income tax should be raised to Rs. 50,000. He also requested the Government to appoint a Commission to review the administered prices.

Replying to the discussion* on 25 May 1995, the Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that the growth of the Indian economy in the first two years of the present Government was moderate because of contraction as the balance of payments deficit and fiscal deficit was to be reduced. There was the need to accelerate the tempo of growth. It was only through higher growth that more jobs could be created. If the economy was stagnant, tax revenue could not grow, expenditure would grow and that certainly was a road not to progress, not to solving the economic and social problems, but a road to disaster.

Referring to the achievements of the Government, the Minister said that during the preceding year there had been an industrial growth of

*Other members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Jagesh Desai, Krishna Kumar Birla, Ashok Mitra, S.K.T. Ramachandran, O.P. Kohli, S. Jaipal Reddy, S.S. Surjewala, Tindivanam G. Venkatraman, S. Muthu Mani, K. Rahman Khan, N. Giri Prasad, Ramji Lal, Tara Charan Majumdar, Rameshwar Thakur, Chimanbhai Mehta, Sanjay Dalmia, Moolchand Meena, Jagmohan, Dr. Shrikant Ramchandra Jichkar, Dr. B.B. Duta, Dr. Biplab Dasgupta and Smt. Mira Das

about 9 per cent and an increase in exports from roughly Rs. 50,000 crore to Rs. 80,000 crore which definitely created additional jobs.

The Minister said that there was no question of India's economic policy being dictated by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) or by the World Bank. The liberalisation of Indian economy and the inflow of foreign investment was not going to compromise the spirit of self-reliance. There had been no great change in India's foreign investment policy. Government was alert to the risk in opening up of the economy. There was no danger of debt trap.

Government had initiated certain tax reforms and steps had been taken to improve tax administration in order to reduce revenue deficit. Non-developmental expenditure would have to be reduced. There was no decline in the savings in private corporate sector. Household savings had increased. Government was seeking to revitalise the Public Sector Enterprises.

Concluding, the Minister said that the present Budget carried forward economic reform programmes. It strengthened anti-poverty programmes, mid-day meal scheme, the health sector and the social sector.

Situation arising out of the unprecedented rise in the price of paper :
On 27 April 1995, Shri Jagdish Prasad Mathur called the attention of the Minister of Industry to the situation arising out of the unprecedented rise in the price of paper.

Replying to the Calling Attention, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry, Smt. Krishna Sahi informed the House that the Government shared the concern being expressed regarding the rise in the price of paper. Meetings had been held with the representatives of different sections associated with the paper industry so as to precisely assess the problem.

The Minister said that there was no price or distribution control on paper and newsprint. Fifty per cent of the total demand for newsprint was fulfilled by the country's production. The country was self-sufficient as far as the common variety of paper was concerned. Only 2 per cent of the total requirement was being imported. On account of the unprecedented increase in the cost of the inputs like coal, caustic soda, electricity, pulp, waste paper, etc. the cost of newsprint and writing and printing paper had increased. The root cause of the problem was the upward swing in the price of the imported newsprint which had risen from US \$ 440 per M.T. the preceding year to US \$ 1000 per M.T. during the current year. Till the preceding year, imported newsprint was costing Rs. 3000 to Rs. 4000 less than the indigenous newsprint. But at present it was selling at Rs. 3000 to Rs. 4000 more than the indigenous newsprint. Hence, the demand for indigenous newsprint had increased and its shortage was being felt.

The Minister *inter alia* said that to overcome the shortage steps had been taken by the Government for developing wasteland and degraded forest land so that shortage of raw material was removed.

Concluding, the Minister said that the Government was making efforts to make available paper in adequate quantity and on fair price. It was also considering measures to provide some relief to the educational sector.

Deepening crisis in the handloom industry: On 3 May 1995, Shri Pragada Kotaiah called the attention of the Minister of Textiles to the deepening crisis in the handloom industry resulting in underemployment and unemployment of handloom weavers leading to starvation, etc. and the action taken by the Government in that regard.

Replying to the Calling Attention, the Minister of Textiles, Shri G. Venkat Swamy informed that House that there was no crisis in the handloom sector; instead, there had been a positive growth in that sector. The overall production in the handloom sector in absolute terms had been showing impressive growth. In fact, as against 4,123 million sq. metre of cloth produced in 1991-92, the figure for 1993-94 was reported to be 5,851 million sq. metre. Employment in the handloom sector which was directly related to actual production had also shown significant increase between 1991-92 and 1993-94 going up from 87.96 lakh persons to 116.20 lakh persons. There had been a distinct increase in the wage earning of all categories of handloom weavers as reported by some States. The export of handloom products had also shown progressive increase as was evident from the fact that the export of cotton handloom goods went up from Rs. 689.19 crore in 1991-92 to Rs. 1292.48 crore in 1993-94, an increases of 88 per cent.

Apprising the House of the measures taken for the welfare of weavers, the Minister referred to the scheme for setting up of 3,000 Handloom Development Centres and 500 Quality Dyeing Units for which Rs. 50 crore had been released to various States. There were other schemes such as the Project Package Scheme, Thrift Fund Scheme, Health Package Scheme, Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme, Group Insurance Scheme and Scheme of Margin Money of Destitute Weavers, etc. A number of schemes had been initiated to bridge the technological gaps in the handloom sector. Special attention had been given for design development, product adaptation, quality control, trade information, modernisation of looms and research and development. Computer Aided Design facilities had been provided to many Weavers Service Centres.

Replying to the points raised by members, the Minister *inter alia* said that efforts had been made to raise the standard of living of weavers.

Need for having a national consensus on India's Nuclear Policy with reference to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT): On 17 May 1995,

Shri Gopalrao Vithalrao Patil called that attention of the Minister of External Affairs to the need for having a national consensus on India's nuclear policy with reference to the NPT.

Replaying to the Calling Attention, the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Pranab Mukherjee said that India had pursued a consistent and principled policy on the subject of nuclear disarmament and the NPT. The NPT was a flawed treaty because it legitimised nuclear weapons in the hands of five countries. It allowed those countries to continue expanding their nuclear arsenals with the development of ever more lethal nuclear warheads.

With the end of the Cold War and the ideological conflict that was behind the East-West confrontation, there existed a new opportunity to turn back the nuclear arms race. Throughout the preceding decades, the Government policy had remained consistent. India had also rejected the idea of any unilateral restrictions on our nuclear programme which remained geared exclusively for peaceful purposes.

Replying to the points raised by members, the Minister said that India had played a key role in working out the conditions highlighted by the Non-aligned Movement (NAM). The Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) had been accepted by the nuclear weapon States. NAM member states had decided to ban production of fissile material for nuclear weapons purposes. NAM had also asked for internationally binding security assurances to the non-nuclear weapon states. There should be a non-discriminatory transfer of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. India would pursue that policy, whatever be the consequences.

The Minister stated that our position was that unless the discriminatory character of the treaty was not removed and unless it became universal and equal, there was no question of India signing the NPT.

Inadequate representation of SCs and STs in Class I, II, III and IV Government Services and Public Undertakings: On 18 May 1995, Shri Sanatan Bisi called the attention of the Minister of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions to the inadequate representation of SCs and STs in Class I, II, III and IV Government Services and Public Undertakings which was much below the prescribed constitutional limit and the action taken by the Government in that regard.

Replying to the Calling Attention, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Smt. Margaret Alva said that reservation for SCs and STs was available in direct recruitment in all Groups, i.e. Group A, Group B, Group C and Group D of the Services and posts under the Government as well as in equivalent posts in Public Undertakings to the extent of 15 per cent and 7.5 per cent, respectively.

