

of Home Affairs should clear the situation and he should take the House in confidence as to what extent the propaganda in this regard is right or wrong.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: I connect myself with the issues raised by hon. Leader of Opposition, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. He was Governor to the State I belong to. The whole State discussed the issue and all the members of his family died in an unfortunate air crash. Elections were held in Punjab under his Governorship. He was considered an outstanding executive Governor and Administrator. But later on some reports were published which were not contradicted on behalf of the Home Minister and Chief Minister of the State. It has given several serious questions in the minds of the people because the whole country knows that he had deep and cordial relations with the hon. Home Minister. 'Hindustan Times', 'Tribune' and Varnakular news papers has published news items that during his visit Minister of Home Affairs had brought an important file with him. People came to know about the property through the persons who collected it from the Governor's house because his son reached there late. The whole secretariat discussed the huge treasure of precious gems and jewellery alongwith crores of notes of Rs. 500 denomination recovered. Now the God alone knows the truth in it but no denial came regarding this. It is really a serious matter that it had been said that a part of this money and funds from Home Minister's Discretionary Fund been used for secessionists activities in Pubjab and for creating conflicts among political parties.

[English]

The hon. Governor is no more. One should not talk about people who exist no more. But because.

[Translation]

It is a very serious matter. He withdraw Rs. 50 lakh which was used to gain political ends. The whole country and Punjab would like to know about it. In Punjab these views are in the air that along with the terrorists, some governmental agencies were also involved in secessionist activities and perpetrating atrocities against the common man. It is really something very serious. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee has raised this issue. After the Governor's death a committee was constituted to set up a Fund. A committee was set up for it. His son has given a statement before the committee that none has contributed even a single pie in that memorial Fund and he himself came from Jammu and deposited Rs. 5000 in it.

[English]

Niether the State Government, nor the Indian Government has deposited a single rupee in that account. We would like to know from the hon. Minister what is truth, what are the facts.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the news about the death of the former Governor, Shri Surendra Nath, reached me when I was at Nanded. A special plane was sent by the Prime Minister and he wanted me to go and attend the funeral. From there I went to Bidar and from Bidar I could go straight to Chandigarh.

In about half-an-hour or so I was in the Raj Bhawan to lay the wreath on my behalf and on behalf of the Prime Minister. Thereafter I was at the cremation ground for almost three hours. After coming back, I did not go to that Raj Bhawan. I went to the other Raj Bhawan, Haryana Raj Bhawan, and from there I had come back.

It is true that I have had good relations not only with him but with all the Governors in the country. So, if that becomes a disqualification for the Governor, for which some people are saying unnecessarily after his death, this is very unfortunate that this kind of an issue should have been raised after his death, when all his family members were not there. Thereafter I had an occasion to request the Governor to make full enquiry. He came and told me and I had also thereafter gone to Chandigarh in some other connection. I had made personal enquiries also with the A.D.C. who, in fact, was with him. After the death, all his rooms were locked. There was no one available in the family. There was only one son who came and joined later on before the funeral.

After full enquiry I can say, without any fear of contradiction, that there is no truth in the statements which have been coming in all the papers. The only thing which was found in the entire information which was given to me was about Rs. 70,000 of which some might be from the Government. I would not exactly remember how much of—it is Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 30,000 that was found in the chest of the Governor—and the others were his personal belongings—usual kind of jewellery and other amounts that have been found. Besides this, I do not think, there was any other thing which possibly can lead to this kind of an inference that hundreds of crores of rupees were found and Rs. 500 notes, as the hon. Member is saying, were found. If it is within this amount, certainly I cannot say anything.

