

[Sh. Suraj Mandal]

Mehra will not get political patronage. Instead of giving patronage to these brokers, the Government should certainly bear the entire election expenditure. The candidate should only file the nomination papers. He should be provided Government vehicle for election campaigning. The Government should conduct meetings and speeches should be given on one platform, only then electoral reforms can be brought. But this Government has been unsuccessful in all these things. We are a small party, but are talking about big things.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are talking about IMF today. On the pretext of business, the multinationals are coming to our country. Our country is not fit in this regard and so we will oppose this policy. Before that, we have to control our population, otherwise the number of unemployed persons in our country will increase....

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude at the earliest.

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL : I will conclude within two minutes. All speak about communalism today. The Babri Masjid was demolished on 6th of December but whoever comes to the power, does not want to solve the problem in his time. All this is done for political advantage. Eight days ago, the Central Government had forwarded a Bill to the State Government which has caused a lot of hue and cry in the Assembly there and Shri Laloo Yadav had said that this Bill cannot be passed in any situation. The Congress leader Shri Jagannath Misra and Shri Laloo Yadav are fighting over the issue. There are reserves of coal and iron in the Jharkhand area, but Shri Sharad Yadav was sailing to our Members that...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your point. You have to conclude now.

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL: How may Jharkhandis are getting employment today?

They are so poor that they cannot even afford to have more than one dhoti and one sari when such things are present in this country, a No Confidence Motion has no importance. The Jharkhand issue is very important today and therefore, the hon. Prime Minister should assure us that the Jharkhand problem will be solved. Then we are ready to directly support him.

[English]

**THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO)**: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members who have taken part in this debate. Perhaps this is the third or fourth <sup>or</sup> confidence motion coming before this House. I do not see any difference between one motion and another. This time perhaps one has to look for a few needles in a big haystack. It has been quite a task to do that but I will try to take up those needles and answer the questions raised, at least those of them which are genuine, which need an answer.

Sir, evidently, the mover of the motion only repeated what the CPI(M), the Left parties have been saying. All the time, during the last two years they have had <sup>nothing</sup> else to add, nothing to subtract, <sup>except</sup> when it comes to practicality. They are very practical people. When it comes to industrialization in a particular State, the rhetoric changes. Coming to Lok Sabha again there is something totally different. I will not blame them, I will not criticise them. I am only bringing to the House a few facts which have come to my notice, may be after some time both rhetorics will coincide. We will have to wait for that day but until then perhaps we will have to live with both.

<sup>started</sup>  
Sir, when we ~~started~~ liberalisation, everyone thought this is going to throw thousands and lakhs of people out of employment. There is going to be total unemployment in this country and what is called hire and fire will become the order of the day. This was at the back of their minds. I do not again blame them because this has happened in many other countries where

liberalisation without any stops was introduced. This has not happened in this country. I have been saying time and again in this House and the other House, everywhere, that liberalisation here has a human face. Whenever there is a human problem we solve that problem, we take every step to solve that problem and we are not really enamored of liberalisation for the sake of liberalisation. It is for a certain objective.

Sir, all our policies during the last two years have had to follow two tracks. One is liberalisation because that has become necessary, because Indian economy has to integrate itself with world economy. We cannot be an island completely isolated from the world

Therefore that integration with world economy needs liberalisation, needs a lot of changes that we had to bring about within records time because not a big piecemeal would do, nothing by degrees would do, nothing by dribbles would do. Therefore we have to go in a big way, on the path of liberalisation. At the same time, we have seen to it that the ill-effects of liberalisation that could be anticipated in advance were forestalled and effectively forestalled. A sudden jump of three times 300 per cent in rural development, the outlays on rural development going up to Rs.30,000 crore in the Eighth Five Year Plan, which perhaps would have been normally reached in the Tenth Five Year Plan, is a case in point. Why was it done? It was done simply because in the programme of liberalisation, there is always the possibility of people being thrown out of employment and that should not happen.