The present position of representation of SC and ST categories in Government and Public Sector Undertakings was the result of the continuous and concerted steps taken by the Government to increase their representation and to facilitate the entry into Government Service of persons belonging to those categories. The maximum age limit prescribed for direct recruitment was increased by five years for SC/ST candidates to enable them to apply for examinations and selections in large numbers. As sufficient SC/ST candidates were not available on the basis of general standards to fill all the vacancies reserved for them, Government took a decision that they may be selected on the basis of a relaxed standard.

Replying to the points raised by members, the Minister said that special recruitment drives had been launched to fill the reserved posts and the backlog was being cleared accordingly. Similarly, there were special training programmes for those persons from the SC/ST categories who wanted to appear in the All India Services examinations.

Situation arising out of increasing foreign debt of the country: Initiating a short duration discussion on 31 May 1995 on the situation arising out of the increasing foreign debt of country, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi demanded that the Government should bring out a White Paper on foreign exchange reserves and debt. The revenue deficit had been increasing over a period of time. All developmental activities might come to a standstill for want of resources. The only course left open in that case was but to resort to fresh borrowings. The gap between imports and exports was widening, which might lead to problems of payment. Devaluation of the Rupee time and again was rendering the Indian currency weak. The economic policies of the Government had shaken the very self-confidence of whole of the country.

The member called upon the Government to get the nation out of the debt trap and rectify the priorities of restructuring, modify the process of globalisation which was affecting the Indian economy adversely and create a sense of national pride.

Replying to the discussion*, the Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that in order to reduce external debt the country should have surplus on the current account. During the preceding four years, there had been improvement in current account deficit. Growth of debt had declined. There was no harm in borrowing provided that those moneys would be used productively, to increase generation of power and other vital infrastructure related items.

The Minister stated that direct investment had to be welcomed. India could not be separated from the worldwide trend of improving

* Other members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri S.S. Ahluwalia, Ashok Mitra, S. Viduthalai Virumbi and Vayalar Ravi

management skill and technology. The efforts of the Government in the preceding four years had been to make the Indian system more credible. Government would present a White Paper on external debt, the Minister added.

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

*The Delhi Rent Bill, 1994**: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 29 May 1995, the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment, Smt. Sheila Kaul said that one of the major concerns of the Bill had been to remove legal impediments to the growth of housing, particularly rental housing. The Supreme Court of India had also suggested that rent control laws should be rational, humane, certain and capable of being quickly implemented. The Bill *inter alia* provided for damages in case possession was not handed over on termination of tenancy. It also provided for transfer of all cases pending before High Court, etc. to the tribunal from the date to be notified by the Central Government.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and the clauses, etc. were adopted and the Bill, as amended, was passed the same day.

*The National Environment Tribunal Bill, 1995***: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 30 May 1995, the Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Shri Kamal Nath said that the Bill sought to fulfil a long felt demand for some mechanism for effective and expeditious relief and compensation for damages to persons, property and environment, particularly to victims of accidents in hazardous industries or operations, including those occurring during transport of hazardous substances. As the present system of jurisprudence did not provide for compensation for environmental damage, it was proposed to set up special legal institutions to redress that deficiency and also make adequate arrangements for interim relief.

The Bill sought to establish a Tribunal with its branches in each State and Union territory, or for a group of States or Union territories. It would consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Judicial and Technical Members. The Tribunal should be guided by the principles of natural justice. It would have power to regulate its own procedures and would also enjoy powers vested in a civil court. The Tribunal would entertain claims for compensation. Non-compliance of Tribunal's directions or orders would be punishable with imprisonment upto 3 years or with fine which might extend to Rs. 10 lakh or both.

Radioactivity had not been included in the proposed Bill because there was a separate legal mechanism under which victims of radioactivity could claim compensation.

* The Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 26 August 1994

**The Bill, as passed by the Lok Sabha, was laid on the Table of the House on 25 May 1995

The motion for consideration of the Bill and the clauses, etc. were adopted and the Bill was passed the same day.

*The Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill, 1995**: Moving the Motion for consideration of the Bill on 31 May 1995, the Minister of Labour, Shri P.A. Sangma said that the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 provided for payment by certain classes of employers to their workmen of compensation in case of personal injury caused by accident or certain occupational diseases arising out of, and in the course of employment and resulting in disablement or death. The Act was last amended in 1984.

The Act at present applied to railway servants and persons employed in certain hazardous employments specified in Schedule II of the Act. On the basis of recommendations made by the Law Commission of India in its 62nd report, it was proposed to extend the provision of the Act to masters, seamen and other members of crew of ships and captains and other members of crew of aircraft and also to the drivers, helpers and the workmen employed in connection with a motor vehicle and sent for work abroad and workmen recruited by companies and sent for work abroad provided the ship, aircraft, motor vehicle, as the case may be, was registered in India. Certain categories of persons, including persons employed in mechanised harvesting and threshing operations, spraying and dusting of insecticides and pesticides in agricultural operations, employed for outdoor duties in newspaper establishments, etc. were also being added in Schedule II to the Act.

The minimum amount of compensation was being enhanced from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 50,000 in the case of death and from Rs. 24,000 to Rs. 60,000 in the case of permanent total disablement. The wage ceiling on the monthly wage for working out the maximum amount of compensation was being enhanced from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,000. In addition to the amount of compensation, a provision for payment of Rs. 1,000 towards funeral expenses of the deceased workman was also being made.

The Motion for consideration of the Bill and the clauses, etc. were adopted and the Bill, as amended, was passed the same day.

*The National Highway (Amendment), Bill, 1995***: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 1 June 1995, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Surface Transport, Shri Jagdish Tytler said that the total length of National Highways in the country at present was 34,058 kms. There was a pressing need to augment financial resources for proper development and upkeep of the National Highway system. Therefore, the Ministry had initiated a number of measures to explore the possibilities

*The Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 13 June 1994

**The Bill, as passed by the Lok Sabha, was laid on the Table on 31 May 1995

of involving private sector participation in the highway sector. For instance, Government had declared the road sector as an industry and also reduced customs duties on import of construction equipments. It had been proposed to add sub-sections 8A and 8B after Section 8 of the principal Act of 1956. That would enable the Central Government to enter into an agreement with any person in relation to the development and maintenance of the National Highways and also to levy fees and authorise the person concerned to collect and retain such fees.

The Motion for consideration of the Bill and the clauses, etc. were adopted and the Bill, as amended, was passed the same day.

*The Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, 1995**: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 1 June 1995, to further amend the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961, the Minister of Labour, Shri P.A. Sangma said that under the Act, women employees were entitled to maternity benefit at the rate of average daily wages for the period of their actual absence upto 12 weeks due to delivery. In cases of illness arising due to pregnancy, etc., they were entitled to additional leave with wages for a period of one month. They were also entitled to get six weeks maternity benefit in case of miscarriage. The Act also made certain provisions to safeguard the interests of pregnant women workers. The Bill provided for the grant of six weeks' leave with wages in the case of medical termination of pregnancy (MTP), grant of two weeks' leave with wages to women employees who undergo tubectomy operation and grant of leave with wages for a maximum period of one month in the case of illness arising out of MTP or tubectomy.

The motion for consideration of the Bill and the clauses, etc. were adopted and the Bill was passed the same day.

C. QUESTION HOUR

During the One Hundred and Seventy-third Session, 16,117 notices of Questions (15,247 Starred and 870 Unstarred) were received. Out of these, 837 notices of Questions were admitted as Starred Questions and 8,509 as Unstarred Questions. 14 Short Notices Questions were received but none was admitted.

