

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (Sivaganga): I wish to raise a very important matter affecting the security of India. For the last several months, we pointed out to the previous Government about the activities of foreigners, who are militants, on the soil of Tamil Nadu. The previous Government and the State Government of Tamil Nadu flatly denied that there were any militants in Tamil Nadu, that there were any camps in Tamil Nadu, that there were any suggestions in drugs or weapons and all that has now been proved to be totally false. I just returned from a visit to the Eastern Coast which falls in my constituency. I have gone to 5-6 key villages. I sent a telegram to the Prime Minister from there. I mentioned this to the Prime Minister yesterday. I said that I would give a report which calls for an inquiry. This is far too serious a matter to be taken a partisan view. What is happening in Punjab, what is happening in Kashmir, what is happening in Assam are unfortunate enough. Let us not add one more State to this list and category. The key villages in Tamil Nadu have been deprived of bus services. They have been disputed. Water supply has been disrupted. Diesel is not available. These are fishermen village. Diesel is not available to the fishermen-folk. I have reasons to suspect that over a period of 6-12 months the State Government has, step by step practically is isolated these 5-6 villages so that the militants from Sri Lanka can have a force access to the coast-line; they can come when they like and go when they like and the local population has no access at all to come to the mainland. I sent a telegram to the Prime Minister. I am sorry that the Prime Minister made a casual remark in Madras. I wish to register my pretext against it. I sent a telegram to the Prime Minister. These are facts which can be inquired into. There is no reason to mix politics in this matter. These are the facts and they should be inquired into so as to find out whether bus services were disrupted; whether water supply has been disrupted; whether diesel has been denied to fishermen; whether diesel has been smuggled across. I request the Government to send a team of officials from three Ministries—the

Home Ministry, the Petroleum Ministry and the Surface Transport Ministry—who can look into the matter. I do not know whether the telegram was placed before the Prime Minister. Yesterday when I asked him he said that he had not seen the telegram. In Madras when a Reporter asked him, he said: "Our team in Madras is adequate to report to us." I hope it is a casual remark. If it is a casual remark, he should not make such a remark. This is far too serious a matter. The External Affairs Minister is here; the Commerce Minister is here; the Law Minister is here. Let them be entrusted with the matter. I demand an assurance here that they will send team of officials to Tamil Nadu to go to the coastal villages to speak to the people. Even when I was there last Saturday and Sunday, 11 militants landed in Pudupatnam; 4 militants landed in Soliyakudi. These are the villages which fall in my constituency. I demand now that the Ministers make a statement in this matter and they should take this matter seriously. I demand that they should depute a team of officials to verify the facts and report to this House what are the facts on the ground; are the facts true. People have given me in writing. I am going to send it to the Prime Minister today. Are the people speaking truth? Or, is the State Government continuing to indulge in massive cover up which they have been doing for the last two years? I demand a detailed answer from the Government.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Jodhpur): Sir, I have to make a submission.

MR. SPEAKER: I will look into it. You can make a brief statement.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I will make a reference. Please listen to me.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already told you that I am looking into it.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: If an impropriety is committed, that could be recorded in this House. If you go through it since, 1954, there are instances of the impropriety being referred to in this House itself. This is not just a single matter of impropriety. In the other House, an hon. Member found it necessary to say something. I would like to submit that

[Sh. Jaswant Singh]

even today in the other House we are raising this issue that we do not abide by this decision, which is not backed by legal experts.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: All this is not allowed in the House but

[*English*]

I am looking into it. I still tell you that I am looking into it.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I know it, Sir. Kindly listen to me.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us not make any reflection on the other House.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I am not making any reflection on the other House. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: It has been said about you that...

MR. SPEAKER: That is why I am saying that

[*English*]

I will inform the House at the appropriate time.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I am referring to observations that are made on the ruling of the Speaker. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will request you not to raise it as I am looking into it.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: The Chief Whip of the Congress Party has also said about your ruling in this House. I am referring about his conduct in this House. (*Interruptions*) The Chief Whip of the Congress party has publicly criticised your ruling about the Leader of the Opposition. In the other House,

references are made to what you have said and to what you have decided. It is not a simple question of sovereign right.

MR. SPEAKER: I will look into it.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: If an impropriety is committed, if the comments are made about how this House conducts itself, how the Speaker of this House decides the case, it is certainly not a question that lends itself really to a party position. The sovereign authority of the House is called in question. Your conduct is called in question. And all for what? All for the simple reasons that the Congress Party is unable to make its mind up. The Congress Party has made its bed. It does not want now to lie on it. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): I am not referring to the Congress Party or any party. I only want to quote one precedent of this very House. I am not referring to any party. I am referring to one precedent of this House. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It will be better if you do not discuss it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I am not discussing that. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He is not discussing that.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You can only say about the precedent.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I am not touching that issue. I know my limitations. I am just trying to place before you one precedent of this House. Mr. N.C. Chatterjee was a Member of the Lok Sabha. He went out of the House and in Madras he made, in a public speech an observation about the other House and he said, "no doubt, one House of the Parliament has passed the