

[Shri Birbal]

- (2) Loans should be disbursed to more people under I.R.D.P.
- (3) The procedure for disbursement of loan should be simplified.
- (4) Under the scheme of providing employment to the educated unemployed Harijan youths, loans should be disbursed to them on priority basis.

(ix) Demand for Central financial assistance to Bihar Government for the construction of a bridge in Nonadih sub-division of Giridih district of Bihar

SHRI SARFARAZ AHMED (Giridih) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the people of the area have been demanding for many years that a bridge may be constructed to link Gomo with village Mendra in Block Nawadih in district Giridih. The State Government had started the work for construction of this bridge seven or eight years back, but the work was stopped after doing some work. The departments have been requested many a time and the officers have submitted revised estimates to the Bihar Government many a time, but the work on this bridge has not been resumed so far. Due to non-completion of the bridge, the people of the area are facing great difficulties. They have to face great difficulties even in bringing their goods of daily use. The development of Topchanchi Block in Dhanbad district and Navadih Block in Giridih district depends on the construction of this bridge.

I would, therefore, urge the Central Government that as the construction cost of this bridge involves huge amount, the Central Government should provide financial assistance to the Bihar Government so that work on this bridge could be started immediately and Navadih and Topchanchi Blocks could make progress and the people of the area could also get an opportunity to make progress along with rest of the country.

12.26 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL)
1986-87—(CONTD.)

[English]

(i) Ministry of Defence—(Contd.)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, we shall take up Item No. 9—Discussion on Demands for Grants under the Control of the Ministry of Defence. I think around 3 o'clock the Prime Minister may come to reply. Therefore, I request all the hon. Members to be very brief. The time is also very short. Three hours are left over now. Therefore, try to give in points whatever you want to express, not taking so much time.

Now, Mr. Jaipal Reddy may speak.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar): Sir, kindly note one thing. Yesterday, out of three-and-a-half hours two and a half hours was taken by the Ruling Party. Therefore, whatever time is allotted....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Whatever time is allotted, I am giving.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as we all know, the problems of Defence cannot be discussed or perceived in isolation from those of foreign policy, of economic policy, of foreign trade or internal harmony. But in view of the scope of this particular debate one must perforce confine oneself to the narrow aspects of Defence preparation.

Sir, after a decade of detante, the world is again in a new cold war. In the meanwhile, Sir, since 1945, the Third World has witnessed 120 wars as against hardly six of the developed world. And the focus of the new cold war is on Indian ocean littoral waters rather than on the Central Europe.

Sir, I would not like to lose the little time that you are giving by painting wide canvases or delineating sceneries or throwing the perspective. I would leave that to Mr. Tewary who is not here. But against the

background of emerging global strategic environment, Sino-Pak-American axis of sorts is inevitable. So is the high profile presence of super powers in the Indian Ocean. We may deliver Gandhian sermons or even Nehru in homilies, but that is not going to alter the situation even a bit. It is, therefore, necessary to formulate a security doctrine. We have been somehow much too modest much too gullible, much too hypocritical even to talk of the security doctrine. Sir, we are not a small meddling nation. We, therefore, must think of an integrated security doctrine. I am not among those who consider that the defence expenditure, as is being incurred in our country, is on the high side. But, Sir, I am worried and intrigued that there are many disturbing aspects of our defence expenditure. Firstly, it is shrouded in secrecy. It is interesting to know that the implications of all our defence purchases, of all our foreign purchases are well-known technologically and militarily to our enemies. But they are being kept away only from the people of India, from the Members of Parliament and even from the leading luminaries of the national Opposition Parties. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to evolve a mechanism by which the whole nation can conduct the defence debate on non-partisan lines.

Sir, we used to have in the past a full-fledged Cabinet subcommittee on Defence. Now it has been lumped with the omnibus Cabinet Subcommittee called the Political Affairs Committee. As we all know, the Service Chiefs do not attend the meetings of the Political Affairs Committee. Today we do not even have a full-time Defence Minister. I do not know why the Prime Minister should hold the charge. I have no objection to a person like Mr. Arun Singh, through junior he may be in the political rank, is made a Minister.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Why are you referring.....

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : It is my view. You cannot object to it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : It is perfectly all right. He is not suggesting any promotion. He is saying what should be the status. That is all.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : So, our Defence approach has suffered from lamentable lack of futuristic planning. It has, therefore, led to what is known as reactive policy. And this reactive policy has set us on scores of purchasing spree. Firstly, we purchased Jaguars; then we purchased Mirage-2000. These two aircraft alone had cost the Indian exchequer to the tune of Rs. 5,500 crores in foreign exchange. The Subramaniam Committee, way back in '70s, recommended that we should develop a fighter aircraft. I do not know why we fell through that. Now, we are purchasing from Sweden Buffer 155 MM gun which again is costing Rs. 1500 crores in foreign exchange. In fact, we have been thinking of 155 MM gun for the last 7 years. We took 7 years to take a decision. And the new Army General Sunderji himself admitted that we have the capability to produce 155 MM gun. In that case why did we not take steps to produce it?