Daily Average of Questions: Each of the lists of Starred Questions contained 20 Questions, excepting the lists of Starred Questions for 20 March 1995, 25 April 1995 and 10 May 1995 as one Question each was postponed from the printed lists of these dates. On an average, 3 Questions were orally answered per sitting. The maximum number of Questions orally answered was 5 each on 20, 21, 24 and 31 March and 19, 22 and 23 May 1995 and the minimum number of Question orally answered was 2 each on 25 and 26 April 1995. The maximum number of

*The Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 2 May 1995

Unstarred Questions put in a day's list was 310 on 26 April 1995 and the minimum number of Unstarred Questions put in a day's list was 120 on 22 May 1995. The average of Unstarred Questions per list came to 203.

Half-an-Hour Discussion Notices: 15 notices of Half-an-hour Discussion were received, out of which 3 notices were admitted.

Statements correcting Answers to Questions: 7 Statements correcting answers to Questions answered in the House were made/laid by the Ministers concerned.

D. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the Session, references were made to the passing away of the former President of India, Giani Zail Singh, the former Prime Minister of India, Morarji Desai, and Sarvashri C. Gopala Krishnamoorthy Reddy, Mahabir Prasad Shukla, G. Ramachandran, Joseph Mathen, Tika Ram Paliwal, Om Mehta, Moturi Satyanarayana, Bhupinder Singh, E.K. Imbichibava, V.C. Keshava Rao, N.R. Muniswamy, Kommareddi Surayanarayana, Sukhdev Prasad and Radheyshyam R. Morarka, all ex-members. Members stood in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

STATE LEGISLATURES

ARUNACHAL PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Second Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Second Session on 27 June 1995, was adjourned *sine die* on 28 June 1995.

Financial business: The Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Shri Gegong Apang, who also holds the Finance portfolio, presented the Annual Financial Statement for the year 1995-96 on 27 June 1995. The general discussion on the Budget took place on the next day. The Demands for the year 1995-96 relating to various Departments were moved by the concerned Ministers and were accepted in full. Later, the relevant Appropriation Bill was introduced, considered and passed.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of the former Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai.

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The Ninth Assam Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Tenth Session on 15 March 1995, was adjourned *sine die* on 12 April 1995. The House was prorogued on 13 April 1995.

* Material contributed by the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

** Material contributed by the Assam Legislative Assembly Secretariat

Address by the Governor : The Governor of Assam, Shri Loknath Mishra addressed the House on 15 March 1995. The Motion of Thanks on the Address by the Governor was moved by Shri Hiranya Bora and was second by Shri Mujibur Rahman. The Motion was discussed for four days and was subsequently adopted on 23 March 1995.

Legislative business : During the Session, seventeen Bills, including two Appropriation Bills, were introduced, considered and passed by the House.

Financial business : During the Session, the Finance Minister presented the Supplementary Demands for Grants and Supplementary Appropriation Bill for the year 1994-95, which were voted and passed by the House. The House also passed the Assam Appropriation (No. 1) Bill, 1995. The Finance Minister presented the Annual Financial Statement for the year 1995-96 on 22 March 1995. The general discussion on the Budget took place for four days and the Budget was passed on 30 March 1995. The Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1995 was also introduced in the House and passed after deliberations.

Obituary references : During the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of seventeen eminent personalities.

KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL*

The Karnataka Legislative Council, which commenced its Eightieth Session on 20 March 1995, was adjourned *sine die* on 20 April 1995.

Address by the Governor : The Governor of Karnataka, Shri Khursheed Alam Khan addressed members of both the Houses of the State Legislature assembled together in the Legislative Assembly Chamber on 20 March 1995. The Motion of Thanks was discussed for eight days and was then adopted.

Legislative business : During the Session, 17 Bills, as passed by the Legislative Assembly, were considered and passed by the House.

Financial business : The Budget Estimates for the year 1995-96 were presented on 23 March 1995. The general discussion on the Budget took place for six days. The Supplementary Estimates for the year 1994-95 were presented to the House on 28 March 1995 and were discussed for two days.

MADHYA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The Tenth Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Fifth Session on 16 February 1995, was adjourned *sine die* on 13 April 1995. There were 27 sittings in all.

* Material contributed by the Karnataka Legislature Secretariat

** Material contributed by the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly Secretariat

Address by the Governor : The Governor of Madhya Pradesh, Shri Mohammad Shafi Qureshi, addressed the House on 16 February 1995. The Motion of Thanks on the Address by the Governor was moved by Shri Ravindra Chaubey and was seconded by Shri Ghanshyam Patidar. The Motion was discussed for 3 days and was adopted on 22 February 1995.

Legislative business : During the Session, seventeen bills were introduced in the House which were discussed and passed.

Financial business : The Finance Minister, Shri Ajai Narain Mushran presented the Budget for the year 1995-96 on 23 February 1995. The general discussion on the Budget, which commenced on 28 February 1995, was followed by the discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants for individual Departments and continued up to 22 March 1995. Later, the Appropriation Bill, 1995 was introduced in the House and passed on 23 March 1995. The Third Supplementary Demands for the year 1994-95 were introduced in the House and passed on 14 and 15 March 1995, respectively.

Obituary references : During the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of the former President of India, Giani Zail Singh and the former Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai. Obituary references were also made on the demise of the sitting member of Lok Sabha from Madhya Pradesh, Shri Chandulal Chandrakar; former member of Parliament, Shri Madhu Limaye; the former Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Shri Om Mehta; the former member of the Legislative Assembly, Shri Heeralal Sharma; and journalist, Shri Mayaram Surjan.

MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Ninth Maharashtra Legislative Assembly, which commenced its First Session on 22 March 1995, was adjourned *sine die* on 7 April 1995. The House was later prorogued the same day.

Address by the Governor : The Governor of Maharashtra, Dr. P.C. Alexander addressed members of both the Houses of the State Legislature assembled together on 24 March 1995. (For the first time in the history of the Maharashtra Legislature, an arrangement was made for the simultaneous interpretation of the Address by the Governor in Marathi. The Address was also video-taped and telecast).

The Motion of Thanks to the Governor was moved the same day and discussed for two days and adopted.

Election of Speaker and Deputy Speaker : Shri Dattaji Nalawade of the Shiv Sena was unanimously elected the Speaker of the newly constituted State Legislative Assembly on 24 March 1995.

* Material contributed by the Maharashtra Legislature Secretariat

On 28 March 1995, Shri Sharad Tasare of the Congress(I) was elected unopposed as the Deputy Speaker.

Legislative business : During the Session, the House considered and passed the following Bills : (i) The Maharashtra Prevention of Defacement of Property Bill, 1995; (ii) The Bombay Land Requisition (Amendment) Bill, 1995; (iii) The Maharashtra Raw Cotton (Procurement, Processing and Marketing) (Retrospective Extension of Duration) Bill, 1995; (iv) The Bombay Provincial Municipal Corporations (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 1995; (v) The Maharashtra Municipal Corporation and Municipal Councils, Nagar Panchayats and Industrial Townships (Amendment) Bill, 1995; (vi) The Bombay Police (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 1995; (vii) The Maharashtra Ownership Flats (Regulation of the Promotion of Construction, Sale Management and Transfer) (Retrospective Extension of Duration) Bill, 1995; and (viii) The Maharashtra Employment Guarantee (Amendment) Bill, 1995

Financial business : The Finance Minister presented the Supplementary Demands for the year 1994-95 on 25 March 1995. The Finance Minister also presented the Budget for the year 1995-96 the same day. The Motion for Vote on Account for the Grant of Expenditure for the next four months was moved by the Finance Minister on 28 March 1995 and was passed on 29 March 1995. The Supplementary Demands and Appropriation Bills were discussed and passed on 29 March 1995.

Obituary references : On 24 March 1995, obituary references were made on the demise of the former President of India, Giani Zail Singh and some former members of the House.

MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Sixth Manipur Legislative Assembly, which commenced its First Session on 22 March 1995, was adjourned *sine die* on 25 March 1995.

Address by the Governor : The Governor of Manipur, Shri Oudh Narain Srivastava addressed the House on 22 March 1995.

Election of Speaker and Deputy Speaker : Shri W. Nipamacha Singh was elected the Speaker of the newly constituted State Legislative Assembly on 22 March 1995.

Shri I. Hemochandra Singh was elected the Deputy Speaker on 25 March 1995.

Financial business : The Finance Minister, Shri Radhabinod Koijam presented the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 1994-95 and the Budget Estimates for the year 1995-96 and also moved the Motion for the Vote on Accounts, 1995, on 22 March 1995. The Appropriation

* Material contributed by the Manipur Legislative Assembly Secretariat

Accounts and the Finance Accounts for the years 1991-92 and 1992-93 were presented on 23 March 1995. The Supplementary Demands for Grants, 1994-95 and the Vote on Accounts, 1995 were unanimously passed the same day.

Obituary references : On 23 March 1995, obituary references were made on the passing away of two former members of the State Legislative Assembly, Sarvashri Mutum Deven and Kalanglung Kamei.

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APPENDIX I

STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED DURING THE THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE TENTH LOK SABHA

1. PERIOD OF THE SESSION	13 February to 3 June 1995
2. NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	42
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	246 hours and 25 minutes
4. NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD	9
5. GOVERNMENT BILLS	
i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	16
ii) Introduced	28
iii) Laid on the Table as passed by Rajya Sabha	8
iv) Returned by Rajya Sabha with any amendment/recommendation and Laid on the Table	2
v) Referred to Departmentally related Standing Committees by Speaker/Chairman, Rajya Sabha	15
vi) Reported by Standing Committees	10
vii) Discussed	29
viii) Passed	29
ix) Returned by Rajya Sabha without any recommendation	13
x) Pending at the end of the Session	25
6. PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS	
i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	316
ii) Introduced	28
iii) Discussed	3
iv) Withdrawn	2
v) Part-discussed	1
vi) Removed from the Register of Pending Bills	2
vii) Pending at the end of the Session	340
7. NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 193 (Matters of Urgent Public Importance)	
i) Notices received	74
ii) Admitted	1
iii) Discussion held	1
8. NUMBER OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER RULE 197 (Calling attention to matters of Urgent Public Importance)	
Statements made by Ministers	2
9. HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION HELD	1

10. STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS

i) Notices received	144
ii) Admitted	9
iii) Moved	8
iv) Adopted	2
v) Negatived	4
vi) Withdrawn	2

11. GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS

i) Notices received	3
ii) Admitted	1
iii) Moved	1
iv) Adopted	1

12. PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS

i) Received	11
ii) Admitted	10
iii) Discussed	2
iv) Part-discussed	2

13. GOVERNMENT MOTIONS

i) Notices received	1
ii) Admitted	1

14. PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

i) Notices received	439
ii) Admitted	32

15. MOTION REG : MODIFICATION OF STATUTORY RULE

Received	1
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16. TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED DURING THE SESSION 18,474**17. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON ANY SINGLE DAY AND DATE ON WHICH ISSUED 1199 on 15 March 1995****18. NUMBER OF ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS**

i) Brought before the House	32
ii) Admitted	1
iii) Barred in view of adjournment motion admitted on the subject	13
iv) Consent withheld by Speaker outside the House	18

19. TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED

i) Starred	840
ii) Unstarred	8,508
iii) Short Notice Questions	1

20. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Sl. No.	Name of the Committee	No. of sittings held during the period 1 April to 30 June 1995	No. of Reports presented to the House
1	2	3	4
(i)	Business Advisory Committee	2	5
(ii)	Committee on Absence of Members	1	1
(iii)	Committee on Public Undertakings	6	5
(iv)	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	1	-
(v)	Committee on Petitions	4	3
(vi)	Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions	1	1
(vii)	Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	6	3
(viii)	Committee on Privileges	1	-
(ix)	Committee on Government Assurances	33	5
(x)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	2	3
(xi)	Estimates Committee	1	6
(xii)	General Purposes Committee	1	-
(xiii)	House Committee		
(a)	Accommodation Sub-Committee	-	-
(b)	Sub-Committee on Amenities	-	-
(c)	Sub-Committee on Furnishing	-	-
(xiv)	Public Accounts Committee	5	21
(xv)	Railway Convention Committee	-	1
(xvi)	Rules Committee	-	-

JOINT/SELECT COMMITTEES

(i)	Joint Committee on Offices of Profit	3	2
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STANDING COMMITTEES

(i)	Committee on Agriculture	-	16
(ii)	Committee on Communication	6	9
(iii)	Committee on Defence	-	2
(iv)	Committee on Energy	-	13
(v)	Committee on External Affairs	5	9

(vi)	Committee on Finance	5	9
(vii)	Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution	-	4
(viii)	Committee on Labour and Welfare	-	4
(ix)	Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals	-	10
(x)	Committee on Railways	-	4
(xi)	Committee on Urban and Rural Development	-	6
21.	NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE		11
22.	PETITIONS PRESENTED		3
23.	NUMBER OF NEW MEMBERS SWORN IN WITH DATE		2 (22.3.95 and 24.6.95)

APPENDIX II

**STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK
TRANSACTIONED DURING THE HUNDRED AND
SEVENTY-THIRD SESSION OF RAJYA SABHA**

1.	PERIOD OF THE SESSION	13.2.1995 to 2.6.1995
2.	NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	41
3.	TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	220 hours and 23 minutes (excluding Recess Intervals)
4.	NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD	5
5.	GOVERNMENT BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	32
	(ii) Introduced	9
	(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by Lok Sabha	22
	(iv) Returned by Lok Sabha with any amendment	2
	(v) Referred to Select Committee by Rajya Sabha	1
	(vi) Referred to Joint Committee by Rajya Sabha	Nil
	(vii) Referred to the Departmentally-related Standing Committees	13*
	(viii) Reported by Select Committee	Nil
	(ix) Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
	(x) Reported by the Departmentally-related Standing Committees	9
	(xi) Discussed	30
	(xii) Passed	29
	(xiii) Withdrawn	3
	(xiv) Negatived	Nil
	(xv) Part-discussed	1
	(xvi) Returned by Rajya Sabha without any recommendation	13
	(xvii) Discussion postponed	Nil
	(xviii) Pending at the end of the Session	31
6.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	178
	(ii) Introduced	27
	(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by Lok Sabha	Nil
	(iv) Returned by Lok Sabha with any amendment and laid on the Table	Nil
	(v) Reported by Joint Committee	Nil

* 8 introduced in the Rajya Sabha and 5 introduced in Lok Sabha

(vi)	Discussed	5
(vii)	Withdrawn	3
(viii)	Passed	Nil
(ix)	Negatived	1
(x)	Circulated for eliciting opinion	Nil
(xi)	Part-discussed	1
(xii)	Discussion postponed	Nil
(xiii)	Motion for circulation of Bill negatived	Nil
(xiv)	Referred to Select Committee	Nil
(xv)	Lapsed due to retirement/death of Member-in-charge of the Bill	Nil
(xvi)	Pending at the end of the Session	201
7.	NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 176 (MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE)	
(i)	Notices received	32
(ii)	Admitted	7 (on three subjects)
(iii)	Discussions held	3
8.	NUMBER OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER RULE 180 (CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE)	
	Statements made by Ministers	6
9.	HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSIONS HELD	3
10.	STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS	
(i)	Notices received	53
(ii)	Admitted	9
(iii)	Moved	7
(iv)	Adopted	2
(v)	Negatived	2
(vi)	Withdrawn	3
11.	GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS	
(i)	Notices received	3
(ii)	Admitted	3
(iii)	Moved	1
(iv)	Adopted	1
12.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS	
(i)	Received	14
(ii)	Admitted	14
(iii)	Discussed	1
(iv)	Withdrawn	Nil
(v)	Negatived	Nil
(vi)	Adopted	1