Today if I may so with certain amount of pride, the Ministry of Rural Development is the only Ministry in the Government of India, which can spare some money for the poor. No other Ministry can do it because all the other Ministers are always clamoring for more money. Their programmes are already saturated. Their money is very little or at least insufficient in regards to the needs of what they have undertaken. In the Rural Development programme. I am glad to

say, they have had some cushion built into the programme so that the people of the villages in the rural areas do not suffer and they are able to remain where they are. The programmes like the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana are getting much more money since this year. And then this will be the first shield against unemployment, against urbanisation, against people leaving their hearths and homes going to big cities in search of employment.

About health, the step up is 60 per cent in the outlay; 37.6 per cent in education; 29.6 per cent in agriculture. Therefore, you have the activity expanding all the time and this is the only way of ensuring employment, optimum employment, in these areas. Everyone knows that these areas are employment intensive. Now this has been the two-track thing. This money in the normal liberalisation programme of the capitalist kind would have been expected to trickle down from above to the bottom. We do not believe in that. We have not done anything which betrays a belief in that trickle down theory. We have said, while liberalisation is taking place, while industrialisation is taking place, and at the macro level industrialisation has to take place there is no theory way and it has to be through other than 'trickle' means, other than the public sector, and along with the public sector if necessary. You have to see that a by-pass model is created. You send money strength to the people, not through the trickle down but straight to the people. This is the model we have undertaken. I am not sure this model is available in any other country. This is a totally pragmatic kind of model so far as we have devised it in this country depending entirely on our own circumstances. How well it is functioning, what more is needed to make it function better - all these things I am open to suggestions, to criticism on these points.

19.00hrs.

But the model itself is something which needs to be looked at and needs to be properly understood in the context in which it has been devised. (*Interruptions*)

[Sh. P. V. Narasimha Rao]

Sir, we have had a record production of 180.3 million tonnes of foodgrains this year. How was it possible? if the village area, if the rural area had not been galvanised, if the farmer had not been galvanised, if he had not been given something which he considers worthwhile from his won economic point of view, this would not have been possible. I can just cite three or four areas. In paddy in 1989-90 the price was Rs. 185 per cent quintal. Today it is Rs. 310. The support price of coarse cereal has gone up from Rs. 165 to Rs. 260 and that of moong food from Rs. 425 to Rs. 700. These are the jumps that the farmer has got and still inflation has not gone up.

There was a great belief that whenever you raise prices of agricultural commodities by two or three rupees, there will be so much of inflation that it will just break all records. This has not happened. The inflation from a 16.8 per cent or 17 per cent when this Government took over in 1991 has now come down to 5.4 per cent

SOME HON. MEMBERS: It is rate of inflation.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: It is the rate of inflation. It is the same thing whatever they understand by it—whatever was 17 per cent in 1991 become 5 per cent today. That should be understood.

In some other countries really developing countries, the rate of inflation is something which is unimaginable. You cannot get the same thing for the same price in the evenings it was available in the morning or the afternoon. This galloping rate of inflation has been brought effectively under control and, I think, the Indian farmer, the Indian people, the Government all have to be congratulated for this achievement.

There is unprecedented breakthrough in oilseeds. We were spending about Rs. 2,500

crores—I do not know exactly the figure, but it is in that neighbourhood—on the import of edible oil alone. Today we do not have to import a single drop of edible oil. This again is the achievement of the Indian farmer. Today he is threatening to do even more than this. They have started on oil Palm cultivation and we do not know what to do with the enthusiasm of the farmer because he is coming in a big way and we are afraid in fact I am afraid—that this increase in oilseeds production may cut into foodgrains production. It is possible.

Sir, even now we have to think of re-planning our crop patterns in such a way that after five years or ten years before we know what is happening we do not become deficit in food. This has happened in many other countries. They get food from other countries. But they grow so many cash crops in their own countries and they say that it is worth it because we are getting more on agriculture. So that kind of a thing should not happen to a country with 880 million people because no other country will be to feed us if we go down in the production of foodgrains.

