

[*English*]**Land Irrigation on Completion of Tehri Dam**

8025. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of area likely to be irrigated on completion of the Tehri dam; and

(b) the details of compensation likely to be given to those whose land has been used for building the dam?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Tehri Dam Project will provide additional irrigation to an extent of 2.7 lakh ha. in the existing command of Madhya Ganga Canal and Upper Ganga Canal System, Lower Ganga Canal System and Agra Canal System in the districts of Agra, Aligarh, Bulandshahar, Etah, Mathura, Meerut Muzafarnagar and Saharanpur of U.P., besides stabilising irrigation in 6.04 lakh ha. of land in Ganga/Yamuna plains.

(b) A detailed Master Plan has been drawn up by the project authorities under which about Rs. 268 crores would be spent on rehabilitation measures. The Rehabilitation Plan provides for compensation to rural families by allotment of land in lieu thereof, land to agricultural landless labourers, house compensation and allotment of a residential plot on actual cost basis for construction of house, in addition to other benefits. For urban rehabilitation at New Tehri Town, plots of land of suitable sizes are allotted at subsidised rates and cash payment given for movement of commercial goods and household effects.

12.01 hrs.

[*English*]**MEMBERS SWORN**

Shri Jose Fernandez (Nominated Anglo-Indian)

Shri Paul Montosh (Nominated Anglo-Indian)

12.02 hrs

RE-LAYING ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE PAPERS PERTAINING TO AIRBUS A-320 DEAL

[*English*]

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): Sir, you will recall that the other day we had a detailed discussion on the Air Bus matter; and you will also remember that it was stated in the House that no documents should be placed out of context. Unfortunately, we find that in the Air Bus matter that alleged document of 2nd August—some decision or some note—was not allowed to be placed on the Table of the House because it was felt that singly it should not be placed and that the other documents should be placed along with it, if at all. It was agreed that those documents referred to by Jaswant Singhji and others, all documents should be placed. As we find today, I am sure the hon. Minister concerned must not be responsible for leaking....

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND (Chikkodi): How do you say that?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I hope so, I hope sincerely. The Government, apart from being now a Government wanting prosecution through the Press, is becoming the leaking Government. How is it, that certain documents have been leaked from the CBI, to certain newspapers and have appeared

[Sh. Vasant Sathe]

today in the newspapers? I would really want to know from the Government what it is that they want. Do they want a fair assessment and a trial and a discussion in the matter of the Air Bus or do they want this persecution and prosecution through the Press? What we want is, at least now let all the papers be laid on the Table of the House. Nothing should be kept back; otherwise, it will be open for suspicion and allegation that Government has some ulterior motive. I hope, all the documents will be placed on the Table. I wish that Shri Jaswant Singh will also support this demand of mine.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Jodhpur): A reference has been made to me by the hon. Shri Vasant Sathe. And a reference has been made to certain documents which have been published by some newspapers today, indeed certain documents which have been cited in the House during the discussion under Rule 193 on Airbus, by me relating specifically to the minutes of the Prime Minister's Officer. I agree with hon. Shri Vasant Sathe's contention that a demand was then made in the House by all sides that all relevant documents.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Relevant and not Irrelevant.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have permitted only Mr. Jaswant Singh.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I do not think there is any need for the opposition to protest so loudly about "all" and "relevant". We will only deal with the "relevant all" and not the "irrelevant all"... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us hear him.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: There are two or three aspects which, I think, I must correct the impression that hon. Shri Vasant Sathe has created. Firstly, permission was not denied. Hon'ble Shri Vasant Sathe has asserted that permission was denied for the tabling of those documents. Permission was not denied.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I said that consensus was taken that not only one document but all the documents should be laid.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Firstly, permission was not denied. Secondly, the hon. Minister was even then willing to lay the documents in his possession which were related, but the opposition did not then agree. Thirdly, specifically relating to the document that has been published by certain newspapers today, even on that day, when I quoted from it and mentioned that document, there was some admiration from the opposition that I only quote correctly and that I am always in possession of documents. And indeed, the hon. Minister even then clarified and said that this document is a correct document. I am not able to understand, therefore, as to what the opposition now wants so for the document in particular that has been published by the newspapers today... (*Interruptions*) Finally, I do Join the hon. Shri Vasant Sathe and the opposition and all of us who support the Government that all documents on this Air Bus deal which related to this transaction, in the judgment of the Government that ought to be placed on the Table be placed on the Table of the House ... (*Interruptions*)

PROF P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): Sir, on the day of the discussion, the hon. Minister wanted to place certain documents selectively on the Table of the House. Even though it was to oblige Mr. Jaswant Singh, hon. Jaswant Singh himself said that all the papers should be placed on the Table of the House. The Chair, on the consensus of the House, denied placing selectively on the Table of the House. The consensus was that all the papers, from the beginning of the dialogue to the end, should be placed on the Table of the House. There is no question of selectively placing. And who is to decide what is relevant or what is irrelevant? That Just cannot be done. We want the whole file, from the beginning to the end, to be placed on the Table of the House. They cannot decide what is relevant or what is irrelevant. The whole file should be placed on the Table

of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Janardhana Poojary...

(Interruptions)

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Mangalore): Sir, we want to make it very clear that we are not scared about the document that has been published in the Paper. It would be part and parcel of the Government records. But the most unfortunate thing is the publication, the leaking of this important document to the Press, thereby answering the points raised in this House. In order to scuttle it, this method is adopted. Now, here is BJP which is supporting the Government. The Government is using Mr. Jaswant Singh to... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Jaswant Singh is a Member of the House...

(Interruptions)

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Yes, Sir, I am making a charge against the Government. The Government is using Mr. Jaswant Singh in placing the records on the Table of the House. Not only that, they are using some of the Papers also to leak out these documents. So, Sir, in the interest of justice and also fair play, all the documents should be placed on the Table of the House and you must ask the Government not to leak out the documents. This Government has become a Government which is leaking the documents... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, you have made your point.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Now, Sir, you have to pull up the Government for doing this mischief.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (New Delhi): Mr. speaker, Sir, all papers are placed on the table of the House with permission of the

Chair. This point has not arisen for the first time. I remember that a controversy had been raised in the context of Bofors issue also so as to reach at a conclusion in respect of the words 'all papers', as to what exactly they meant. I want that the ruling given on this issue this time should become a precedent for future. A demand has been made from that side that

[English]

all papers pertaining to A-320 deal or transaction should be placed on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Now the term 'all' implies all papers even the smallest slip or piece of paper concerning A-320 deal, related to it directly or indirectly, relevant to our debate or otherwise should be laid on the table of the House. Therefore, I am saying that

[English]

not to score a point but only to see that the right precedent is set for the future.