	(vii) Part discussed	1
	(viii) Discussion postponed	Nil
13.	GOVERNMENT MOTIONS	
	(i) Notices received	1
	(ii) Admitted	1
	(iii) Moved	Nil
	(iv) Adopted	Nil
	(v) Part-discussed	Nil
14.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS	
	(i) Received	47
	(ii) Admitted	46*
	(iii) Moved	Nil
	(iv) Adopted	Nil
	(v) Part-discussed	Nil
	(vi) Negatived	Nil
	(vii) Withdrawn	Nil
15.	MOTIONS REGARDING MODIFICATION OF STATUTORY RULE	
	(i) Received	Nil
	(ii) Admitted	Nil
	(iii) Moved	Nil
	(iv) Adopted	Nil
	(v) Negatived	Nil
	(vi) Withdrawn	Nil
	(vii) Part-discussed	Nil
	(viii) Lapsed	Nil
16.	NUMBER, NAME AND DATE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE CREATED, IF ANY.	Nil
17.	TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED	2791
18.	TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS VISITED	4735
19.	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON ANY SINGLE DAY, AND DATE ON WHICH ISSUED	136 (on 1.6.95)
20.	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PERSONS VISITED ON ANY SINGLE DAY AND DATE ON WHICH VISITED	231 (on 26.4.95)
21.	TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED	
	(i) Starred	837
	(ii) Unstarred	8509
	(ii) Short-Notice Questions	NIL
22.	DISCUSSION ON THE WORKING OF THE MINISTRIES	Nil

* Four notices on two subjects were clubbed together and admitted as two motions. On persistent demand from members, the situation in Char-e-Sharif was discussed in the House on 15/16-5-1995 in the form of a motion.

23. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Name of Committee	No. of meetings held during the period 1 January 1995 to 30 June 1995	No. of Reports presented during the 173rd Session
(i) Business Advisory Committee	8	Nil
(ii) Committee on Subordinate Legislation	6	9
(iii) Committee on Petitions	28	Nil
(iv) Committee of Privileges	1	Nil
(v) Committee on Rules	2	1
(vi) Committee on Government Assurances	6	Nil
(vii) Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	21	Nil

DEPARTMENTALLY-RELATED STANDING COMMITTEES :

(viii) Commerce	24	5
(ix) Home Affairs	15	5
(x) Human Resource Development	24	14
(xi) Industry	15	4
(xii) Science and Technology, Environment and Forests	22	12
(xiii) Transport and Tourism	10	6

24. NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED

LEAVE OF ABSENCE 10

25. PETITIONS PRESENTED Nil

26.. NAME OF NEW MEMBERS SWORN IN WITH DATES

Sl. No.	Name of member sworn in	Date on which sworn in
1	2	3
1.	Shri K. Karunakaran	27.4.1995
2.	Shri Mohan Babu	4.5.1995

27. OBITUARY REFERENCES

Sl. No.	Name	Sitting member/Ex-member
1.	Giani Zail Singh	Former President of India
2.	Shri C. Gopala Krishnamoorthy Reddy	(Ex-member)
3.	Shri Mahabir Prasad Shukla	(Ex-member)
4.	Shri G. Ramachandran	(Ex-member)
5.	Shri Joseph Mathen	(Ex-member)
6.	Shri Tika Ram Paliwal	(Ex-member)
7.	Shri Om Mehta	(Ex-member)
8.	Shri Moturi Satyanaryana	(Ex-member)
9.	Shri Bhupinder Singh	(Ex-member)

0.	Shri Morarji R. Dasai	Former Prime Minister of India
11.	Shri E.K. Imbichibava	(Ex-member)
12.	Shri V.C. Kesava Rao	(Ex-member)
13.	Shri N.R. Muniswamy	(Ex-member)
14.	Shri Kommareddi Suryanarayana	(Ex-member)
15.	Shri Sukhdev Prasad	(Ex-member)
16.	Shri Radheyshyam R. Morarka	(Ex-member)

APPENDIX III

STATEMENT SHOWING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LEGISLATURES OF THE STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD

1 APRIL TO 30 JUNE 1995

Legislature	Duration	Sittings	Govt. Bills	Private Bills	Starred Questions	Unstarred Questions	Short Notice Questions
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
STATES							
Andhra Pradesh L.A.	21.3.95 to 5.5.95	34	4(5)	—	528(96)	140(a)	18
	12.6.95 to 16.6.95						
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.	27.6.95 to 28.6.95	2	1(1)	—	47(35)	81(96)	—
Assam L.A.	15.3.95 to 12.4.95	7	(15)	—	411(334)	144(135)	27(24)
Bihar L.A.	10.4.95 to 20.4.95	31	13(13)	—	4416(2491)	65(1177)	1587(92)
	29.5.95 to 30.5.95						
Bihar L.C.	17.4.95 to 21.4.95	24	(12)	—	1468(1421)	(36)	590(256)
	5.6.95 to 5.7.95						
Delhi L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gujarat L.A.	19.6.95 to 27.7.95	29	10(10)	13	3364(1650)	263(165)b	97(20)
Goa L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Haryana L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.A. Ⓢ	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.A.	20.3.95 19.4.95	21	18(18)	—	175(175)	431(431)	4(4)	—	—	—
Karnataka L.C.	20.3.95 to 20.4.95	20	18(17)	—	75	160	—	—	—	—
Kerala L.A.	17.3.95 to 26.4.95	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	26.6.95 to 30.6.95									
Madhya Pradesh L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manipur L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mizoram L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Orissa L.A.	26.6.95 to still continuing	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Punjab L.A.	—	—	—	—	14(13)	18(14)	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan L.A.	22.3.95 to 5.5.95	26	2(21)	—	2204(793)	1782(1188)	19(2)	—	—	—
Sikkim L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tripura L.A.	10.3.95 to 18.4.95	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Uttar Pradesh L.A.	19.6.95 to 20.6.95	2	—	—	1576(237)(c)	640(507)	220(70)(d)
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
UNION TERRITORIES							
Pondicherry L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Information not received from the State/Union territory Legislatures

** Information received from State Legislatures contained NIL report

⊙ Dissolved since 19.2.90

Notes : (a) Including Starred Questions admitted as Unstarred

(b) Notices received as Starred Question but admitted as Unstarred

(c) 947 Short Notice Questions admitted as Unstarred

(d) 40 Short Notice Questions admitted as Starred and 57 Short Notice Questions admitted as Unstarred

APPENDIX - III (Contd.)
Committees at Work/Number of Sitzings held and number of Reports presented during the period
1 April to 30 June 1995

[illegible]

