

17.14 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION *Re.*
CONTINUANCE OF PROCLAMATION
IN RESPECT OF THE STATE OF
PUNJAB

NATIONAL SECURITY (AMENDMENT)
BILL

PUNJAB BUDGET, 1985-86 — GENERAL
DISCUSSION

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS ON
ACCOUNT (PUNJAB), 1985-86,
AND
SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR
GRANTS (PUNJAB), 1984-85

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We now take up items 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 together.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : I beg to move :

“That this House approves the continuance in force of the Proclamation, dated October 6, 1983 in respect of the State of Punjab, issued under article 365 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months will, effect from April 6, 1985.”

Sir, as the House would be aware...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can move the Bill also.

SHRI S. M. BHATTAM (Visakhapatnam) : The National Security (Amendment) Bill is a different one. This is regarding Proclamation.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Earlier it has been agreed that item Nos. 18 to 22 may be discussed together. That is why I announced that these items would be discussed together. These are all relating to Punjab.

SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : But the Statutory Resolution is to be discussed separately.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You will be discussing everything.

SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : There must be some rationale or some procedure. You always insist on some procedural aspects.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The point is, whichever point you want to raise you can raise during the course of your speech. You can speak either on Resolution or Bill or both. You can speak on anything covered in these items.

SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : As far as the Bill is concerned, it is a different matter. But is the Minister not to move the resolution : first ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : Let him move the Statutory Resolution regarding Proclamation first. Items up to 22 may be taken up together. The Government have no objection, if the statutory resolution is taken up separately. We have absolutely no objection.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It was discussed in the Business Advisory Committee and it was decided that all the items might be taken up together. And the time allotted is 3 hours. That is why all the items have been taken up together. You could have pointed this out in the Business Advisory Committee.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : In all fairness, I must point out that the Business Advisory Committee considered this matter and the hon. Deputy Speaker is right that the Business Advisory Committee decided that all these matters would be taken up together and three hours would be devoted to them. That was the decision of the Business Advisory Committee.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It was decided. It was adopted by the House. You are now going back.

SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : We are not going back. (*Interruptions.*) The question is only of procedural aspect which I am pointing out.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You could have told that when we had adopted this report of the BRC. You could have pointed out at that stage. Allotted time for discussion will be three hours. They were all clubbed together.

SHRI R. P. DAS (Krishnagar) : This Resolution can be discussed separately.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can raise the matter and you can focus on the Resolution when you speak. These items are more or less related to Punjab. That is why, we have clubbed together. When the Minister is replying, he will reply to everything definitely.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : The question is that within three hours, the whole thing has to be finished. The procedure of each item will have to be followed. Every item will be put before the House formally and approved but within a period of three hours.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That is why we are taking all the items together. We are discussing all the items together.

(Interruptions.)

SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : If this becomes a precedent and if things are done in the same fashion in future also, I think it will lead us to certain complications. That is not being appreciated. We have no objection personally.

Technically, it is a procedural lapse, a serious lapse. How can you club a Statutory Resolution, a Bill and the Budget, all the three items, together to be discussed in the House? Has it been done before at any time? Is there any such precedent in the past?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I may tell the hon. Members that previously also there have been so many such instances where these items have been taken up and discussed together in the House. But at the time of taking vote, we take up every item separately. This can be conveyed to the Business Advisory Committee for the future. This may be kept in view for the future. You are members of the Business Advisory Committee. We will see it next time.

SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : You have to give a ruling.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will put it before the Business Advisory Committee. I will convey the feelings of the hon. Members to the B.A.C.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : Procedurally, each item is to be taken up separately,

The idea of the Business Advisory Committee was that within 3 hours all these three items should be completed.

SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : The discussion should be separate.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There may be a combined discussion on the Statutory Resolution approving the Proclamation issued by the President in respect of a State and a Bill for the delegation of legislative powers of the State. There is a provision like that. We will take up these items separately at the time of voting. For the future, the feelings of the members will be conveyed to the Business Advisory Committee. We will see.