[Translation]

I would like to request that the Government should not be allowed to lay arbitrarily the selective papers only which can mislead us. On the other hand, the Government should not place irrelevant papers under the compulsion of word 'all' which we may not be able to go through properly. My only submission is that there should be a proper discussion in the House so that the house is not misled. Keeping in view this point, all the relevant papers, which in your opinion, are considered useful should be laid here on the table of the House for further discussion.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (Sivaganga): Sir, if you go through the proceedings of that day, you will find that a controversy arose when I spoke and I also made a reference to

[Sh. P. Chidambaram]

the hon. Member, Mr. Jaswant Singh and I said, and I say this with a full sense of responsibility that this is not the first time that this has happened. This Government is stagemanaging such discussions by obliging certain persons with certain information about dates about words, about sentences and pretending to go through a discussion in which some of them will demand and then the Government can come forward with a flourish and say: 'Here is the paper'. We are wise to this game. This is the game which the Janata Party played between 1977 and 1979 and I thought that Mr. Arif Mohammad Khan, who is not only an hon. Minister but also an honourable person, will not play this game.

Sir, on that day I challenged him and I said, 'You are playing this game, we will not allow you to play this game, we will not allow you to place one or two documents only.' Sir, I also made a reference one of the Members, I think Mr. Advani, mentioned, to Bofors papers. Let us recall what happened. In the case of Bofors also the same controversy arose and I entirely support the hon. Member Mr. Advani that in Bofors also the demand was for all papers, the response was for all papers, but eventually what came out is the two documents. This must stop. This is taking Parliament for a ride. This is making a mockery of parliament using two newspapers or three newspapers to plant selected documents which could not be placed on the Table of the House. So, all that we are asking now is this. All papers means all papers, certainly one paper is not all papers. The hon. Member, Mr. Lodha of the BJP supported us fully on that day and said that all papers must be placed before the House. Now, Sir, this is the demand of the House. He could not do this that day. You have failed to do this, Mr. Arif Mohammad Khan. When you failed to do that on that day when you could not get the Chairman. Dr. Thambi Durai to agree to what you wanted to place first, what you have done is a dirty trick, what you have done is to leak it to two newspapers. So, all the papers must be put before this House. The House is the judge to decide what is relevant and what is not relevant. We cannot

allow any one to judge what is relevant. All the papers must be placed on the Table of the House. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Sir, what has appeared or not appeared on a particular day in a particular newspaper is not relevant for our purpose. Something else may appear, something may not appear. When the Opposition is emphasising the fact that all the papers must be placed before the House, that was, I believe, what Mr. Jaswant Singh also said from the very first day. In any case, what is relevant or not relevant is entirely your prerogative. It is left to you and I hope that will not be questioned. I remember in this House the case of Mr. Tulmohan Ram, who was a Member of this House, came up and there were charges of various types of malpractices against him as a Member of this House and a large volume of papers was concerned and implicated in that case and the procedure on that occasion that was adopted finally by the hon. Speaker was something very different. The papers were all made available to the leaders of the parties, they were placed in the other Chamber and the Members were free to go there, read them, consult them and talk. That was a different method which was adopted. They were not put here on the Table of the House.

Secondly, there are always some papers which it may not be possible to lay on the Table. I came across a report in one journal which says that there was a meeting or conversation regarding this Airbus deal between Mr. Rajiv Gandhi and the then President of France. The French President and the Indian Prime Minister had some exchange of views regarding this proposed deal at that time. If such document is there in the records—I do not know—which concerns the conversation between the two Heads of States, it is for you to decide as to whether that can also be laid on the Table of the House. I do not think that can be done. (*Interruptions*)

Therefore, we are all interested that this matter should be thoroughly probed and for that all relevant papers must be made available and it is for you to judge what is relevant

and what is not relevant and what procedure should be followed. All this talk about leakages and all that is all just red herring which they are trying to bring up in order to confuse and divert attention.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): We can understand the discomfort and uneasiness on the part of the Opposition because of the letter, what has come out in the two papers has completely demolished their claim which was made. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: We have heard Mr. Chidambaram. Let us hear Mr. Somnath Chatterjee.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You have heard Mr. Chidambaram. Now you hear Mr. Somnath Chatterjee.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We quite understand their discomfort. We are concerned with relevant documents.

SHRI AJIT PANJA (Calcutta North East): Who will decide that?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I am coming to that. It is not decided by them as to what is relevant. It is a deliberate attempt to create a situation as if there will be documents which will exonerate them. This is what they are trying to project.

The question is, only relevant documents have to be looked into. (*Interruptions*) You are the custodian of the rights of the Members of this House and of the House. Now just claiming that all documents to be produced in this House, they cannot try to create a situation by which the Speaker's authority can be diluted.

What happened when the Thakkar Commission report came out? In spite of their wishes, it came out and they had to ultimately lay it. And the question came whether the annexures were part of the report. It was ultimately decided by the hon.

Speaker then that the annexures did not form part of the report, because it was said only the relevant portion namely the report, and not the annexures will be disclosed or laid on the Table of the House. That was decided by the hon. Speaker. They did not listen to our demand at that time.

Therefore, it is only you who can decide on the basis of all the documents, which are relevant. They are trying to confuse the issue. Let not the real issue be diverted by referring to all documents, without specifying what the documents are.

SHRI DINESH SINGH (Pratapgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not my desire to introduce any more controversy on this. I agree with what the hon. Member, Shri L.K. Advani has said that the time has come when you have to take a decision as to how all papers are to be laid on the Table of the House. In normal case, once the question had been referred to the CBI for investigation and, if necessary, prosecution, one would have expected that they would prepare a report and the report would then be taken up in a court of law if at all a case had been established. To leak out individual papers is only an indication of a weak case where an impression is being created in the public different from the reality which could come out in the actual case if it is filed. But I will not go into that just now. My main point is that when one talks of laying the paper on the Table of the House, a paper like this, I agree, could contain a number of files. But I do not know whether you would wish to accept the responsibility to sort out those papers from the file. If you are willing to accept that responsibility, obviously no Member can have any objection or doubt in the impartiality of the Speaker as such. But in case you do not wish to undertake that responsibility...

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): It is his responsibility. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH SINGH: I know that you have many supporters in the House. We are also your supporters and, in case you wish to do it, if you can find the time to go through all

[Sh. Dinesh Singh]

the papers, we will have the facts coming out more easily than in any other manner. But I am saying that in case you do not wish to accept that responsibility, two instances had been quoted. One is that papers are placed for the review of leaders or Members as such. The other is to place all of them on the Table of the House. Now I think that the real decision has to be taken because a question of relevance cannot be decided in this manner. Government may consider something relevant. You may not consider that that in itself is relevant. My friend Shri Indrajit Gupta just now quoted some documents in which there is some discussion between the Prime Minister of India and the President of France. I think it might be a relevant document. It should certainly be placed on the Table of the House because it would then give an indication that we have nothing to hide, that this has been a matter which had been discussed both at the technical level and at the highest political level. It is not something to be concealed. That is why I am saying that selective placing of the papers on anyone's choice will not satisfy the House. It should be made available to all Members to see. Now that procedure you follow is a different matter. But people should have access, people should have the possibility of referring to that in the House so that nothing is concealed in the matter. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: It is accepted that neither the Government should decide relevance nor the Opposition should decide relevance. It is you who have to decide the relevance.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I have a suggestion to make. After all, in this case, unlike the Tulmohan Ram case and other cases, in this case, allegation is squarely against the Leader of our Party, when we were in Government. That is the allegation. So, we are the main people concerned.