The new Agricultural Policy which we have adopted is not a traditional policy. It is not following the line which agriculture has been following in this country either as subsistence agriculture or agriculture meant for a particular section of society.

This agriculture is much more—what was happening plus something much more.

The objectives are, to step up support to infrastructure development, build an economic climate for farmers' investment and efforts through a favorable price and trade regime in agricultural products. It is no longer the agriculture of five years ago or ten years ago where keeping prices down was considered an end in itself and keeping the farmer only in a marginal sense, just keeping his body and soul together was considered to be a very high achievement in economic planning. Sectors like research,

irrigation, power, transport, roads, market, storage and processing will receive priority. Infrastructural support to rain-fed agriculture has become one of the weakest spots, but now we are really improving this. In ICRISAT In Hyderabad and in other places where reserach is going on, I have seen myself, Sir, that the whole outlook of dry land farming is being transformed. This is a very good augury for the country and after five years we will see that we would have made so much progress in dry land agriculture that perhaps it would be surprising to ourselves.

Generating value added exportable surpluses is also one of the most important things. Farmers in this country are taking full advantage of it expect that it is not as highly developed as it should be, and I think in the years to come we are going to develop it.

The cooperative movement would be freed from State control and supported on the strength of their being truly cooperative ventures. However, Government would continue to provide financial and extension support to cooperates in areas where the cooperative movement is weak or is yet to take root.

These are some of the objectives of the new agricultural policy and it can be very clearly seen how it is different, how this policy is going to be different, how the outlook of the farmer is going to be different, how the future of the farmer is going to be different in the years to come.

Sir, some criticism of the fertiliser policy was made. Now, I would like to humbly submit that we have taken the most practical policy approach for fertiliser. Suddenly we found that certain fertiliser, particularly DAP produced in this country, become two or three thousand rupees per tonne costlier than what we are getting by import. It is true that the factories raised a hue and cry because they were losing money by our import, they could not compete with the imported price. What we did was, we took full advantage of the lower import price.

Today, Sir, for the first time in this country we can say that we have enough DAP for the complete year, we don't have to go in for further import. What we have imported is enough for the whole year and our farmers can rest assured that they are going to get it at the imported price and even were for Mop we have given them a subsidy of Rs. 1000/- a tonne and therefore, so far as agriculture is concerned, the anxiety that we had in 1990 and 1991 is at an end. Meanwhile, as Atalji pointed out, what is happening to the factories? They have had to shut down. Can they ever open? My answer is, they have shut down and they have also opened because we have given a package of facilities to them, concessions to them, by which they became viable or they are on the way to becoming viable. I order to enable domestic industry to survive, Government has announced a scheme of refund of systems duty paid on capital good and also a concession of three per cent in terse on term loan, which is a very big chunk of concession, Sir, for new fertiliser plants commissioned after 1st January 1991. Also, in order to enable the domestic phosphatic industry to sell at prices compatible with imports, the Government has recently announced a concession of Rs. 1,000 per tonne on indigenous D.A.P. and proportionate concession in respect on indigenous complex fertilisers and S.S.P. during the current kharif. No such concession is available on imported D.A.P. and complex fertiliser. There incentives have enable five units which has shut down-Cromaned Fertilisers, Madras Fertilisers Paradeep Phosphates, G.S.F.C., and Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilisers Limited - to resume production. I think, there are still two factories which have not fully resumed production, but they are well on the way to resuming of production. This is what has been done in agriculture.