The hon. Minister may also move the Bill listed at item No. 19.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN : Sir, I beg to move :

“That the Bill further to amend the National Security Act, 1980, in its application to the State of Punjab and the Union territory of Chandigarh, be taken into consideration.”

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Resolution moved :

“That this House approves the continuance in force of the Proclamation, dated October 6, 1983 in respect of the State of Punjab, issued under article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months with effect from April 6, 1985.”

Motion moved :

“That the Bill further to amend the National Security Act, 1980, in its application to the State of Punjab and the Union territory of Chandigarh, be taken into consideration.”

Motions moved :

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Punjab, on account for or towards defraying the charges during the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1986

in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands 1 to 41."

"That the respective Supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State

of Punjab to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1985 in respect of heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against :

Demand Nos. 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 28, 29, 31, 32, 34, 35, 36, 38 and 40."

List of Demands for Grants on account (Punjab) for 1985-86 submitted to the Vote of the Lok Sabha

Demand No.	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account to be submitted to the Vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3	
1.	State Legislature	58,91,000	...
2.	Council of Ministers	42,94,000	...
3.	Administration of Justice	2,80,68,000	...
4.	Elections	61,40,000	...
5.	Revenue	7,54,37,000	...
6.	Excise and Taxation	3,24,10,000	...
7.	Finance	41,58,33,000	...
8.	Public Service Commission	10,21,000	...
9.	Civil Secretariat	2,74,51,000	...
10.	District Administration	4,01,19,000	...
11.	Police	28,00,94,000	...
12.	Jails	2,54,17,000	...
13.	Stationery and Printing	2,26,80,000	14,20,000
14.	Miscellaneous Services	3,22,80,000	...
15.	Rehabilitation, Relief and Resettlement	6,37,000	...
16.	Education	1,11,13,33,000	...
17.	Technical Education, Science and Technology	1,78,62,000	28,00,000
18.	Medical and Public Health	43,56,27,000	50,000
19.	Housing and Urban Development	1,32,21,000	6,02,80,000
20.	Information and Publicity	1,28,51,000	...

1	2	3
21. Tourism and Cultural Affairs	45,29,000	10,00,000
22. Labour, Employment and Industrial Training	4,92,72,000	8,52,000
23. Social Security and Welfare	14,77,16,000	37,50,000
24. Planning and Statistics	87,15,000	...
25. Co-operation	4,73,20,000	8,55,14,000
26. Agriculture	20,45,08,000	2,05,90,000
27. Soil and Water Conservation	1,85,17,000	...
28. Food	1,01,30,000	4,57,44,20,000
29. Animal Husbandry	6,57,88,000	...
30. Dairy Development	33,46,000	...
31. Fisheries	56,28,000	...
32. Forest	8,56,06,000	4,50,000
33. Community Development	28,70,88,000	...
34. Industries	5,84,30,000	3,94,00,000
35. Civil Aviation	32,27,000	2,50,000
36. Roads and Bridges	12,18,30,000	23,27,50,000
37. Road Transport	37,27,82,000	6,00,00,000
38. Multipurpose River Projects	6,75,29,000	20,81,80,000
39. Irrigation, Drainage and Flood Control	34,42,86,000	27,03,37,000
40. Buildings	30,01,67,000	9,15,98,000
41. Loans and Advances by the State Government	...	1,31,37,69,000

List of Supplementary Demands for Grants (Punjab) for 1984-85 submitted to the vote of the Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant to be submitted to the Vote of the House	
1	3	3	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
3.	Administration of Justice	87,53,000	...
5.	Revenue	2,59,25,000	...
7.	Finance	9,64,08,000	...