MR. SPEAKER: What is the point you are driving at?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: The point I am

driving at is that when these documents are made available to you, if we have an opportunity of looking into them, our representatives will have an opportunity to assist you to look into them and to decide which documents we consider relevant. That will assist you because otherwise what will happen is, supposing it is not possible for you as an individual to look into all the papers personally, and so you will take the assistance of some one from office. Therefore, I tell you in fairness that whatever procedure you decide our representatives must have a chance to look into those documents. I do not mind if representatives of all political parties are allowed to look into this. But we should have a chance to look into the documents. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that this matter was already concluded. When the debate was going on, the Deputy-Speaker was in the Chair and the question was raised. A ruling was given after listening to all the sides. Sir, I would like to point out that this discussion which we are having now is unnecessary because the matter was concluded... *(Interruptions)* The hon. Minister was not objecting to the production of any paper. All that he said was that the paper is with the CBI. He said: If the House wants I am prepared to place all the papers before the House." I am surprised to hear what the hon. Members demand now... *(Interruptions)* When the Minister is prepared to place all the papers, the question of objection does not arise. We cannot be more pious than the Pope himself.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please order.

SHRIGUMAN MAL LODHA: If he wants to produce, if he has got no objection, he can produce a xerox copy. If he has got any objection to any particular paper, then the hon. Speaker, as Shri Advani has said, can look into it and decide the matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us now hear the hon. Minister.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Anbarasu, I am not permitting you. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have not permitted you. Let us now hear the Minister

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): Sir, with your permission, I will seek the indulgence of the hon. Members sitting opposite for two or three minutes uninterrupted. Shri Vasant Sathe had stated something on that day when the discussion had taken place. If he had gone through the contents, the response which I made to the points which hon. Members have made, I am sure it would not have been necessary for him to make this demand in the House again today. I have made it abundantly clear that since some hon. Members have referred to certain documents, they have quoted from them I have said that the papers are not with me, they are not with the Ministry of Civil Aviation. After the Government had noticed certain irregularities and procedural violations, we had taken note of the stories which had appeared in the Press. Immediately thereafter we referred the matter to Investigation Agencies. They have collected information from various sources. We had referred the matter to them. They have collected information from various other sources as well. I have said that since some hon. Members have quoted from those documents—I had left it to the discretion of the Chair—if the hon. Speaker directed then definitely I would go by that and would try to get the papers and lay those papers on the Table of the House.

I would like to make another point. Great emphasis is being laid on all the papers. I would like to admit in the august House—if

you direct me, I will obey—I would like them to listen to me. Give me one minute time. Please don't misunderstand me.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): Nobody has interrupted you.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: I say this because I am going to say something which may provoke you. *(Interruptions)* The point I am making is, I am expressing my inability, Sir, am admitting the failure. And this failure and this inability is that even if you direct me to lay all the papers on the Table of the House, I am in no position because... *(Interruptions)* I am going to that. *(Interruptions)* Exactly, I am coming to that. Because one very vital and important file about this deal is missing from the Ministry. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (Svaganga): Since he is yielding to me, may I suggest...

(Interruptions)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Mr. Chidambaram is very good and old friend of mine. Hence, I am yielding to him.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Considering the pathetic circumstances in which Mr. Arif Mohammad Khan finds himself, may I suggest to him that he enlists the services of honourable Mr. Jaswant Singh to locate the missing file? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: I yielded to Shri Chidambaram. *(Interruptions)* Please let me complete. I have yielded to Shri Chidambaram. *(Interruptions)* I am saying, why only Mr. Jaswant Singh? I have been knocking at various doors to get this file. And I am ready to come even to Mr. Chidambaram. *(Interruptions)* I am yielding to Mr. M.J. Akbar. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You should have the patience to hear all the arguments. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI M.J. AKBAR (Kishanganj): Shri Arif Mohammad Khan is today awarded a high honour in this House. Now he has been named a Pope. I am sure, after his intervention, the reputation of the Papal seat is in serious trouble. As for the missing file, we would most welcome if he lays at least the rest of the files on the House. (*Interruptions*) We can discuss the relevance of the missing file. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: My only problem is, I have stated the other day also, I can give the information but I cannot give the understanding!

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I think the matter is becoming more serious. The other day when we had the discussion, even in his reply the hon. Minister did not say that any such file was missing. But today have you noticed it? After the discussion, the file is missing. If files start missing at this rate, I do not know where we shall land. Because now the files are not even in his custody as he said just now. They are in the custody of the CBI. Are the files missing from the CBI's custody? What is happening? So we must know because this is a serious matter. Then tomorrow what will be placed before you?

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Please tell us since when they are missing?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Please let us know the date when it came to your notice that they are missing? (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: I have already said, I have had the benefit of getting trained under Shri Vasant Sathe. I am proud of that. I have learnt a great deal from him. He is my senior. I hope he will be confident about me that I am not going to indulge in dirty tricks.

I have said that CBI has already regis-

tered an FIR. When a case is under investigation.... (*Interruptions*).... Please let me complete. If you want me to yield, I am ready; but let me complete. Why I am making this is because as a Minister of this Government, I am responsible for other things also. But it takes time when things have gone absolutely awry—they are in absolute mess. It takes some time to put them back into order.

We have not forgotten yet that CBI while raiding the house of an eminent national champion, that too a lady, was leaking the contents of her personal diary to the Press. This is their tradition..... (*Interruptions*)..... This is relevant because you have made the allegation against me. (*Interruptions*)

No, I am not yielding. To everybody am not going to yield. Under the supervision of the hon. Member great Shri Chidambaram, the contents of a personnel diary of a national champion was leaked.

PROF P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): How is it relevant?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: This is relevant. Of course, it is relevant. I am making this point because Shri Sathe had said that this is a leaking Government. This is not a leaking Government. Yes, this is an open Government. But under the supervision of Shri Chidambaram certain holes were created in this organisation and we are trying to seal them. Yes, we are trying that. This is an open Government. I have nothing to hide. I have already stated in this hon. House that I leave it to your discretion. Whatever direction you give me, I will abide by that. Even about those papers which were referred to by hon. Members from which they have quoted, I had not made any offer. As alleged by Shri Chidambaram, I had not tried to lay any papers on the Table of the House. I had merely laid my statement on the Table of the House. Because the hon. Members were referring to certain documents and were quoting from certain documents, I had said at the end that "those documents are not with me; they are with the CBI. If the Chair directs, if the hon. Speaker directs, I will definitely lay

them on the Table of the House". Even now, I maintain that I leave it to your discretion. Whatever direction you give me, Sir, I will abide by that.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): When did it come to the notice of the Government that the file was missing? The Government must file a case against them and register a case for deliberately stealing the file.