	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Delhi L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Goa L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gujarat L.A.	7 (3)	—	—	4(4)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haryana L.A.	—	9	—	—	1	6	9	10	9	—	3	10	19	3	—	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A.	—	—	2	—	5	8	—	8	10	—	1	2	12(14)	—	—	17(1) ^d
Jammu & Kashmir L.A. [Ⓢ]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.A.	3	1	1	1	—	9	2	—	4	—	—	1	7	2(1)	—	32(2) ^e
Karnataka L.C.	3	1	1	1	—	9	2	—	4	—	—	1	7	2(1)	—	14 ^f
Kerala L.A.	3(1)	6	4	3(1)	—	6	6(1)	6	7(3)	—	6	2	7	—	—	69(11) ^g
Madhya Pradesh L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.A.	1(1)	1 ^h	2	—	—	7	7	4	10	—	1	1	8	—	—	9 ^h
Maharashtra L.C.	2(2)	15(8)	10(1)	2(2)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manipur L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya L.A.	—	15	2	—	3	7	—	4	6	—	—	2	2	—	—	—
Mizoram L.A. ^{**}	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Orissa L.A.	2	6	—	—	—	8	4	5	9	—	—	4	14	—	—	17 ⁱ
Punjab L.A.	—	3	—	—	1	4	3	5	3	—	—	1	6	—	—	2 ^j
Rajasthan L.A.	—	8	9	—	11(2)	11	8	18	23	—	12	6	12	—	—	31 ^k
Sikkim L.A. [*]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	1	—	9	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tripura L.A.	—	3	2	—	—	2	—	4	1	—	1	—	4	—	—	3 ^l
Uttar Pradesh L.A.	1	6	—	—	—	9	9	12	8	—	—	—	—	1	—	1 ^m

	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
UNION TERRITORIES																
Pondicherry L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Information received from State/Union territory Legislature contained NIL report

--Information not received

\$ Dissolved since 19.2.90

Notes :

(a) Employment Review Committee-1 sitting; Act Implementation Committee-2 sittings; Committee on the Welfare of the Backward Classes and More other Backward Classes-4 sittings

(b) Zila Panchayat and Zila Parishad-3 sittings; Question and Call Attention-3 sittings

(c) Question and Call Attention Committee-20 sittings and 3 reports; Nivedan Committee -10 sittings and 2 reports; Implementation Committee-9 sittings; Committee on District Board and Panchayati Raj-16 sittings

(d) Education Committee-3 sittings; Papers Laid Committee-2 sittings; Tourism Committee-3 sittings; Revenue Committee-3 sittings; General Administration Committee-2 sittings; Health Committee-2 sittings and 1 report; Forest Committee-2 sittings

(e) Subject Committee on Information, Tourism & Youth Services and Development of Karnataka & Culture-7 sittings; Subject Connection P.W.D. and Irrigation Department-7 sittings; Subject Committee on Finance, Institutional Finance, Statistics, Planning, Science & Technology Department-7 sittings; Subject Committee on Forest, Environment and Ecology Department-5 sittings and 1 report; Subject Committee on Revenue Department-5 sittings and 1 report; Backward Classes Welfare Committee-1 sitting

(f) Housing & Urban Development-7 sittings; Energy-7 sittings

(g) Committee on the Welfare of Women and Children-6 sittings; Committee on Environment-6 sittings; Committee on the Welfare of Backward Class Communities-6 sittings; Committee on Papers laid-2 sittings; Subject Committee-I-5 sittings and 1 report; Subject Committee-II-3 sittings and 1 report; Subject Committee-III-7 sittings and 1 report; Subject Committee-IV-4 sittings and 1 report; Subject Committee-V-8 sittings and 1 report; Subject Committee-VII-3 sittings and 1 report; Subject Committee-VIII-4 sittings and 1 report; Subject Committee-IX-4 sittings and 1 report; Subject Committee-X-5 sittings and 1 report

(h) Panchayati Raj Committee-1 sitting; Employment Guarantee Committee-5 sittings; Catering Committee-1 sitting; Committee on Leave of Absence from sittings of the House (Council)-2 sittings

- (i) Members Amenities Committee-6 sittings; Womens Welfare Committee-3 sittings; Environment Committee-3 sittings; Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-5 sittings
- (j) Committee on Papers Laid to be Laid-2 sittings
- (k) Rules Sub Committee-7 sittings; Women and Child Committee-10 sittings; Question and Reference Committee-14 sittings
- (l) Scheduled Castes Committee-1 sitting; Absence of Members from the sittings of the Assembly-2 sittings
- (m) Parliamentary Research, Reference and Studies Committee-1 sitting

APPENDIX IV

**LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT
AND ASSENTED TO BY THE PRESIDENT DURING THE
PERIOD 1 APRIL TO 30 JUNE 1995**

Sl. No.	Title of the Bill	Date of assent by the President
1	2	3
1.	The Cotton Transport Repeal Bill, 1995	11.5.1995
2.	The Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Bill, 1995	17.5.1995
3.	The Appropriation (Railways) No.3 Bill, 1995	17.5.1995
4.	The Finance Bill, 1995	26.5.1995
5.	The Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1995	26.5.1995
6.	The Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 1995	26.5.1995
7.	The Assam University (Amendment) Bill, 1995	11.6.1995
8.	The National Highways (Amendment) Bill, 1995	16.6.1995
9.	*The Constitution (Seventy-seventh) Amendment Bill, 1995	17.6.1995
10.	The National Environment Tribunal Bill, 1995	17.6.1995

* The above Bill was introduced as the Constitution (Eighty-sixth) Amendment Bill, 1995. The Short Title of the Bill was changed by Lok Sabha through an amendment clause 1.

APPENDIX V**LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURES OF
STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD
1 APRIL TO 30 JUNE 1995****ANDHRA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

1. The A.P. Mandala Nyaya Panchayats Bill, 1995
2. The A.P. Survey and Boundaries (Amendment) Bill, 1995
3. The A.P. Panchayat Raj Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1995
4. The A.P. Entertainments Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1995
5. The A.P. Educational Institutions Grant-in-Aid (Regulation) Supplementary Provision Bill, 1995

ARUNACHAL PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Arunachal Pradesh Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1995

BIHAR VIDHAN SABHA

1. The Bihar Appropriation Bill, 1995
2. The Bihar Excise (Amendment and Law Validation) Bill, 1995
3. The Nalanda Open University Bill, 1995
4. The Bihar Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1995
5. The Bihar University (Amendment) Bill, 1995
6. The Patna University (Amendment) Bill, 1995
7. The Bihar Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Bill, 1995
8. The Bihar Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1995
9. The Bihar Motor Vehicle Taxation Bill, 1995
10. The Bihar Ministers' Salaries and Allowances Bill, 1995
11. The Bihar Legislature Officers' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1995
12. The Bihar Joint Entrance Competition Examination Bill, 1995
13. The Reservation in Vacancies for Bihar Posts and Services of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes (Amendment) Bill, 1995

BIHAR VIDHAN PARISHAD

1. The Nalanda Open University (Amendment) Bill, 1995
2. The Bihar State University (Amendment) Bill, 1995
3. The Bihar Excise (Amendment and Law Validation) Bill, 1995
4. The Bihar Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Bill, 1995
5. The Patna University (Amendment) Bill, 1995
6. The Bihar Ministers' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1995
7. The Bihar Joint Entrance Competition Examination Bill, 1995

8. The Bihar Appropriation Bill, 1995
9. The Reservation in Vacancies for Bihar Posts and Services of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes (Amendment) Bill, 1995
10. The Bihar Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1995
11. The Bihar Legislature Officers' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1995
12. The Bihar Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1995

GUJARAT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Gujarat Tribal Development Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 1995
2. The Bombay Land Revenue (Gujarat Amendment) Bill, 1995
3. The Gujarat Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 1995
4. The Gujarat Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1995
5. The Bombay Land Revenue (Gujarat Second Amendment) Bill, 1995
6. The Gujarat Appropriation Bill, 1995
7. The Gujarat Entertainments Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1995
8. The Bombay Court Fees (Gujarat Amendment) Bill, 1995
9. The Bombay Motor Vehicle Tax (Gujarat Amendment) Bill, 1995
10. The Gujarat Tax on Luxury Commodities Bill, 1995

KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Karnataka State Commission for Women Bill, 1995
2. The Karnataka Stamp (Amendment) Bill, 1995
- *3. The Karnataka Appropriation Bill, 1995
- *4. The Karnataka Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1995
- *5. The Karnataka Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1995
- *6. The Karnataka Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1995
- *7. The Karnataka Electricity Supply Undertakings (Acquisition) (Amendment) Bill, 1995
- *8. The Karnataka Panchayat Raj Amendment Bill, 1995
- *9. The Karnataka Local Authorities (Prohibition of Defection) (Amendment) Bill, 1995
- *10. The Karnataka Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) (Amendment) Bill, 1995
11. The Code of Civil Procedures (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 1995
- *12. The Karnataka Legal Aid Board (Amendment) Bill, 1995
13. The Karnataka Legislature Salaries Pensions & Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1995
- *14. The Karnataka Secondary Examination Board (Amendment) Bill, 1995
15. The Karnataka Stamp (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995
16. The Karnataka Lokayukta (Amendment) Bill, 1995
17. The Karnataka Irrigation (Levy of Betterment Contribution and Water Rate) (Amendment) Bill, 1995
- *18. The Karnataka Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 1995

* Awaiting assent

APPENDIX VI

ORDINANCES PROMULGATED BY THE UNION AND STATE GOVERNMENTS DURING THE PERIOD

1 APRIL TO 30 JUNE 1995

Sl. No.	Title of Ordinance	Date of promulgation	Date(s) on which laid before the House	Date of Cessation	Remarks
UNION GOVERNMENT					
1.	The Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Ordinance, 1995	27.6.1995	—	11.9.95	—
2.	The Stick Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Amendment Ordinance, 1995	-do-	—	11.9.95	—
STATE GOVERNMENTS					
ANDHRA PRADESH					
1.	The A.P. Panchayati Raj Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	25.5.95	—	Replaced by Legislation	—
ASSAM					
1.	The Guwahati Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	21.04.95	—	—	—
BIHAR					
1.	Bihar Minister's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	17.5.95	—	29.5.95	—
2.	Bihar Legislature Officers Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	17.5.95	—	29.5.95	—

3.	Bihar Excise (Amendment and Law Validation) (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	23.5.95	—	—	29.5.95	—
4.	Bihar Taxation Law (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1995	23.5.95	—	—	29.5.95	—
5.	Nalanda Open University (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1995	24.5.95	—	—	29.5.95	—
6.	Patna University (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1995	-do-	—	—	-do-	—
7.	Bihar State University (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1995	-do-	—	—	-do-	—
8.	Reservation in Vacancies for Bihar Posts and Services of Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1995	-do-	—	—	-do-	—
KARNATAKA						
1.	The Karnataka Regularisation and Constructions in Urban Areas (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	3.6.95	—	—	—	—
2.	The Karnataka Local Authorities (Prohibition of Defection) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	5.6.95	—	—	—	—
3.	The Karnataka Land Revenue (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	5.6.95	—	—	—	—
KERALA						
1.	The Travancore-Cochin Religious Institutions (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	27.4.95	—	—	28.6.95	—
2.	The Kerala Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	27.4.95	—	—	28.6.95	—

Sl. No.	Subject	Date of promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of cessation	Remarks
3.	The Kerala Municipalities (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	-do-	-do-	—	—
4.	The Kerala Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	29.4.95	—	-do-	—
5.	The Kerala General Sales Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	18.5.95	—	-do-	—
6.	The Kerala Beedi and Cigar Workers Welfare Ordinance, 1995,	5.6.95	—	-do-	—
7.	The Abkari (Amendment) Ordinance 1995	7.6.95	—	-do-	—
8.	The University Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	12.6.95	—	-do-	—
ORISSA					
1.	The Orissa Additional Sales Tax Ordinance, 1995	27.5.95	—	—	—
2.	The Orissa Sales Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	5.6.95	—	—	—
UTTAR PRADESH					
1.	The U.P. Panchayat Laws (Second) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	1.4.95	19.6.95	25.8.95	—
2.	The U.P. Sugar Cane Purchase Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	21.4.95	-do-	-do-	—
3.	The U.P. Entertainments and Betting Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	27.4.95	-do-	-do-	—

Sl. No.	Subject	Date of promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of cessation	Remarks
4.	The U.P. Unauthorised Lottery (Prevention) Ordinance, 1995	28.4.95	-do-	-do-	—
5.	The U.P. Health Workers and Health Supervisors (Regulation of Law) Ordinance, 1995	1.5.95	-do-	-do-	—
6.	The U.P. Industrial Area Development (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	15.5.95	-do-	-do-	—
7.	The U.P. Panchayat Laws (Third Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	20.5.95	-do-	-do-	—
8.	The U.P. State Council for Higher Education Ordinance, 1995	25.5.95	-do-	-do-	—
9.	The U.P. Urban Local Self Government Laws (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	30.5.95	-do-	-do-	—

APPENDIX VII
A. PARTY POSITION IN LOK SABHA
 (As on 27.4.95)

Sl. No.	State/ Union Territory	Seats	Cong. (I)	BJP	CPI(M)	JD	CPI	SAMATA	AIADMK	JD(A)	TDP	OTHERS	IND./ Nominated	Total Vacancies
(I) STATES														
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42	30	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	7	1 (a)	—	41
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
3.	Assam	14	8	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 (b)	1	14
4.	Bihar	54	2	5	1	17	8	9	—	4	—	6 (c)	2	54
5.	Goa	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
6.	Gujarat	26	6	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26
7.	Haryana	10	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10.	Karnataka	28	23	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27
11.	Kerala	20	12	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 (d)	—	20
12.	Madhya Pradesh	40	26	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (e)	—	39
13.	Maharashtra	48	39	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 (f)	—	47
14.	Manipur	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (g)	—	2
15.	Meghalaya	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
16.	Mizoram	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
17.	Nagaland	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
18.	Orissa	21	13	—	1	2	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	20
19.	Punjab	13	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (h)	—	13

20. Rajasthan	25	13	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	—
21. Sikkim	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
22. Tamil Nadu	39	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	38	1	—
23. Tripura	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
24. Uttar Pradesh	85	14	51	—	4	1	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	83	2	—
25. West Bengal	42	5	—	27	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	—	—
UNION TERRITORIES																			
26. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
27. Chandigarh	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
28. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
29. Daman and Diu	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
30. Delhi	7	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	—
31. Lakshadweep	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
32. Pondicherry	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
33. Nominated	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—
TOTAL	545	259@	117	36	23	14	14	14	12	10*	07	31	5	528	17	—	—	—	—

*Includes 7 members sitting separately consequent on receipt of intimation from them

@Including H.S.

- a) All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen-1
- b) Autonomous State Demand Committee-1; Asom Gana Parishad-I
- c) Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-6
- d) Indian Congress (Socialist)-1; Muslim League-2; Kerala Cong (M)-1
- e) Bahujan Samaj Party-I

- f) Shiv Sena - 2
- g) Manipur People's Party - 1
- h) Bahujan Samaj Party - 1
- i) Siddim Sangram Parishad - 1
- j) Janata Party - 1 ; Samejwadi Party - 3 ; Bahujan Samaj Party - 1
- k) All India Forward Bloc - 3 ; Revolutionary Socialist Party - 4