1	2	3	
9. Civil Secretariat		54,42,000	...
10. District Administration		27,80,000	...
11. Police		6,61,07,000	...
16. Education		22,35,57,000	...
17. Technical Education, Science and Technology		75,04,000	...
18. Medical and Public Health		3,27,64,000	...
19. Housing and Urban Development		23,42,000	...
20. Information and Publicity		20,82,000	...
21. Tourism and Cultural Affairs		1,73,000	...
22. Labour, Employment and Industrial Training		58,74,000	...
23. Social Security and Welfare		34,96,000	...
25. Co-operation		49,88,000	...
28. Food		31,54,000	...
29. Animal Husbandary		12,08,000	...
31. Fisheries		4,99,000	...
32. Forest		9,21,000	...
34. Industries		10,31,000	4,72,000
35. Civil Aviation		10,60,000	...
36. Roads and Bridges		...	1,20,00,000
38. Multipurpose River Projects		40,64,000	2,66,61,000
40. Buildings		1,63,91,000	11,80,000

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN : Sir, as the House is aware, in view of the prevailing situation in Punjab, the Proclamation under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Punjab was issued on October 6, 1983 on the recommendation of the Governor and the State Legislative Assembly was kept under suspended animation.

The Proclamation issued by the President was to continue up to April 5, 1984. However, as there was no sign of improvement in the situation, the Proclamation was continued for a further period of six months from April 6, 1984 with the approval of Parliament. The term of the

Proclamation was to expire on October 5, 1984. The situation in the State continued to be uncertain and it became necessary to extend the term of the President's rule. As according to the then existing Constitutional provisions, the Proclamation could not be continued beyond the period of one year, Article 356(5) of the Constitution was amended by the Constitution (Fortyeighth) Amendment Act, 1984 for further continuance of the Proclamation issued on October 6, 1984 in respect of the state of Punjab up to a maximum period of two years.

Consequently, the term of the Proclamation was extended with the approval of

Parliament for a further Period of six months with effect from October 6, 1984. The Proclamation ceases to be in force after April 5, 1985. The Government are constantly reviewing the situation in Punjab and we wish that an elected Government would take office as soon as the situation so Permits. Though the situation in the State has improved during the Past few months, yet the extremist elements continue to indulge in sporadic acts of violence and anti-national activities. The authorities are vigilant and it will take some time more before complete normalcy is restored in the State.

As the hon. Members are aware, a Cabinet Sub-Committee consisting of three senior Ministers which has been formed to study the Punjab problem and to look at the alternatives for a peaceful settlement as early as possible is currently looking into various aspects of the matter. A number of Akali leaders have been recently released in furtherance of the above objective.

It is hoped that this gesture on the part of the Government will lead to the creation of a more congenial atmosphere in the State and will evoke positive response from Akali leadership. However, the situation needs to be closely watched.

Having regard to all the aforesaid circumstances and considerations, it is necessary to continue President's rule in Punjab for a further period of six months after the expiry of the present term.

I may reiterate Government's intention for that President's rule will not be continued even for a day beyond what would be absolutely necessary.

In view of the position explained, I request the hon. House to approve this resolution.

About the second one, as the House is aware, the National Security Act, 1980 in its application to the disturbed areas of Punjab and Union Territory of Chandigarh was amended in 1984. The provision of Section 14A as inserted in the National Security Act, 1980 specifies the circumstances under which and the classes of cases in which persons may be detained for periods longer than three months but

not exceeding six months without obtaining the opinion of the Advisory Board.

These provisions are of a temporary nature as they apply at present only in the case of persons detained before 3rd April, 1985.

Hon. Members are aware of the situation in the State and I, therefore, do not consider it necessary to dwell any further on it. The circumstances which had necessitated the insertion of Section 14A in the Act in 1984 by and large continue to exist. To enable the authorities to immobilise anti-national and anti-social elements in the disturbed areas of Punjab and Chandigarh, it is necessary to amend the provisions of Section 14A of the Act so as to bring within the purview persons who may be detained on or after 3rd April, 1985 but before 3rd April, 1986.

The Bill seeks to amend National Security Act, 1980 accordingly. I may assure the August House that the Bill is primarily meant to check the activities of the anti-national, anti-social and communal elements in the disturbed areas.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : I request to give some statistics.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now Shri S. M. Bhattam will speak. You can speak after Shri S. M. Bhattam speaks.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : When Government is moving motion through a Bill, they have to explain. They can give statistics of how many persons are killed.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN : If the hon. Member cared to listen to the speech I have made, he would have been satisfied on the point that he is raising. If he wants any statistical information, I have the full statistical information with me. I can give the information provided I must know what kind of information he wants. If you are interested in knowing what is the total number of deaths and other crimes committed during 1984-85, I am prepared to give. But you must raise your point.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can raise whatever point you want.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN : From statistics regarding incidents due to extremist activities during the period 1-1-84 to...