[*English*]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: I will make it clear. (*Interruptions*) Let me respond to Shri Khurana first, then I will respond to others.

As soon as we noticed irregularities and procedural violations, we started collecting whatever material or whatever files were available in the Ministry. Then, immediately we noticed that one year important and vital file is missing from the records of the Ministry.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Chidambaram, because his name has been taken.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, Shri Arif Mohammad Khan, the hon. Minister, as usual, has made a very generous reference to me. I am not surprised that in his generosity, he has tried to lay certain blame at my door. Let me assure him, Sir, actually what happened is that, we did not, at any time, interfere with the investigation of any case, entrusted to the CBI. (*Interruptions*) Please listen to me. However much you shout, I have to answer him.

MR. SPEAKER: please address the Speaker.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: It is true and I have the courage to admit it—I hope Mr. Arif Mohammad Khan will also have the courage

to admit it today. I have the courage to admit it—that in the course of investigation by the UP Police and by the CBI, two newspapers based in Delhi were—I do not know under what circumstances—made privy to certain portions of a document which was seized as a part of the case diary. If Shri Arif Mohammad Khan will go through the records, of that case and what was done, the officer who was responsible was pulled up promptly, personally by me. Then, the Times of India and the Hindustan Times, editorially condemned their own journalists for that practice. Now, having said this, he has impliedly admitted that somebody in the Government has leaked it out to the two newspapers which had carried it today. Will he now pull up that gentleman? Will he pull up that officer? Will he ensure that those officers are condemned today those who have leaked it out to the two newspapers?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: We would not allow anybody to violate the procedure, to violate the norms, not only of the Government but also of decency.

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU (Kakinada): Sir, I am not going to talk about this matter. I am going to talk about a different matter.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, what is your direction on this issue?

MR. SPEAKER: I have no motion, Advaniji.

[*Translation*]

I have not received any notice, if there is one, I will allow it.

[*English*]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: The question that comes up is that all documents are to be placed on the Table. What does all that mean? It means that the relevant documents are to be examined. The relevance is to be decided by you.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, if there is any

notice, I will give my ruling.

(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: On the day of the discussion, we wanted the whole file to be laid on the Table. Then, he did not say about the missing file. *(Interruptions)* When we discussed this at length on that day, all Members demanded that the entire file should be placed on the Table of the House. The Minister did not say about the missing file at that time.

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You give notice. When you give the notice, I will give my ruling.

PROF. M.J. AKBAR (Kishanganj): I have a relevant point.

MR. SPEAKER: What is it?

(Interruptions)

PROF. M.J. AKBAR: Sir, the Airbus inquiry started after the crash. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: When you give the notice, I will give my ruling on the same.... *(Interruptions)*....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Everybody has made his submission. Mr. Akbar, you are not contributing anything new. *(Interruptions)*....

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. *(Interruptions)*....

MR. SPEAKER: I am not permitting you. I have called Mr. Pallam Raju.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat, Mr. Lokanath Choudhary. Mr. Khurana, please take your seat. *(Interruptions)*....

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: You have stated that there is no motion.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, there is no motion or notice.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: My submission is that there is a consensus. Shri Advani, Shri Chatterjee and others have stated that you may please give your ruling that only relevant papers must be placed on the table of the House. There is a consensus. You may please give your ruling.

MR. SPEAKER: When you give notice, I will take a decision on it and give my ruling.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no notice pr anything else.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: The question of notice does not arise. *(Interruptions)*....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your submissions.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: We have and we want your ruling. *(Interruptions)*....

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I will think over it and only after that I will give my ruling.

[English]

MR. PALLAM RAJU: Mr. Lokanath Choudhury, will you resume your seat?

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur): I want to make a submission on this. *(Interruptions)*....

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. That is closed. *(Interruptions)* Mr. Lokanath Choudhary, please take your seat. Now, Mr. Pallam Raju.

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU (Kakinada): Prime Minister, Shri V.P. Singh, was in Visakhapatnam recently to dedicate the Visakhapatnam steel plant to the nation. It was a very happy and important occasion not only to the country but also to the State. On such an important occasion, it is unfortunate that our Chief Minister, Dr. Chenna Reddy, was subjected to the indignity of not finding his name on the invitation card.

Apart from that, I think, it is deplorable to note that none of the state MPs, apart from the two local MPs, received an invitation to the function. The Prime Minister was coming to our State for the first time after assuming office and most of us wanted to be present there to receive him. Some of us did go to Visakhapatnam to receive the Prime Minister. But we could not attend the function because no invitation was extended to us. I want the concerned Ministry to take notice of this serious lapse in protocol. I would urge upon the Government to see that such instances will not recur again. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Lokanath, please take your seat. I will call you. Please take your seat. Shri Chokka Rao.

SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO (Karimnagar): In Andhra Pradesh, the farmers are being looted because their paddy is being purchased at the rate of rupees 40 less than the support price. All that is being done by the traders in collusion with the officers. Some centres have been opened by the Food Corporation of India. The farmers have to suffer a loss of crores of rupees because lakhs of tonnes of their paddy is being sold at the rate of 40 rupees less than the support price. I had given a notice for a Calling Attention also in this regard, but you did not

allow it. Now you have given me an opportunity in this regard. I have also written a letter to the hon. Minister of Food and Civil Supplies. He is also not paying much attention. The farmers have suffered a heavy loss on that account. The farmers should be protected against this loss.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Janardhana Poojary may speak now. Are you going to raise about cyclone?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Yes Sir, I have given a Calling Attention Notice on cyclones threatening the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. It has been stated that the velocity of the wind is very high and it is going to have devastating effects on the life and property of the people of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. The Government has not come out with the steps which they are going to take to prevent loss of life and property of the people of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. May I know the latest position regarding the cyclone from the Government?

MR. SPEAKER: Smt. Uma Gajapathi Raju.

SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU: Sir, through you, I want to get the attention of the Government on many matters. We raise many issues in this House.... *(Interruptions)*.... Time and again, we have focussed the attention of the House on the issue of atrocities on Harijans.

MR. SPEAKER: Will you confine yourself on the issue of cyclone raised by Mr. Poojary?