**B. PARTY POSITION IN RAJYA SABHA
(AS ON 1 JULY 1995)**

Sl.No.	State/Union Territories	Seats	Cong. (I)	Janata Dal	CPI (M)	BJP	Janata Dal (S)	Others	Unatt-ached	Total	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
STATES											
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18	11	1	—	—	—	5(a)	1	18	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
3.	Assam	7	4	—	—	—	—	2(b)	1	7	—
4.	Bihar	22	5	10	—	3	1	3 (c)	—	22	—
5.	Goa	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
6.	Gujarat	11	4	1	—	5	—	—	1	11	—
7.	Haryana	5	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	5	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
10.	Karnataka	12	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—
11.	Kerala	9	3	—	3	—	—	2 (d)	—	8	1
12.	Madhya Pradesh	16	6	—	—	10	—	—	—	16	—
13.	Maharashtra	19	13	1	—	3	—	1 (e)	1	19	—
14.	Manipur	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
15.	Meghalaya	1	—	—	—	—	—	1 (f)	—	1	—
16.	Mizoram	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
17.	Nagaland	1	—	—	—	—	—	1 (g)	—	1	—
18.	Orissa	10	—	9	—	—	—	1 (h)	—	10	—
19.	Punjab	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
20.	Rajasthan	10	3	1	—	5	—	—	1	10	—
21.	Sikkim	1	—	—	—	—	—	1 (i)	—	1	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	18	2	—	1	—	—	14 (j)	1	18	—
23.	Tripura	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	34	5	4	—	13	3	7 (k)	2	34	—
25.	West Bengal	16	1	—	10	—	—	5 (l)	—	16	—
UNION TERRITORIES											
	Delhi	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3	—
	Pondicherry	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	Nominated	12	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	8	4
TOTAL		245	89	28	14	45	5	43	12	236	9

(a) Telugu Desam I - 3; C.P.I. - 1; Telugu Desam II - 1

(b) Asom Gana Parishad - 2

(c) C.P.I. - 3

(d) M.L. - 2

(e) Shiv Sena - 1

(f) H.S.P.D.P. - 1

(g) Nagaland People's Council - 1

(h) Rashtriya Janata Dal - 1

(i) Sikkim Sangram Parishad - 1

(j) AIADMK - 6; D.M.K. - 8

(k) Samajwadi Party - 5; Bahujan Samaj Party - 1;

Rashtriya Janata Dal - 1

(l) R.S.P. - 1; CPI - 1; F.B. - 2; Rashtriya Janata Dal - 1

C. PARTY POSITION IN STATE LEGISLATURES
(as on 1.7.1995)

State/Union territory	Seats	Cong (I)	Janata Dal	Lok Dal	BJP	CPI (M)	CPI	Other Parties	Ind.	Total	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Andhra Pradesh L.A.	295	26	—	—	3	15	19	225*	5	293*	1
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.	60	43	3	—	—	—	—	2 ^b	12	60	—
Assam L.A.	126	66	1	—	10	2	4	29 ^c	14	126	—
Bihar L.A.	325	29	164	—	41	6	26	43 ^d	12	321*	3
Bihar L.C.	96	20	19	—	05	02	06	03*	02	57	39
Delhi L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Goa L.A.	40	22	—	—	4	—	—	11 ^f	3	40	—
Gujarat L.A.	182	45	—	—	121	—	—	—	16	182	—
Haryana L.A.	90	54	—	—	01	—	—	29 ^g	05	89*	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A.	68	53	—	—	07	01	—	—	07	68	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.A.®	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.	36	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 ^h	—	1	35
Karnataka L.A.	225	36	114	—	40	1	—	17 ⁱ	16	224*	—
Karnataka L.C.	75	23	10	—	8	—	—	—	7	48*	26
Kerala L.A.	141	55	2	—	—	—	12	38 ^j	04	138*	3
Madhya Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.A.	289	80	11	—	65	3	—	84 ^k	45	288	1
Maharashtra L.C.	78	45	1	—	08	01	—	10 ^l	10	77	1
Manipur L.A.	60	21	3	—	1	—	2	29 ^m	3	59	1
Meghalaya L.A.	60	—	—	—	—	—	—	58 ⁿ	—	58*	1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mizoram L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland L.A.	60	43	—	—	—	—	—	10 ^a	5	60	—
Orissa L.A.	147	79	46	—	—	—	1	14 ^b	6	146	1
Punjab L.A.	117	89	1	—	4	1	4	12 ^a	5	116	1
Rajasthan L.A.	200	76	3	—	99	1	—	—	21	200	—
Sikkim L.A.	32	2	—	—	—	—	—	29 ^c	1	32	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.	235	61	—	—	—	1	1	170 ^a	1	234 ^a	—
Tripura L.A.	60	10	1	—	—	44	—	5 ^c	—	60	—
Uttar Pradesh L.A.	426	29	4	—	177	1	1	205 ^c	8	425	1
Uttar Pradesh L.C.	108	32	04	—	19	—	—	42 ^c	1	105	3
West Bengal L.A.	295	42	1	—	—	190	6	94 ^w	1	292	3
UNION TERRITORIES											
Pondicherry L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Excluding Speaker

** Information not received from State Legislature

● Dissolved since 19.2.90

(a) Telugu Desam Party-215; Majlis Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen-1; Democratic Peoples Front-7

(b) Janata Party-2

(c) Asom Gana Parishad-25; Autonomous State Demand Committee-4

(d) Communist Party (Mala)-6; JMM (Soren)-16; JMM (Marandi Group)-3; Samta Party-6; Bahujan Samajwadi Party-2; M.C.C.-2; Socialist Party-2; Jharkhand People's Party-2; Bihar Peoples Party-1; Jharkhand Party (Horo)-1; Champaran Vikas Party-1; Nomintaeed-1

(e) JMM-1; MCP-1; Unattahced-1

(f) Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party-8; United Goan Democratic Party-3

(g) Janata Party-17; Haryana Vikas Party-7; Bahujan Samaj Party-1; Unattahced-4

(h) National Conference-1

- (i) Karnataka Congress Party-10; Kannada Chaluvaly Vatal Paksha-1; Karnataka Rajya Raittha Sangha Party-1; AIADMK-1; Bahujan Samaj Party-1; Bharatiya Republican Paksha-1; Indian National League-1; Nominated-1
- (j) Muslim League-17; Kerala Congress(M)-6; Kerala Congress(J)-4; Indian Congress(Socialist)-3; N. D. P.-2; Kerala Congress (B) 2; R. S. P.-2; Kerala Congress-1; CMP-1
- (k) Shiv Sena-73; Peasants and Workers Party-6; Samajwadi Party-3; Maharashtra Vikas Congress-1; Nagvadarbha Andolan Samiti-1
- (l) Peasants and Workers Party-1; Shiv Sena-5; Republican Party of India-2; Unattached-2
- (m) Manipur Peoples Party-18; Samata Party-2; National Peoples Party-2; Indian National Congress-(S)-1; Federal-2; Progressive Janata Dal-4
- (n) U.M.P.F.-38; H.P.U.-10; H.S.P.D.P.-4; P.D.I.C.-1; Unattached-5
- (o) N.P.C.-10
- (p) Bhartiya Janata Dal-9; Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-4; Jharkhand Peoples Party-1
- (q) Bahujan Samaj Party-9; Shriomani Akali Dal (Kabul)-3
- (r) Sikkim Democratic Front-19; Sikkim Sangram Parishad-4; Unattached-6
- (s) AIADMK-161; DMK(I)-1; Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam-1; MGR Anna DMK-1; Unattached-5; Nominated-1
- (t) Forward Bloc-7; R.S.P.-2; T.H.P.-1; T.U.J.S.-1
- (u) Samajwadi Party-127; Bahujan Samaj Party-59; Bahujan Samaj Party (Raj Bahadur)-10; Uttarakhand Kranti Dal-1; Nominated-1; Unattached-7
- (v) Samajwadi Party-28; Janata Party-4; Bahujan Samaj Party-2; Shikshyak Dal (Non-Political)-8
- (w) All India Forward Bloc-27; Revolutionary Socialist Party-17; Democratic Socialist Party-1; Forward Bloc-1; Revolutionary Communist Party of India-1; Socialist Unity Centre of India-2; Jharkhand Party-1; Unattached-1; Nominated-1

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