SHRI RAJ MANGAL PANDE (Deoria) : I am on a point of order. This is the first time in a parliamentary democracy that I am hearing that the aims and objects of the Bill have not been explained. If the hon. Members want to have any information, it will be through the debate. Here is a peculiar situation. I do not know what procedure you have adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That is what I explained to the Members. But the Minister has come forward to furnish the figures. I cannot stop him.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN : I wanted to cut short the entire discussion which was going on. I am giving these statistics regarding incidents due to extremist activities during the period 1-1-1984 to 30-6-1984 : murders—number of incidents 220, number killed 273, persons injured 217, explosions—66, number of persons killed 10, persons injured 107; damage or arson—137, persons injured 3; others 404, number of persons killed 77, number of persons injured 132; the total for this period comes to number of persons killed 360 and number of persons injured 459.

Total from 1-7-1984 to 28-2-1985: murders—total number of incidents 53, number killed 38, persons injured 44; explosions—total number is 23, number killed 5, persons injured 74; arson—63, person injured 1; others—total number of incidents 360, number killed 38 and persons injured 33.

SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : During the course of some discussion previously in Rajya Sabha, I do remember very well the various points made out by the hon. Minister for Home while answering to the various questions raised by some of the Members at that time. Similarly on different occasions the question cropped up during the discussion in the Congress Parliamentary Party and later outside in Punjab also when the Prime Minister visited Punjab. I would like, at the outset, to say that this matter was discussed both in the Upper House and also in the

Congress Parliamentary Party and outside in Punjab, but not in this House so far. This is the status to which this House is reduced and which I would like to bring particularly to your notice, Sir, because you are presiding over an august body, the honour and prestige of which you will have to uphold and maintain. I tried to bring it up in some form or the other for discussion, but all avenues were blocked. I gave notice of a Short Notice Question, I gave notice of a Calling-Attention Motion, we wanted a separate discussion on the Punjab issue, but none of these things came up before the House. Now the deadlock continues, the stalemate continues, and the Minister has been forced to come up before the House by virtue of efflux of time—because the proclamation is bound to lapse in the month of April. That is how the House is seized of this matter. It is for the first time in the recent times that this has come up before the House. It is indeed a very sad state of affairs, and I make this observation with a heavy heart.

I would, at the same time, like to bring to your kind notice that any important decision pertaining to the policies must be made, while the Parliament is in session, only on the floor of the House and not elsewhere. But that practice is not kept up, and it is very unfortunate. If we are not to look to the Chair, who else will safeguard and uphold the rights of the House and the prestige of the House? Therefore, I would request you once again to reconsider whether it is appropriate at all for a Minister—he will have to be pulled up however high-placed he may be, including the Prime Minister—to make a speech pertaining to matters of important policies outside the House and not inside the House. The papers continuously for 3 to 4 days talked of a series of economic measures going to be announced by the Prime Minister during his ensuing visit to Punjab and the nature of the measures are also indicated. That being so and when it is a matter of public discussion and at the ministerial level and even at the party level the matter was being discussed, we are kept in the dark and we are not aware of the situation. What I mean to say is that the House is not at all taken into confidence. It is unfortunate. I am not speaking in terms of the Opposition

being taken into confidence and holding discussion with the Opposition parties. I am not at that point at the moment. The House as such should be taken into confidence. They should divulge the stand which they want to take and which they have taken now. They should from time to time place before the House the developing situation.

I do remember the Government has constituted a Cabinet Sub-committee. What has happened to that Sub-Committee? How many times has it met? What are the decisions taken by that committee? It was reported sometime back in the Press that while the hon. Minister giving a reply in the other House has said that this Committee has decided to visit Punjab and collect public opinion on various issues concerning the State of Punjab. What has happened to that proposal? Is it a fact-finding committee? Or are they just beating about the bush again? On what matters do they want to collect evidence? Are they going to collect evidence from all and sundry? What exactly are they meant to do? We are not exactly aware of it.