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU: No Sir. I want to raise the issue about Fatehpur incidents.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Fatehpur incident has already been discussed yesterday.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU: Why cannot the Government tell us as to what they are going to do and how they are going to approach the problem? We have not got any statement from the Prime Minister or the Minister concerned. We are not at all satisfied with the behaviour of the Government. The Government does not come out to make statements. Our protests are always falling on deaf ears. Sir, I want your protection in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Kumaramangalam, are you going to raise the issue of cyclones? You have given a notice on this issue.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, I understand that in my home State, at the moment, winds which have reached over the speed of 100 Kms. have already crossed and a cyclone is to occur at any moment in Tamil Nadu. But no arrangements have really been made to protect either the fishermen or the people staying in the coastal areas, even though the storm warning flags have been raised. The civil authorities have not started taking preventive measures even though they have known that a cyclone is going to hit the area within 48 hours. Yet, no steps have been taken. While there is a cyclone to hit Tamil Nadu, unfortunately, yesterday the hon. Minister, Mr. Gurupadaswamy created another cyclone in the House. He suddenly announced that for one-day token strike, he was going to resort to ESMA, which is one of the most draconian laws to crush the working class. I have always taken the stand... (Interruptions) Even when I was on the Treasury Benches as a member of the Congress(I), I took a stand on the ESMA and I was surprised to see that the crutches are still silent on this issue having given their conditional support. You must tell the Minister, he is there as Minister because of you. He has

flouted their own directive. I plead with the House and the members of the Left parties, as well as the BJP—and even the ruling party Members, I am sure will join me—to tell the Minister for God's sake not to use ESMA because if you use ESMA, there will be a flashback at the national level.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, we are greatly concerned at the decision of the Government to apply the provisions of Essential Services Maintenance Act, 1981 to ban the strike of the officers in the oil industry. This is one of the most draconian measures which was enacted by the Congress Government in the past and we had fought tooth and nail against that. This was enacted only to take away the rights of the working class and to ban all strikes wherever that notification would be issued under the Act. There may be difference of opinion about the desirability of the officers in the oil industry to go on strike, as they have decided to go. Whatever information I have received this morning, I am told that it is not fully successful at least in Calcutta, but even then we cannot offer support to the use of such a black law and the most draconian law against the working class people of this country.

The working class and the working people in this country have been supporting you and they have high expectations. At least, this draconian, anti-democratic, anti-people, anti-working class measure should never be resorted to by this Government. I urge upon this Government that they should immediately withdraw the notification under this Act. Not only that, they should also come out with a clear declaration of policy, that they will come out with measures for the repeal of black laws like ESMA, the National Security Act and other similar laws.

We also ask the Government to carry on negotiations and also request the officers in the oil industry to negotiate with the Government and resolve their issues and problems across the table. Once again, I call upon the Government and request the hon. Minister who is present here not to pollute your hands,

and indulge in this aberration, which is nothing but a declaration of war on the common people of this country. Please withdraw this notification. That is my request.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Sir, I regret deeply that this Government on this issue is speaking with two voices. The Ministry of Labour which, I think, is primarily responsible for relations between employers and employees, is violently opposed to the continuance of this ESMA which is due to expire on 30th September this year. The Labour Minister has made it quite clear that they also consider this Act to be one of the most obnoxious weapons which was kept in the armoury of anti-labour repression brought in by the party then in power, who are now sitting in the opposition. I would request him not to send a wrong message to the working class by this notification. We are all waiting for this Act to be withdrawn and not to be prolonged after 30th September. The Labour Ministry has made its position clear. But to this one day's token strike by officers, the Petroleum Minister has unnecessarily overreacted and he has said in his statement that all this drilling, transport and all the operations which are carried on, are all being done by the officers. I think it is a bit too much to swallow. We know how much the officers do and we also know how much other workers and employees do. In any case their original decision was for a three days strike. As a gesture they brought it down to one day, which means it is only a token strike for a few hours to express their resentment for the prolonged delay which has taken place in setting the issue of Dearness Allowance. Has he ever sat with them? He has only deputed officers to sit with them. Why the Minister himself has not sat with the leaders of the officers' organisation? It is very necessary. I am sure if he tries to do that, they will never go on strike. But they are threatening them with this 'danda' of ESMA which is the most hated instrument of repression in this country. I am afraid, he is going at a tangent, which is absolutely different to what the Labour Ministry is doing and saying. I would like to know what are Mr. Paswan's views and what are Mr. Gurupadaswamy's view.

They cannot speak with two voices here. The employees in this country want to know whether you are preparing to give up this hated weapon or you have again started reviving it and using it in order to suppress the right of strike. I beseech you, don't go this far. It will be counter-productive in the long run. You please give it up and settle with them. I appeal to the officers also to give up the path of confrontation and create an atmosphere in which Government will be compelled morally to sit with them and discuss the matter. But ESMA should not be used.

SHRI NANI BHATTACHARYA: Yesterday when the Petroleum Minister made a Statement, I requested him to directly contact the officers and to talk to them, discuss with them instead of invoking the ESMA. Today also, I feel the same. The officers have got unions and their leaders. So, the Petroleum Minister can easily discuss the matter with them. I appeal to the Government that after the token strike is over, ESMA should not be applied in their case.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): It is my and my party's firm view that the ESMA should be withdrawn. This Act was passed by the previous Government and it is anti-labourer. In view of this my party is in favour of its withdrawal. In this connection I want to associate myself with the views expressed by Shri Somnath Chatterjee who has raised this issue and I would urge the hon. Minister to give necessary clarification in this regard. Besides, efforts should be made to resolve the issue through dialogue. This notification should be withdrawn. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, when this Essential Services Maintenance Act was passed in this very House, we fought tooth and nail. When this act was extended, some four years ago, then also we opposed it. Today also, we are opposing it and urging

[Sh. Basudeb Acharia]

the Government and the Minister that the ESMA which has been invoked yesterday should be withdrawn. I request the hon. Minister, who is present here, to withdraw it because this is the sense of the House and also the assurance of National Front Government that all the anti-working class laws which are there in the Statute Book which were passed by the Congress Government—like the National Security Act, and Essential Services Maintenance Act—will be withdrawn. Those Acts should not be used and should not be imposed. So, I urge upon the Minister that he should clarify it by making a statement and withdraw the ESMA.

SHRI BHABANI SHANKAR HOTA (Sambalpur): I want to make one simple suggestion. I myself had been a victim of ESMA because I was basically organising the trade union movement, particularly of electricity and power workers. As far as I know—I have gone through the Election Manifesto of the Party—it had promised the people that all the anti-labour laws in the Statute Book will be withdrawn but it will take sometime. For the present, I do not know what are the circumstances that have resulted in this strike and the imposition of the law. But, I would urge upon the Minister to look into the matter so that the strike is withdrawn.

SHRI A.K. ROY (Dhanbad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to express our intense indignation and resentment at the imposition of ESMA against this strike. I do not want to go into the merits of this strike. It is because, I remember, the whole night, we fought tooth and nail against this Act, against this Bill. At that time, the Congress Government gave only one reason—"This is a weapon we are keeping but that does not mean that we will necessarily use it." It is a misfortune and an irony that the weapon which they kept, our friendly Government is using it. They made it. They passed it. They used it. But it is most unexpected that this Government is using it. I demand that the notification should be

withdrawn immediately, just now. Not only that. ESMA should be repealed and not that one should wait for it to lapse. It should be repealed in this Session itself.

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI (Rewa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am against invoking of ESMA. There is a near consensus in this regard in the House that ESMA should not be enforced.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, you speak on the issue, you have given in writing.

