

- (9) The Constitution (Fifty-fifth Amendment) Bill, 1986.
- (10) The Shipping Development Fund Committee (Abolition) Bill, 1986.
- (11) The Consumer Protection Bill, 1986.
- (12) The State of Arunachal Pradesh Bill, 1986.
- (13) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (Amendment) Bill, 1986.
- (14) The Drugs and Cosmetics (Amendment) Bill, 1986.
- (15) The Standards of Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Amendment Bill, 1986.
- (16) The Essential Commodities (Second Amendment) Bill, 1986.
- (17) The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (Amendment) Bill, 1986.
- (18) The Standards of Weights and Measures (Amendment) Bill, 1986.
- (19) The Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Amendment Bill, 1986.

12.12 hrs

# RAILWAY CONVENTION COMMITTEE

[English]

## Seventh Report

SHRI RAM DHAN (Lalganj) : I beg to present the Seventh Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Railway Convention Committee on "Rate of Dividend for the year 1987-88 and other Ancillary Matters."

12.13 hrs

## STATEMENT RE : SITUATION IN PUNJAB

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) : Sir, The situation in Punjab was discussed at length in the last Session. There have been some disquieting development since then. I would like to recall here briefly the trend of events since the end of November, 1986. On 30th November, 1986 Shri Gurcharan Singh Tohra was elected President of the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee. Immediately thereafter the SGPC disbanded the Special Task Force earlier raised by them for keeping the terrorists out of the Golden Temple Complex. At the meeting of the Executive Committee of the SGPC held at Amritsar on 24th December, 1986 the high priests holding office on that day were forced to resign and new high priests were appointed, including Prof. Darshan Singh Ragi as Acting Jathedar of the Akal Takht. However, the high priests did not assume office because of certain threats held out by another body called Panthic Committee which is a self appointed body controlled by terrorists. The Panthic Committee directed that a Sarbat Khalsa should be called to ratify the appointment of the high priests thereby arrogating to themselves a position superior to the SGPC and the Akal Takht. In response to a call given by the Damdami Taksal, the Panthic Committee and a section of the AISSF, a so called "Sarbat Khalsa" was held in the Golden Temple at Amritsar on January 26, 1987. SA Dal (J) and SA Dal (B) participated in the "Sarbat Khalsa". Secessionist slogans were raised in the complex during the "Sarbat Khalsa". The "Sarbat Khalsa" endorsed the secessionist declaration made by the Panthic Committee on April 20, 1986. The next day, the Punjab Council of Ministers condemned the call given by the so called "Sarbat Khalsa" and described it as a conspiracy of foreign forces aimed at destabilising the country. Later the Shiromani Akali Dal (L) Working Committee expressed concern over the failure of the SGPC to