Instead of dilating on that point, I would request the hon. Minister to enlighten the House as to what specific steps which the Committee or the Sub-Committee has taken so far and what is the nature of inquiry they want to conduct during the proposed visit when it takes place and if at all it takes place? Are they going to extend invitations to various political parties and or those people who come voluntarily when they declare their intention to visit? What is the *modus operandi* they want to adopt? All these things will have to be made very clear. It is redundant, it is superfluous. Such a visit will not yield anything tangible and substantial and it will not yield anything beneficial for the purpose of achieving anything concrete. This is my initial apprehension which I am only mentioning. I am not criticising. I am not saying that you do not do that. My apprehension is that it will not at all yield any benefit. Then are you contemplating and going in for a negotiated settlement or something else you have in mind? A negotiated settlement alone can bring about a peaceful solution to the vexed problem of Punjab which has

been plaguing this country for the last 3 years. So, now how can negotiations take place? Who should take the initiative? What first gesture should they make? No doubt the Government has taken the first step, namely, the release of Akali leaders. Some leaders are still behind the bars. They think a conducive atmosphere has been created by such release. I do admit and I do congratulate the Government for having released them and for seriously attempting to achieve a solution to the Punjab problem. But after releasing some leaders, why not follow it up? Why not releasing the rest of the people? Why should they still rot in jails? By doing this thing if the Government think that any negotiations will yield any fruitful results, my apprehension is that will not contribute to any successful negotiated settlement so long as they keep some people behind the bars and want to continue negotiations with other sections of the people who are released. There is no half-way house, Either you release them lock, stock and barrel or the entire situation remains as it is. Therefore, there is no prospect of any congenial atmosphere for the purpose of conducting negotiations. This is my first point.

It is reported in the Press that the Prime Minister while addressing the Congress Parliamentary Party had stated that Government may also consider and is, in fact, considering actually the question of releasing the rest of the leaders. Of course, the reply of the hon. Home Minister when asked on this point in the Rajya Sabha was different. He said that there are certain cases against some persons and as long as those cases are pending the Government will not be able to move in the matter. That was the position he took the other day when he was replying on the Floor of Rajya Sabha. Subsequently the Prime Minister is credited to have said that he is actually considering the question of release of leaders? So, where do we stand now? What is the final position with regard to other leaders? If their release really contributed to the congenial atmosphere should we not follow it up so that a more congenial atmosphere for the purposes of achieving satisfactory and peaceful solution is reached at the earliest?

The Prime Minister is also credited to have said a number of times that he hopes to achieve a solution to Punjab very soon. That is what he has said? I am very happy about it that he is determined to achieve a solution. Not only this he said for that purpose if necessary an inquiry would be made into the orgy of violence both in New Delhi and other places after the assassination of the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. This appeared in the weekly *Sunday* when its correspondent interviewed the Prime Minister. Later the Home Minister said provided this will help achieve a composite solution to the problem then we will be prepared to consider this. Sir, the point is that the government are prepared to consider the question of instituting an inquiry into the orgy of violence which has shaken both Delhi and other parts of the country after the assassination of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, I think, this step is very necessary and essential with a view to give confidence. It is a question of crisis of confidence. The mutual misunderstanding and all this should disappear. After all supposing they form a Ministry you will not be able to ignore them. After all they are valiant freedom fighters who contributed to the freedom of this country. We will not be able to hoodwink them or continue to permanently alienate their sympathies. If government institutes a judicial inquiry, I hope it will certainly promote a better understanding and necessarily help expedite reaching a proper solution to the problem of Punjab. The government will have to give serious consideration to this.