But to say that something substantial has been found there is without any basis. I have made personal enquiries. I am fully satisfied that there is nothing of the type. And that is why, I would like to take the House into confidence and say that making enquiries, I am giving this kind of a statement here which, in fact should satisfy the House....(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Let us go to the business on the Agenda so that we have enough time for other things.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to take one minutes regarding identity cards ... (Interruptions) The issue of identity cards is most important. My submission to you is that we have given notice in this respect... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, the Member wants you to listen to what he is saying.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, both the House and the Government are aware of the fact that 15th January has been fixed for issuing identity cards all over the country and particularly Bihar. Through you I

would like to urge upon the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister that the Election Commission has told that there would be no elections in those States where the identity cards would be not issued by 15th January, Almost a unanimous decision was taken in the Conference of the Chief Ministers before the hon. Prime Minister. It is a fact that the identity card must be there but these should be issued in a phased manner. When we took part in the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Home Ministry, all these things were decided unanimously.

The function of the Election Commission is to hold elections. Its function is not to withhold the election. As far as we know, this issue had come up at that time when hon. Chandrasekhar ji was the Prime Minister, it was made clear regarding Punjab that the Election Commission should fix a date for election. The notification of election is issued by the President whether the election will be conducted or not. The Election Commission only fixes the date but it seem that in this case, the Election Commission is crossing its limits and arguing whether the elections will be conducted or not.

My submission to you is that none can be deprived of the right to vote. It is a unanimous decision and the recommendations of the meeting of the Standing Committee, which was held during inter-session have been sent to you. You have said that you will try to get these implemented. We would like to urge upon you to fix a date for discussion on it in this session and a unanimous decision should be taken in this respect otherwise a grave constitutional crisis will come up.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you, I would like to say something regarding the situation in Uttrakhand during the last 5-6 months. *(Interruptions)*. Paswanji, please take your seat, let me speak please. You have just concluded your speech. Many things have taken place before it.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: We will support you on that.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: In what way will you support, you are not even allowing me to speak. You have concluded your speech even then you want to speak time and again. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, he should respond.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, we remember that the Government had come out with a Constitutional Amendment Bill and we had been supporting the Government. Now, the Government's views are well known and well declared. Therefore, on this matter, why should there be any further delay? Please come with its today. We have cooperate with you in every way. This is a matter which cannot be kept pending for one person's decision. The Government must arrest itself and come here. We are going to help you.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Please do that *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Please listen me. I have to say a very important thing.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government two things and request you to take a decision on it. The First thing is about the formation of a separate state, it is an old standing demand. I urge upon the Government that it is averting it deliberately you have said that the State Government should propose for a separate state. The proposal came on 12th August, 1991. Three and half years have passed. After that we have been continuously demanding and Government has been saying that it is being enquired into. Give its justification to us. The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs said after seven or eight hours debate that the President's Rule is there, soon as the elected Government's recommendation comes, we will take a decision on it. Now the second Government has come to power there. It has also send the proposal. Even now, why are you keeping mum? What is the meaning of dilly-dallying? There has been no Government for five and half months. People are struggling there. They are being exploited. You are being exploited. You are very much aware of the Muzaffarnagar incident. Firing is going on regularly there. On 15th December women were lathi-charged at Deharadun. The pregnant women were hit at their abdomens. Why do you nottake a decision? If you do not want to give them a separate state say so here. Please tell us why are you keeping mum? For how long they will be lathicharged or fired at.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the time is limited. I have too many things to speak. You gave me an opportunity to speaker. Thank you for that. There is no administration for the last 5 months. The employees are not getting their salaries, the ex-servicemen are not getting their pensions and the schools and colleges are lying closed. What is this? Lathis are charged, firing is doen and the atrocities are committed daily. How long will you keep mum? You are giving support to the Mulayam Singh Government. Whom will you talk with? Are you not ready for talk? The employees there, are starving. Both, your Government and the Mulayam Singh Government has closed the P.D.S. Shops there. Sugar is sold at 35 rupees per kilogram and the sugar containing insects is being sold at rupees 40 per kilogram. How long will it go on? The people do not have kerosene oil to light the lamups during winter. Do something immediately, in this regard. We can not tolerate this torture. Please do something in this regard and give a statement here.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is nothing in the name of Government for the last five months.

The entire administration has become paralysed and there is no one even to talk to.

[Translation]

Employees have not got their salaries for the last 3-4 months and a crists has been arisen there even then. The Central Government is unconcerned. It is not proper. What