Sir, there are a very large number of rural artisans, only next to the agricultural labour, people who also depend on agriculture then they have the handloom weavers. The hon. Members might know the plight of the handloom weavers. For years and years they have been almost starving. That is the situation there. Now,

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for the first time, we have taken up some linkages with rural development. Nobody bothered about rural development in the case of handloom weavers, although most of them live in the villages. Sir, the Ministry of Rural Development, -this is what I was referring to; when you have Rs. 30,000 crores in a Ministry in the Plan, you can certainly spare some money for programmes which never had anything to do with the rural development programmes in the past-four new schemes for coverage of the handloom weavers under the on-going schemes of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), TRYSEM, Indira Awas Yojana and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. And this has been done for the first time. These people were never looked at even when these programmes were taken up not a single weaver ever got a house built under Indira Awas Yojana and all these were totally unavailable to them. Today, we have made them available with the result that enormous benefits will go to them along with their other brethren living in the villages. We have, for the first time, recognised that this is a very important section of rural people whose needs for employment, for habitation and everything are as much as those of the others. So coverage of looms handloom weavers under the IRDP, coverage of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe houseless handloom weavers under JRY training of handloom weavers under TRYSEM, and setting up of Common Facility Centres (CFCs) for the handloom weavers with JRY assistance, Under these four schemes 3.27 lakh loomless weavers will be provided with looms, work sheds and working capital in a phased manner in three years. These are the schemes which are being introduced from this year for the first time.

Sir, then I come to Khadi, another very important area of activity in the villages. We are committed to the development and up gradation of Khadi and village Industries. These industries also have been suffering, languishing for a long time. A few months back, three or four

months back, a delegation of a very influential leaders in the Khadi field- they have been working for decades and decades, they have given all their life to Khadi and Village Industries, these colleagues, friends of our- came and told me about the plight of the Khadi workers and the industry in general. So, a high-powered Committee under my Chairmanship has been set up to review the potentialities and programmes for this sector within a space of three months. I also happened to be a very humble Khadi worker in my area. So, they said, 'you are one of us, so you must be the Chairman.' I have accepted it.

Within three months, we are going to go into all the details about what the Khadi and Village Industries are ailing from and what could be done by Government, by organisations and by the Khadi institutions themselves. This is what we have done for the Khadi sector.

I am sure, there Finance Minister gave full details about the economy, how it has functioned, how it has behaved during the last two years including the foreign exchange reserves etc. I only have to add here just one point. Foreign equity investment approved up to 21-7-1993 amounted to us dollars 3.2 billion. This involves over 1100 cases. The foreign equity thus brought in will be supplemented by Indian equity and borrowings both in India and abroad. The total expenditure on the projects involved would be around Rs. 60,000 crores. Now in two years if the investment has reached Rs. 60,000 crores, whereas in the public sector, we were not able to go beyond one lakh crores over all these years, we can see how quick has been the investment rate. naturally all these investment will not fructify in a day or in a year. It will take some time but it will fructify because it has come from people who know what they are going to do; they know that investment in India is profitable. Only after getting convinced of this, they have come here.

The power projects alone will make available additional capacity of 4,000 meager watts. The refineries proposed to be established will be

41 million tonnes refining capacity per annum. Most of these investments are in the infrastructural, most essential sectors, contrary to the belief and contrary to the disinformation which was spread sometime back that these are all for cosmetics and so on. It is not so, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Now I come to the most important aspect of national life today which is the achievement of harmony within the society, the lack of which has been dogging us for some time and from which we have to come out as a nation. If this is not done, then the nation will have no future. That goes without saying. We have already seen people who cannot really be stable—one or two years of stability and then we do something with stability so that it gets broken; gets disrupted. This is the kind of repletion which we seem to be earning. We will have to come out of it. We will have to live it down by whatever means possible. That is why, I have been appealing time and again to all parties all sections of people that this is the time for development, this is the time to keep our heads cool for the next three years, five years. If this country could do nothing expect development, then perhaps after that time probably this country would be a giant in every respect. This has been said by many economists, many people who have some idea of the shape of things to come. But somehow we seem to be slinking back into the old ways and that is what we have to come out of.