Sir, the Prime Minister was also good enough to say—this again we get from the Press based on his speech delivered to the Congress Parliamentary Party—even Anandpur Saheb Resolution was not insisted on as pre-condition for having negotiation. No pre-condition was attached. Only he takes objection to certain clauses. That is correct. Those clauses which are injurious for the maintenance of unity and integrity of the country are objected to. It is rightly so. Any solution should be found and can be found only within the four corners of the Constitution. I do not think that any solution can be found outside the scope of the Constitution. The Constitution is

one and the country is one and it cannot be disintegrated, it cannot be bifurcated and there can be no divisive forces and secessionist forces to which we will have to bow. Our party will not agree to this solution at all and we will not contribute to this. So, it is very good that the Prime Minister has stated very clearly and categorically that he is prepared not to raise and emphasise the question of withdrawal of Anandpur Sahib Resolution for the purpose of arriving at a solution. It is very good that he has said this and therefore having said this, he has said one thing more. He is also prepared to withdraw the army. Of course, this was contradicted, different versions appeared in the press. One set of office-bearers gave one version and another set of office bearers gave different versions. He is prepared to withdraw the army and restore normalcy there and see that democratically elected body comes to office, democracy is restored and elected representatives take full charge of the situation in Punjab. Sir, the intentions are very good, motive is very good, the approach is basically very sound. That being so, what is the next step? Having said all this, what is the next step which you are going to take in furtherance of the goal which you are having in mind. Nothing is clear in the Statutory Resolution. The Minister wants the extension for six months, but the Bill—NSA—moved for consideration and for passing is for extension for one year. Why? And because he himself is not sure of what is going to be done, let him come forward—when he is not sure—with an extension for one year. Why should it be for six months? But I don't want this to be extended at all. The sooner we do it the better it will be for us. In this context, I may quote a line in Telugu—आलस्यम अमृतम विपर्ययम्. It means even in the case of 'Amrit', if it is delayed it becomes poison. So, let there not be further delay and procrastination. Unless you apply your mind to this and find a solution to this, the dangerous evil of communalism is going to engulf the country and overtake all and ultimately create a situation which will be very difficult for us to control. Already there is alienist thinking between Sikhs and Hindus. There is a perpetual animosity, I am sorry to say 'perpetual', it cannot be and it is wrong to say so. After all we

come from the same stock, same group. We are one, we are bound to be one. But why this kind of animosity? The entire Sikh community wherever they are—they may be in Punjab, they may be in other parts of the country—feel a sort of alienation and this is a very dreaded evil and we will have to annihilate this evil. You will have to create confidence in them and unless you do that, they will not feel secure. After all, what are the demands? The demands are religious ones and they are all almost conceded. But where there are certain demands which are territorial, they do not defy solution. Only the political problems defy solution. Now, how does the Government want to solve the political problem? How does the Government want to solve the law and order problem?

If you employ the army or BSF and increase the number of petrols, is it going to solve the problem? Has it solved the problem? This may be done when required; I do not say it is wrong. Let these forces be withdrawn at the appropriate time. Let the Home Minister decide what is the appropriate time, but I would once again say that these measures will not yield dividends, will not lead to desired results.

On certain occasions, draconian laws, which have been called black laws, have been promulgated, but they were found necessary under the circumstances. All right, you do that and continue them for some time, but that is not going to result in a solution. In spite of those laws, the activities of the terrorists have been continuing and you are not able to curb them. Even yesterday, a leader of the BJP has been shot dead at Chandigarh; a student leader has also been shot dead. And we are unable to check these terrorist activities. In fact, it is not happening in Punjab, but in other parts of the country as also in other countries. Terrorist activities are there. These have got to be dealt with with a heavy hand. We will not be a party to such activities by anybody. We do not mince words and we depreciate them with all the force at our command. But, at the same time, you can find a solution of the problem only by a negotiated settlement. There is no other alternative to this.

While concluding, I would urge the hon. Minister that he should come forward with specific steps in this direction. It is a question of holding discussions with the persons concerned. Whether he consults the opposition parties or not, that does not matter. The Prime Minister at one time stated that Akalis alone do not present the majority opinion, there are other people also. Who are the other people, with whom he is going to discuss the problem? For all practical purposes, we shall have to take it that a solution has got to be reached necessarily with Akalis and nobody other than Akalis.