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am speaking on that only. I am of the view that ESMA should not be enforced and this Act should be repealed. At the same time I would like to move an appeal to the august House that the House with general consent should make an appeal to officers of the industry to withdraw their strike. The appeal should be made with the general consensus of the House. At the same time a request should be made to the Government on behalf of all of us that it should withdraw operation of ESMA and withdraw the notification in this regard and scrap this Act in due course.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the sanctity and dignity of the Pushkar Sarovar should be protected. Th Tirthraj Pushkar located in district Ajmer of Rajasthan is the place of pilgrimage of crores of Hindus. Soil and sand has been accumulated in the lake. I would like to request the Central Government to arrange to desilt the same.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHARY (Katwa): Mr. Speaker, Sr, we want a response from the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: He is very much in his seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHARY: It is

very serious matter.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN (Cooch Behar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister is here. He should make a statement.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barackpore): The Minister should make a statement. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let us hear Mr. Gurupadaswamy. But before that Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat please conclude.

[Translation]

PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT: The Pushkar lake has been filled with soil and sand brought into it by rain waters. This is causing a lot of inconvenience to lakhs and crores of pilgrims coming to Pushkar. The water in the lake has been polluted. Therefore, I would like to request the Ministry of Environment and Forest and the Ministry of water resources to get the lake desilted. The dirty water of hotels built for foreign tourist on the banks of this lake also fall in the lake. Necessary measures may please be taken to check the flow of dirty water into the lake.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): Yesterday, when I made a statement in the House, I had given the circumstances, the compulsions that made us to apply ESMA to this situation. I share the sentiments of the House. I share your concern. I also concede that ESMA is a draconian law. It becomes draconian in the hands of those who wish to make it draconian. I concede that the measure itself is draconian. What are the circumstances and what are the compulsions for imposing it. An hon. member has said that the Minister should have talked to the employees. Yesterday I made it clear that I had talked to them twice. I have sympathy for some of their demands.

I persuaded them not to carry their demands to the brink. I pleaded with them that this can be done only through negotiations. This is not a strike by labourers. I do not want to take shelter under this argument. A notice for this strike was given by the officers. Their emoluments are very much comparable with the emoluments of the Government employees. The salaries of certain officials exceed the salaries of the highest officials working in the Government of India. Besides, they enjoy a lot of perquisites, privileges, which are not even available to the highest officials of the Government of India. I do not grudge them. They are getting them because they have been working hard; they have built the Organisation with dedication and efforts. I think they deserve some facilities. When the matter of D.A. came up for discussion, there were two options before them and before the Government. Can the D.A. formula, which has been worked out, be revised or should the demand for Central D.A. for the officials, be considered? After a good deal of negotiations by the team of the officials of the Government of India, they made a suggestion. The suggestion was this. Whatever the stand has been taken by the Government and by the petitioner before the Supreme Court, it should be acceptable to them also.

We said, in other words, We are prepared to accept Central D.A. for them, provided it should become a part of a package. The package is, that they will be given Central DA, but they should not insist upon perquisites. They said, "No". They wanted us to delink perquisites from the Central DA entirely. The implication is, that if we accept their contention, it would mean that the others in the Government, not only the Central Government, but also the State government will demand the same facilities. It will not rest there. The employees or the labourers who are working at the lower levels also will demand, naturally. They will demand for the same kind of treatment and Central D.A. for them also.

So, it was a very complicated issue. We gave them options to choose this or that and negotiations were going on. We said, "Never

[Sh. M.S. Gurupadaswamy]

in the history of India officials at the higher levels in Government undertakings or public undertakings went on strike. In the oil sector, in particular they never went on strike. They issued the strike notice. After a good deal of discussion with them, they agreed to have no strike on the 24th of last month. It was very good of them. We were really happy.

Sir, the Members may be thinking that we have closed the door of negotiations. No. Even today the door is open. They are always welcome. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): We only want you to remove ESMA. *(Interruptions)* We only wanted you to remove the notification and the ESMA. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I will come to that. I am explaining the circumstances and the situation. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): None of us as such supported their demands. This is a matter to be resolved through negotiations. But the very approach of taking recourse to ESMA is what we are opposing. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I am coming to that.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Even in this serious situation while dealing with ESMA, he is supporting the Congress Party. *(Interruptions)*....

MR. SPEAKER: All of you may please listen. He is responding.... *(Interruptions)*....

[*English*].

MR. SPEAKER: We had already discussed it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I am not leaving out the main point. I am coming to that. Be patient. I was only explaining the situation which I thought I should share with you.

Sir, the clearance has been given by the Labour Ministry also for imposing ESMA. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT PANJA (Calcutta North East): And clearance by Prime Minister also. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Gentlemen, why was ESMA brought into operation? The main point is, why was ESMA brought into operation? Why was ESMA imposed? The main purpose is not to intimidate the strikers. The main purpose is to protect the undertakings. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Can you not guard and protect the installations without resorting to ESMA?

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: The advice given to us was, these are very expensive... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Workers will protect the installations.

SHRI A.K. ROY: They are unnecessarily terrorising the officers.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I fully share your sentiments. I know that when I was in the opposition, I was attacking ESMA. I was more vehement than you.... *(Interruptions)* I am not yielding... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let us hear the hon. Minister.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I am not using ESMA with a view to browbeat the strikers, harass them or intimidate them. This has been done for the purpose of protection of installations, undertakings and establishments and nothing more.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Normally when there is not strike situation, oil installations are protected by the Central Industrial Security Force which has been deployed. It is a statutory Force meant for this purpose. The Central Industrial Security Force is deployed in all the petroleum and oil installations to guard and protect them normally. And during the strike by the officers, they would naturally be doing this work even more attentively unless you say that the installations are in danger of being blown up or sabotaged by the officers. I think, there is no such charge against them.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Workers will help you.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: So, how by enforcing ESMA you are having safety of the installations, we are not able to understand.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I request you to please withdraw it.... (*Interruptions*) Even the compulsions of the situation have persuaded the Congress people to stand up, who are the perpetrators of the crime. They have brought this law into this country. Do not equate yourself with them... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: They are accusing the Congress Government of passing this law... (*Interruptions*) Does the hon. Minister think that ESMA is necessary over and above the other existing laws to protect the vital installations in this country?... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): So far what the hon. Minister has said has not satisfied us. We are totally against invoking ESMA for tackling a situation that has arisen out of one-day strike call given by the officers. I believe, the Minister has failed to appreciate the feelings of the House and he has also failed to understand the implications of this very action that he is going to do. It will be very embarrassing to the commitment that we have made and the support that we have offered to this Government. In this connection, we believe

them are many existing laws that are sufficient and they should be made use of for tackling this kind of a situation, and here itself he must give a commitment that it will be withdrawn.

SHRI A.K. ROY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are their friendly supporters. I would like to give some friendly advice...