In this Session, we are introducing two Bills for amendment of the Constitution and for amendment of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 with a view to curb the use of religion in politics. Now we want religion; we want politics. We want both. Both have their very important place in this country. But a mix of the two have no place in this country. The mix of the two is going to be disastrous. I am saying this to all parties. Religion cannot be a trump card of any a part, any political party for all time to come, For one election, two elections, yes. But people will see through it.

And then the effects of this will be so bad that we will not be able to recover from the disaster for a long time to come. It is not meant to be against one community or another community. It is meant to bring back the political ethos, the countries ethos back to what it was and what it should be.

In this connection, I would like to quote from a recent judgment of the Supreme Court. This is where I am appealing to the people. You may not like this. You have become addict to religion being used as a political weapon. We must come out of it. Please for Heaven's sake, we will have to come out of it. Whoever are the hon. Members who think that I am doing something wrong, they will have to ask themselves this question. I am saying this for the good of the country, and good of the Parties themselves because this cannot go on for ever.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): What about Som Yajna?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: On a study made so far, it does appear possible to think of legal provisions to prevent the use of religion for political purposes. It is a very subtle matter. It is not just a matter of prohibiting something. Because the Constitution is full of freedoms, we cannot infringe up on any freedom given by the Constitution except as permitted by the Constitution itself.

The Supreme Court of India has recently observed. it is a beautiful passage and would like to quote it:

"Our Constitution-makers intended to set up a secular, democratic republic. Our political history made it particularly necessary that the basis of religion, race caste, community, culture, freedom and language which could generate powerful emotions depriving people of their powers of

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national action should not be permitted to be exploited lest the imperative conditions for preservation of democratic freedoms were disburden. Sections 123(2) and (3) and (3A) were enacted to eliminate process appeals to those divisive forces like religions, caste, etc., which arouse irrational passions. The crux of the matter is that the electoral process is a rational process. It cannot be allowed to slip into the irrational channels. Condemnation of electoral campaigns on lines of religions, caste etc is necessarily implicit in the language of Section 123."

This is the passage from one of the Supreme Court judgments and it is based on this that these two laws are being introduced. We must go into them in great detail. We will discuss them and we will have to pass them. We will pass them because they will really determine the political life of this country hereafter. We have not been able to do it because there was an aberration of the last three or four or five years. That aberration has to be removed lock, stock and barrel and then it has to go back to the secular foundation of the Indian polity... (*Interruptions*)...

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN : These Bills are defective. include the caste and other things also.

[*English*]

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO : Let the Bills come before the House.

Two drafts, one for the Temple Trust and the other for the Mosque Trust and deed for the perpetual lease of the land has been prepared in consultation with the Ministry of Law. The list of

persons who may be considered or who may come forward to manage the Trusts, according to information available has been prepared. It could undergo a lot of changes. There is nothing final about it. But ultimately the Trust has to be created by Government and would invite suggestions from hon. Members on this matter.

The investigation into the demolition...

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : He can become the Chairman of that Trust by quitting the office of the Prime Minister.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO : The main intention behind setting up of this Trust is to remove those who are in politics... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ENBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT (Ponnani) : I would like to know where the mosque will be constructed?... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO : Neither you nor I will be in the Trust.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi) : Is Shri Chandraswani in politics or is he your advisor? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO : I am saying that those who are in politics will not manage the Trust. There is no use of just banning the names. I am talking about a principle that those who are in active politics, would not manage the Trust. What is there to object to and be surprised at. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

Sir, another point, an important point was raised about electoral reforms. I was fully... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI ENBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT : Where will the mosque be constructed?

SHRI P. V. NARSIMHA RAO: It is not in my hand as to where the mosque will be constructed. Let the Trust be set up first. Read my promise attentively.