In this connection, I would invite the attention of the Home Minister to a reported speech which his esteemed predecessor, the Home Minister, seemed to have made during the course of a Consultative Committee Meeting some time ago. He went to the extent of stating that the Congress Party would be even prepared to form a coalition Government with the Akalis. Whatever agreement they are able to reach with Akalis, whatever possible adjustments they are able to make with them, it is upto them. Once again, I would request the Home Minister to take suitable steps and create a congenial atmosphere to find a permanent solution to this problem, by involving all parties concerned, and all sections of the people.

The Prime Minister recently made an announcement about Punjab. I have to object; they are all very well intentioned; they are all laudable intentions. Whether it is the development of industries in Punjab, or development of major projects in Punjab, that is all good; they may not be there in the Budget. That does not matter. As regards Vizag Steel Plant, they say there are financial constraints, and money is not available. But something has got to be done. Of course, there is no comparison between the two. However, I hope that better counsels will prevail with the Government and they will be able to see wisdom and make sufficient allotment for Vizag Steel Plant. But as I said, they do not stand on the same footing. The Prime Minister has made an announcement about some major economic relief in Punjab. It is very good giving such concessions.

Therefore, I congratulate the Government. Before I conclude, once again I take objection that similar announcements are being made, not on the floor of the house, but outside, on the back of the House, which I think is detrimental not only in the interests of the democratic functioning in the country, but also to the very prestige of the House itself.

SHRI RAJ MANGAL PANDE (Deoria): Sir, it is a very simple Bill and does not need much of discussion Sir. Everybody knows that disruptive forces have been at work in this country for some time now. Initially even when people could not realise the situation, our late Prime Minister who realised the situation told in the Parliament and also outside about internal disturbances and external aggression from other countries neighbouring our border. Then we have some apprehension. Initially our political opposition parties took it as a political trickery, but subsequently they were proved wrong. Subsequently the whole country knows as to what transpired and ultimately our military had to take action. It is known to everybody. Now, the situation has not lessened even a bit.

We thought that our unilateral action in releasing the Akalis and talking to them in a harmonious spirit might soothe their feelings and even the statement made by the Prime Minister making certain announcements regarding the Coach Factory and other things is also in this direction only. I do not think that it is a policy matter. It is to soothe their feelings under such situation so that the people of the Punjab may feel that they are part of this country and that its development is a part of the national development. The Government should do its best to heal up the wounds that were somehow or other created by animosity between two classes of people.

Therefore, this Bill, which has given power for three months, now gives power for six months more to detain a person so that until the situation is harmonised and to the extent the situation in Punjab absolutely gets back to normalcy, things will not come to a pass.

This is a very simple Bill in the sense that any person who could be detained upto the 3rd of April 1985 or even before 3rd of April 1986, he could be detained, because the order that was passed earlier had lapsed. So, it is in the interest of the nation that this Bill be passed. The passing of the Bill will really go a long way to help the situation in soothing the hurt feelings. My friend on the other side has spoken that unilateral action will not only depend on giving some concessions, but also soothing the feelings of the Akalis with whom some kind of settlement or under-hand deal is being organised. I do not know what design he has in his mind. I am very frank to submit that things cannot go one-sided. Our Prime Minister has made it perfectly clear that the talks will be held within the ambit of the Constitution. We are prepared to go to the farthest limit so far as the other demands are concerned, as far as, they do not hurt to hinder the dignity or integrity of our country. Therefore, Sir, there is nothing to hamper the talks between the Akalis and our leader, provided they have an intention. But at the same time, I do not think that they have softened their attitude even a bit. They said that their Anandpur Sahib Resolution is their as much as it was some time back. What is there in that resolution? Pre-eminence of the Khalsa *raj*. How can we give pre-eminence to Khalsa *raj* in the Indian democracy, when other States are as much to be recognized? And people there are as good as people in any other State. If we recognize one State, what is the guarantee that the other States will not raise their heads? So, it is against the integrity of the country, and no Government worth its name will accept that kind of a situation.

MR. DUPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Pande, you can continue tomorrow. We now adjourn.

18.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, March 26, 1985/ Chaitra 5, 1907 (Saka).