(*Interruptions*)

Sir, the previous Government used to lack good sense, but I am sorry, Sir, the present Government has started losing commonsense. It will be the most deplorable sort of thing... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I think the points are being repeated. If Mr. Gurupadaswamy wants to give his own opinion, I think we can have it... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Don't kill handful of people who have faith in democracy... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us hear the Minister.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Don't allow them to use their own weapons against you. Please have the good sense to realise that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, we make an appeal to Mr. Minister. He is such a good man. He is sympathetic to the workers' causes. Let the Congress Party not misutilise the situation. I request him to please withdraw this.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Gurupadaswamy.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, this is a responsive Government and I value the views of the House much. I share their concern, I share their suggestions, I share their views. I have tried my best to explain the situation. Perhaps it was not convincing. In view of the prevailing atmosphere and keeping in view the opinion of the House, I would

[Sh. M.S. Gurupadaswamy]

like to reconsider the position. There are certain procedures that have to be followed. I take note of the consensus of the House.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NATHU SINGH (Dausa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Pak-occupied Kashmir about.....

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed you to speak on the air crash.

SHRI NATHU SINGH: No Sir, I have sought your permission to speak on this issue also.

MR. SPEAKER: Please speak on the issue I have allowed you.

SHRI NATHU SINGH: Sir, I have sought permission for both the issues. That is why I want to speak on this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, you may speak whatever you like.

SHRI NATHU SINGH: About 10,000 youths are being imparted training in Pak-occupied Kashmir and sent back to Jammu and Kashmir.

The Government has learnt from certain sources that the intelligence agencies also must have given information to the Government. As per the reports of the survey conducted in Jammu and Kashmir, it was found that about 6,000 youths are missing from the valley. Raids were conducted on the hideouts of the militants and searches were also conducted. As the Government is aware that sometime back incidents of arson and bomb blast took place at different places in the country. The situation will be further aggravated when 10,000 youths returned to Kashmir after receiving training in Pakistan and indulge in disruptive activities. In fact they are returning. The Government should take note of this. The Government says that youths are receiving training in Pakistan. But it has not so far said anything as to what

steps have been taken to check them. No action other than issuing a verbal warning to Pakistan has been taken by the Government in order to check the subversive activities.

SHRI RAGHAVJI (Vidisha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, an Air India Aircraft caught fire while landing at Delhi Airport. Had the Fire brigade not carried out the operation with promptness, 200 hundred passengers would have been burnt alive. I would like to tell the Government that these aircraft are pretty old and they should be checked up thoroughly which is not being done and the result is that accidents take place. Secondly, I would like to suggest that fire brigade personnel should be rewarded suitably and they should be commended for saving the lives of 200 people.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Khajuraho): When the Congress Party was in power, the then Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh had ordered externment of some christian missionaries for their dubious activities in some parts of Madhya Pradesh. Thereafter there were reports in the press that those people had come over to Delhi where they received protection and their externment was waived. Recently a meeting of the National Integration Council was held in which hon. Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Shri Sunder Lal Patwa again raised the issue of dubious activities of some Christian Missionaries in Madhya Pradesh and proposed externment of some of them. But in practice quite the reverse has been done because I have learnt that out of 5 persons in whose cases externment was recommended because they were actually involved in dubious activities in some parts of Madhya Pradesh. 3 persons have been given extension for 5 years and two persons have been granted citizenship. It is a matter of great regret that there was a request from a Chief Minister of a State that those people should be externed, but instead of doing that the Central Government gives extension and grant citizenship to them. It is shameful. Since it is a very important matter I would like to request the Government to scrap their citizenship and extern them out of the country.

PROF. YADU NATH PANDEY (Hazaribagh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the acute scarcity of water in the State of Bihar. There is a dearth of potable water in the rural areas of Bihar. All the rivers, tanks, ponds and wells have dried up in that State. There is acute shortage of potable water in Chhota Nagpur and Santhal Pargana areas. It has severely affected the normal life in Ranchi, Hazaribagh districts of Chhota Nagpur, Madhopur, Sahibganj Banka, Bhagalpur, Munger districts of Santhal Pargana. In all the adjoining villages of Hazaribagh, the situation is very miserable. People are facing very hard days without water. It is also causing the death of their cattleheads. Now the people have to buy water by making payment. Therefore, I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government through you to this situation and urge upon them to take certain effective measures at the earliest to provide some relief to the people of Chhota Nagpur, Santhal Pargana and particularly those living in my Constituency Hazaribagh from the scarcity of potable water. Hazaribagh is the part of eastern region where coal is available in abundance. In spite of it, the people of Hazaribagh are not getting adequate supply of coal as it is not being distributed properly through the public Distribution System. As the Member of Parliament and the legislator of this area belong to the Bhartiya Janata Party, the District Administration of the area is not procuring adequate quantity of essential commodities to be distributed under the Public Distribution System just to tarnish the image of the Bhartiya Janata Party. Also the food Corporation of India in Bihar has been receiving its supplies from Maharashtra in spite of the fact that Uttar Pradesh is nearer to that State. I would, therefore, like to urge upon the Central Government to issue orders to the District Administration to provide all the essential commodities through the Public Distribution System to the people. It should be made available to all the people.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW (Idukki):

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to invite the attention of the Government to a very acute problem in Kerala. A very serious situation has arisen in the Adivasi, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes settlement areas of Kerala because of the severe drinking water problem posed by the recent drought. Even the water supply scheme assisted by the Central Government and the World Bank has remained totally disrupted and faulty. 18 irrigation projects cleared by the Central Government remain uncompleted for the last 25-30 years and 12 lakh hectares of land is thirsting for irrigation water from these projects.

The life of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and poor peasants is reeling under untold misery because of lack of water. I request the Government to intervene immediately and direct the State Government to do the needful.

SHRI BHABANI SHANKAR HOTA (Sambalpur): I would like to draw the attention of the House and the Government to a serious situation which is taking place in a tribal village called Pabla stop a hill in Dhenkanal district. Some peculiar disease is spreading for the last so many days and months and it is affecting only the male members. It is apprehended that if this is allowed to continue, the whole village will be turned into a widow village very soon. The survey done by the primary health centre team sent by the State Government—though it is yet to be completed—has found that fever followed by diarrhoea is the cause of death. But the peculiarity of that is, it is only affecting the males and not females.

I urge upon the Government to take effective steps to send a medical team to examine the cause of such peculiar disease which is affecting only the males and remedy the situation.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to make a submis-

[Sh. Guman Mal Lodha]

sion that Jagat Guru Shankaracharya
....(Interruptions)....

MR. SPEAKER: That has already been raised.

(Interruptions)

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: If you allow me, I would like to say this thing only that 7th May has already passed and now there is no valid reason to arrest Shri Jagat Guru Shankaracharya. It is causing widespread resentment in the entire country because the place occupied by Jagat Guru Shankaracharya in our country is as significant as that of the Pope, so he should be released, it is in the interest of the State Government and the Central Government. The 7th May, the day Scheduled to lay the foundation stone of Ram Janam Bhoomi has already passed. So, now he should be released unconditionally.

SHRIPRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT (Baroda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the ex-servicemen had placed some of their demands before the Prime Minister after the present Government came to power with a request to fulfil the same. Their main demand was to accept the principle of "one rank, one pension" and they also demanded a chance of re-employment in the services. Besides, they also demanded that the persons who have fought in the second world war, should also be given pension. The Prime Minister had stated that their demands would be met in the current Budget Session. I would, therefore, like our Prime Minister to make an announcement to that effect during the current Budget Session itself.