[English]

What Atalji said about electoral reforms, I was very deeply impressed by what he said. So much effort has gone into this. But perhaps, it has stopped in the middle. And, I think, the time has come when we have to take it up again. In 1990, after taking all these into account, all the proposals of the Chief Election Commissioner, the proposals contained in the RP (Amendment) Bill, 1990 and constitution 70th (Amendment) Bill, 1990. The Government is considering to bring forward a comprehensive package in electoral reforms. So, we are taking up the porches where it was left in 1990. I have discussed this with the Ministries of Law etc. It is proposed to seek the views of leaders of various political parties on these proposals as we have always done in a matter like this. Some of the important proposals under consideration include:

Measures to discourage non-serious candidates;

Restriction on contesting election form more than one constituency;

State finding of the election;

Restoration of pre-1975 position regarding automatic disqualification in case of a person found guilty of a corrupt practice;

Introduction of multi-purpose identity cards;

Expenditure incurred by a political party on the election of a candidate to be treated as part of his election expenditure whoever incurs it;

Fixing six months time-limit for holding by-elections;

Ban on donation by companies to political parties; and

Provision of an independent secretariat for the Election Commission.

These are some of the salient points on which we have to take decisions after due deliberations. This is the position in regard to electoral reforms. (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : What about multi-member Election Commission?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO : It is already there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : About Election Commission?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO : Yes, it is already there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : No, no, you have only the Chief Election Commissioner. Have two more.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO : The provision of two more is already there. What do you have to do? You do not have to add anything. You only have to..

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : That is concerned with the electoral reform because there are not even elections held in this country.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO : You only have to appoint. That is all.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Why not do it? Please do it. (Interruptions)

SHRI LALK. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar) : Mr. Prime Minister, may I point out that all the issues that you have just mentioned under the list of electoral reforms have already been considered and decisions taken. Except in respect of one,



[Sh. Lal K. Advani]

in respect of all the other, decisions were taken by the Goswami Committee. My colleague Somnathji was also there.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : We will look into that. Why was it stopped in 1990?

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI : The Report was submitted finally, it was not stopped. In fact, all that is needed is to implement it.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : There was not much debate on External Affairs except engines. Now about cryogenic engines, we had a full question answered this morning. I would like to say that there is no need for us to be worried about the non-availability right now of the technology because as many engines as we want will be available. For the next years, we will not have to worry about our PSLVs etc., going up in the space for want of engines.

That difficulty is not there. But the point is, since we want to be self-reliant in technology, early or late, we will have to go in for the technology. It is not available, from where it was going to be made available or we will have to develop it ourselves. This is the bottom in and there is nothing on this to comment further. Any other comment made on our friend, the Russian Government, would not be proper because they have not done it capriciously; they have done it under a Force Major clause-which already existed. Now we cannot take exception to that. The only thing is we have to discuss with them. And I would certainly like, at some point of time, to take the House into confidence, after the discussions take place and place before you, all that has happened during the discussions and where we stand right at the moment.

About peace keeping operations, this has been India's policy always; right from the beginning, right from the time, the U.N. was formed, wherever peace keeping operations were undertaken, India has been one of the important

countries under the U.N. and that is how it becomes our duty. Tomorrow, the U.N. is going to hold out some promises to us; if we do the job of the U.N. we will have a place there, a place of honour and it is worth keeping. And that is why, we are going into Somalia. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : It is imposing; it is not peace keeping.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA (Jadavpur) : Is it also our duty to shoot down the civilians? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Sir, another point which was raised, quite a pertinent point, was about the Lok Pal. After the introduction of the Lok Pal Bill in Lok Sabha on 29.12.1989. Government considered various suggestions for amendment, penal provisions relating to the publication of proceedings were toned down and some other changes were made. Subsequently, in August 1990, Government points. One is, whether the definition of a complain to the Lok Pal should be modified to cover not only corruption but also abuse of position for gain or causing harm or hardship or maladministration; whether the definition of a public functionary should be enlarged to also cover officers of the level of Joint Secretary and above in the Government of India as well as Chief Executives of Central PSUs. A view was taken and this is important, how it stopped there, in September 1990 that no change was required. There were detailed consultations between the Department of Personnel, the C.V.C. and some key Ministries on the question of bringing the CEOs of PSUs within the scope of the Bill. But, no decision in favour of their inclusion was taken by the time the Bill lapsed. Now, Sir, meanwhile, during the last one year Government have been making very thorough exercise in examining the possibility of an ombudsman in our country. Now, Ombudsman's scope is much wider and perhaps, it may be worthwhile to consider whether this Ombudsman's office should be established here by law, by act of Parliament. I have sent one or two officers to several other countries where

Ombudsman's office exists and there are differences between the countries. I have got a full report from each country and one of these days, I would like to have consultations with the party leaders and whichever way they think it should be done, we will take it up.

There is another point in regard to consultation with State Governments in the case of restructuring or closure of industries by voluntary retirement, retrenchment, etc. In the case of voluntary retirement, there is a scheme of voluntary retirement; that we all know about; but that is between the employer and the employee; probably the Central Government or the State Government, neither of them figures necessarily. But in the case of retrenchment, I understand that at present under Chapter 5(b) of the Industrial Disputes Act, the appropriate Government—State or Central Government as the case may be—whenever workers are to be laid off, take prior permission. Prior permission is mended. Thus except in the case of undertaking in respect of which Chapter 5(b) of the Industrial Disputes Act is the Central Government, consultations always done with the State Government and the authorisation is given by the State Government. Now in this perhaps there is some idea that even in the case of central establishments, when they are located in a particular State, if any action on these lines is to be taken, it may be a good idea because it is being done already, I am told—to regularly at least consult the State Government, so that whatever is the result, both the Central Government and the State Government have the chance to think about it and come to some conclusion. We will certainly look into this; this is a constructive idea.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: We know the man behind the move.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fatehpur): Just on a point of information on the issue of labour. A Bill for labour participation in management is pending in the Rajya Sabha.

What is the Prime Minister's view on it? Is he going to proceed with the Bill or not?

SHRI P. V. NARSIMHA RAO: Yes, we will proceed with it, if only you allow. Because all our legislation is passed at dead of night. That has been the new tradition. If the House permits, certainly we will take it up.

There are just three or four matters, very short points which I have to make and I am done. Our friend from Kharkhand... (Interruptions) ... This is one of those local aspirations with which Indian polity has had to content with. This is not a new thing. We had agitation's everywhere. We have these matters come up, even take a few lives and then get settled. Lot of economic distress has taken place because of these agitations and if we do not see the writing...

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepurs): Please speak about Ultrauchal also (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P. V. NARSIMHA RAO: Since the matter has been raised, I am only responding to it. We have the Bodoland problem; we solved it. We had this Karbi Angiong problem in Assam; we have solved it. In Darjeeling we had a problem; we have solved it. So there is no point in pushing it under the carpet. This is not going to be good. So we have taken certain steps. They have not yet fructified; I know. They have not fructified for various reasons. When it is said that both the parties—the Leader of the Opposition and the Chief Minister—are hand in hand against the demand, it can be easily surmised that these matters cut across party lines.

That is precisely the reason. That is Central Government has to be extra careful in dealing with these matters so that by our own hastes, we do not add to the problem. (Interruptions)

SHRI BHOGENDRAJHA (Madhubani): The Communist Party of India has formally taken a stand in favour of the separate Jharkhand State. That is for your information. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. V. NARSIMHA RAO: The Communist Party of India took a stand that India consists of several; national, once upon a time.