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram): Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to the negligent attitude of the Central Government towards West Bengal and Bihar, a scheme regarding major Railway route from Asansol to Mugal Sarai via Patna, has been pending for electrification for many years. Due to this, the working class of Bihar, particularly the State

Government employees of Bihar are always late to reach their offices and the students also get late to reach their schools and colleges. The ordinary public of that area also facing a great difficulty on that account. Therefore, I would urge the Government through you to undertake the work of electrification of this major railway route from Asansol to Mugal Sarai via Patna that has been pending for many years.

PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL (Hamirpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a Technical consultancy Service was introduced by the Central Government to provide assistance to the industries in different States through the Industrial Development Bank of India and the provision of such Consultancy Services have been there in about 17-18 States, but now the Central Government has formulated a new scheme called SIDBI (Small Industries Development Bank of India) which obstructs the working of these Consultancy Services and as a result of it, the officers of the Small Scale Technical Consultancy Services have not been given their salaries for the last two months. I would, therefore, like to draw the attention of the Government to this issue and suggest that the services of these officers may be utilised in the Small Industries Development Bank of India, as these persons include Chartered Accountants and highly qualified Engineers in the Consultancy Services so that salaries could be given to them in a systematic manner and on a regular basis.

SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI (Siwan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Dhanbad, Ranchi and Giridih are the important coal field areas under the Coal India in Bihar. The officers of the Coal India have reemployed the retired General Managers and Directors even after the stiff resistance of the Ministry of Energy and these people are busy swindling funds and there is a lot of bungling in the distribution of coal. Lakhs of rupees per month are being spent on these officers. I would like to urge upon the Government through you to conduct an investigation in this regard through the C.B.I. as bungling of lakhs of rupees have been taking place there.

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH (Motihari): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government through you towards the grim power crisis in the State of Bihar, particularly in the North Bihar, where four crore people i.e. about half of the total population of that State have been residing. There are only two power generation units of 100 megawatt each. Last month, there was heavy hailstorm in that State which had damaged the crops of worth crores of rupees. The remaining crops that have survived, are not being harvested for the short supply of power and it seems that even the ensuring crops will get destroyed in future also. I would like to submit the Government through you that today the Government is worried about Kashmir because of persisting terrorist activities in that State. The Government is also worried about the eastern region of the country because that is also plagued by terrorist activities. I would like to tell you that the present grim power crisis in the State of Bihar has created a sense of terror among the people. I would like to appeal to the Central Government to intervene with the help of the neighbouring States in the matter and take steps to restore the normal power supply in the State of Bihar without any delay.

[English]

SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA (Bolangir): More than 10,000 persons are being trained and equipped in arms in POK i.e. Azad Kashmir. They are trying to infiltrate into this country and Ms Benazir Bhutto and the Generals of Pakistan have been supporting them blatantly to come to Kashmir. So I request the hon. Minister to make a statement on this.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you. I would like to invite the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the increasing dimensions of terrorist activities in Lakhimpur. Pilibhit, Nainital districts of Bareilly division and the foothill region. A detailed article on it has appeared in the yesterday's newspapers published

from Bareilly such as Amar Ujala and Jagran. I would like to bring it to the notice of the Minister of Home Affairs that in these districts, two types of terrorists are operating, one such group of terrorists is of those who are demanding Khalistan and raising a lot of hue and cry in that State and the other group of terrorists which belongs to the National Mujahideens. Front has also reached there. So the people of this area are feeling very much scared. Recently i.e. only two three days back, a bomb was thrown at a legislator of the area. Fortunately, he escaped it as he had gone by some other train. As such, the wave of terrorism has gripped the entire country. I would like to request the Minister of Home Affairs to express his views about it and tell the House about the steps being taken by the Government in this regard.

[English]

SHRI P. C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, the World Bank has published a map of India without Jammu & Kashmir. This is a matter of great insult. This is a matter on which the House should stage a strong protest. This, I think, is not a single affair because as the House is aware some time back, the International Parliamentary Union had also published a map without Jammu & Kashmir. Of course, we stage our protest and then it was corrected. This is a matter in which we really suspect there is some hand of somebody, some vested persons. Therefore, I would pray that this House should take it very seriously and the Government should lodge a protest.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS (Ernakulam): Sir, a large number of social organisation working in Delhi as well as in Bombay have brought the sad plight of children who work as servants in the houses that they have been beaten, they have been used for sexual purposes and other misdeeds are being done. This is a very serious matter. This is the year of the Child. So, I request the hon. Home Minister to look into this serious allegation. I would also like to suggest that a discussion should be held in this House on this matter.

SHRI AJIT PANJA (Calcutta North East):
With due respect, I would like to submit that
I am always called at the last minute.

MR. SPEAKER: You gave the notice
after 10.30 a.m.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: I gave it exactly at
10.30 a.m.

MR. SPEAKER: Now you can raise the
matter.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: The Central Gov-
ernment has formed a High-Powered Com-
mittee to go into the Education Policy. The
teachers are the backbone of our entire
country. The movement is going on regard-
ing retirement age of the teachers. From 65,
it is sought to be brought down to 60. Without
using ESMA, for which one hour was spent,
2000 teachers were arrested in the State of
West Bengal.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: You have linked it with
West Bengal, Tell us about the entire coun-
try. You are raising a matter of vital impor-
tance, so why are you linking it with one State
only?

[*English*]

SHRI AJIT PANJA: I say this because
they were arrested there. Within six months,
this High-Powered Committee is going to
give its report. Age of superannuation and
retirement of teachers and teaching staff is a
vital factor in our educational system, par-
ticularly, So far as our teachers are con-
cerned. So, let this issue be gone into by the
High-Powered Committee. Until the report is
presented, *Status quo* at 65 should be main-
tained. That is what I want to say.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be laid.

13.53 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[*English*]

**Calcium Carbide amendment rules 1989,
annual report and review on the working
and the Cycle Corporation and India Ltd.
for 1988-89 and a Statement showing
reason for delay in laying the papers**

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(CH JAGDEEP DHANKHAR) (On behalf of
shri Ajit Singh, the Minister of Industry): I
beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Calcium Carbide
(Amendment) Rules, 1989 (Hindi
and English versions) published
in Notification No. G.S.R. 109(E)
in Gazette of India dated the 2nd
March, 1990 under sub-section
(4) of section 29 of the Petroleum
Act, 1934. [Placed in Library *See*
No. LT-786/90]
- (2) A copy each of the following
papers (Hindi and English ver-
sions) under sub-section (1) of
section (1) of section 619A of the
Companies Act, 1956:-
 - (i) A statement regarding
Review by the Govern-
ment on the working of
the Cycle Corporation of
India Limited, Calcutta, for
the year 1988-89.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the
Cycle Corporation of In-
dia Limited, Calcutta, for
the year 1988-89 along
with Audited Accounts
and comments of the
Comptroller and Auditor
General thereon.
- (3) A Statement (Hindi and English