Sir, I would like to say that the Government is fully serious about this problem. To charge the Government with non-seriousness, I am afraid, is not correct. We have been discussing this for months because every small thing has to be gone into, even the name; name became a bone of contention and for quite valid reasons. So, I would like to point out that this is not accepted so easily. Therefore, we have taken a lot of steps, many steps. The Government has sent the suggestion to be incorporated in the Bill which was sent to us by the Bihar Government. They sent a Bill of a Council to Centre. We found that it was not adequate. We thought that some more are and some more things have to be put in that in order to at least partly meet the aspirations of those people from Jharkhand. Therefore, this is under discussion. It is at a delicate stage. This is the time when no passions should be aroused, wither on this side or that side. I am sorry to say that right now something like this is happening in Bihar. It should not happen. I will talk to the Chief Minister myself. I will take it up with the Bihar Government; the Home Ministry will take it up. We will not allow it to get out of hand and we will see that at the earliest, whatever has been agreed- in fact, there has been some modicum of agreement on a particular pattern- that agreement with whatever changes or whatever changes agreed to by both sides, all sides, will be brought about. We are serious and we would like to put an end to this question, this sore. *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MAJ GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDUHI (Garhwal): What have you done for

Uttaranchal? The Bill has been passed and referred to you.... *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: So, this is what I would like to say... *(Interruptions)* Similarly, Sir, regarding the ASDC, that is the Assam District Council... *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SURAJMANDAL: Today the Bihar Government has rejected the Bill. The Chief Minister, has also refused. What is the Government going to do after that? Please tell us.

*[English]*

SHRI P. V. NARSIMHA RAO: Sir, about the Assam District Council, again a controversy had arisen in the last two days because the State Government had gone up in appeal to the Supreme Court which created a problem there. I have requested the Chief Minister and at my request, he has decided to withdraw the appeal from the Supreme Court and get this Council Bill passed.

Now, finally, there are two very important matter that have been raised on e is under Article...

*[Translation]*

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: You have talked about the local and regional agitations of Bihar and Assam. I would like to request him to throw light on the Uttaranchal for which the State Government has already recommended and the Legislative Assembly has also passed the Bill in this regard and submitted it to the Central Government you take it for granted that we won't make it a deal for this No Confidence Motion. Other may do so but you are not even referring to it.

SHRI P. V. NARASHIMHA RAO: Nobody is going to make it a deal.

SHRI LAL. K. ADVANI: I would like to know the stand taken by the Government on the Resolution on Uttaranchal which has been passed by the Legislative Assembly and was sent to centre.

SHRI AJIT SINGH (Baghapat): The hon. Prime Minister, he has raised the issue of Jharkhand in view of the Non-Confidence Motion. Bharatiya Janata Party is raising the issue of Uttaranchal because it was in their maestro. I would like to know whether the Government is in favour of smaller states. What is its opinion? what measures are going to be taken by the Government in this regard?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: At present I am not in favour of Smaller states.

[English]

Just about two point and I have done. (*Interruptions*) That is very important thing. Under Article 339, a commission has to be set up every ten years for the review of tribal development and administration. This is the constructional provision. It is pity that we had only one commission. And after that, we have not appointed the second commission. A number of Members have raised this. They suggested that it time that we had the second commission. I have made note of his suggestion. We will certainly examine this.

Measures for welfare of sheduled castes and scheduled tribes, especially with regard to the reservation in private and public and multinational cooperation in view of the we economic policy this is again an extremely important point. But right now, as the law stands, as the Constitution stands, it is not possible for me to give any to this, how we can cope with is new situation in the new context. He will do it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN (sosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to request you this much that reservation is already provided in the Public Undertakings but a provision should also be made for the reservation is those Public Undertakings which are going to be in private hands as day before yesterday, ESU has been privatised.

SHRI KALAKADS (Karolbagh): Hon Prime Minister The provisions of the reservation.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Kalka Dasji, you should understand that your point has also been converted.

[English]

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: I have converted the points raised in the debate. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: what about Hrashed Mehta an before issues?

[English]

SHRI P. V. NARASHIMHA RAO: Finally Alalji's speech was mostly monopolised by Mr. Bhrdwaj. I would like to say in all seriousness that all that Alalji read out was what any colleague of mine said others or anyone. I consider it importer, I have already asked Bhardwaji to tell me what he has to say on this particular matter. I do not subscribe to the view that in any party or even between parties language like this should ever be used.

I assure that I will take whatever steps are to be taken. Thank You (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I would like to have some classifications.