In addition to that, now we are also importing Westland. Not very long ago, our young Prime Minister in his own knowledge of avionics, made a public statement both in India and abroad that U.K. Westland was unsuitable as helicopter for Indian purposes. I do not know, what really prompted him to change his mind. Now, with the Westlands which have been purchased to pulse up the sagging British company, we have also decided to purchase Sea Harriers. Sir, we are soon becoming the Arabs of the Middle East, the Oil Shiekhs of the Middle East who go on a purchasing spree in the West.

I am reminded of Shah of Iran who in the field of military technology was found of the latest toy. We are not only even found of latest toys but we are prepared to purchase even junk if it is of the foreign kind. Take for example, the HMS Hermes which was to be reduced to junk. It was on sale and there was no purchaser round the globe for it. When Mr. Reagan or Mrs. Thatcher visit the country, they go and function as chief sellers. When Mr. Rajiv Gandhi visits any foreign country, he appears to function primarily as the chief buyer.

[Shri S. Jaipal Reddy]

He has become a paradise of global military traders. Let us examine the validity of this purchase—Hermes. We know the aircraft carriers have very limited role to play. They are, in fact, white elephants. In actual operation, they are not useful. In fact, they are both white elephants and paper tigers, rolled into one. You know in the Falklands War, Argentinian Navy had its own aircraft carrier and it could not come into play at all. The name of the Argentinian aircraft carrier incidentally was Vincent De Mayo which means 26th of May in English. I am afraid HMS Hermes will be 1st of April for India. It will fool the whole of India. We know the aircraft carrier. It is like a King in the chess game. King has no power in the chess game but half the army must be deployed only to protect the King. In any manoeuvre, the aircraft carrier is to be basically protected.

I am quoting Admiral Hyman Rickover, the architect of modern American Navy. In a Congressional hearing, he said that in any outright war, even the nuclear powered aircraft carriers of America, ultra-modern or super-modern, as they may be, could be destroyed in 30 minutes, the maximum time that could be taken for destruction by an aircraft carrier. It means in modern warfare only half an hour. One of the possible reasons why the Government pressured into buying this carrier was this——that the Air Force would not allow the Navy to have aircraft otherwise. In fact, the Government could have gone in for shore-based aircraft. But the Air Force would object to it on the ground that Navy having shore-based aircraft would be trespassing upon its exclusive domain.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have 8 minutes. It is more than 12 minutes now. Try to be brief,

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : There are very few Members to hear ! Therefore, you can allow !

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Try to be brief.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : The aircraft carrier could be useful for, projection by force only in the distant areas. But we do not seek to do that in our operations against Pakistan or China which are our neighbours. This carrier Hermes will not be useful in any way. So, why are we buying this ? Why cannot we think of smart weapons like low cost missiles ? The Hermes junk sets, may cost only Rs. 75 crores. But the Refits, the electronics, the new engines, the sea Harriers and the gun boats would come to a total of nearly Rs. 1,000 crores.

I am asking another question. How is it that for the last so many years we have not gone in for production of our own submarines ? As I understand, we now have 8 submarines supplied to us so kindly by Soviet Russia. They did serve us well during the last 15 years. But they have become obsolete. These submariners are known as Fox Trot. Our Government went into collaboration with a West German firm for production of submarines. But before the collaboration agreement has been finalised, the whole model has become obsolete. Yet 4 of these submarines are supposed to be on their way to India. I am, therefore, suggesting that all submarines in the modern world unless they are nuclear could be obsolete. As we all know, the rate of technological obsolescence and more particularly, in the defence field is very rapid. When I say nuclear submarine, if there are any unilateral nuclear disarmers, I ask them not to be frightened. Even if we were to be privy to nuclear non-proliferation treaty, we would not violate any condition under it because a nuclear submarine need not be necessarily such as to have the facility of launching nuclear weapons. It will only be nuclear-powered and we have the capability and knowhow to produce a nuclear submarine. A non-nuclear submarine can be easily located because of the sound waves it generates. Therefore a nuclear submarine for our country's defence is a must. It will be cheaper, it will be more deadly and it will be more devastating and more effective than a hundred Hermeses. It is very instructive for us to note that two nuclear submarines of Great Britain in the Falkland war kept the entire Argentine Navy at its port and it could not stir out.

One nuclear submarine of Britain known as 'Sword Fish' had sunk the Argentine battleship 'Belgrano' which was the last nail driven into the coffin of Argentine Navy in the Falkland War. We must remember that an aircraft carrier is no longer useful. China has 117 submarines. It has 3 nuclear submarines. Out of three nuclear submarines. I am told, one nuclear submarine is such that even nuclear weapons could be launched from that. We need air-to-air refuelling facility. We have not thought of it for so many years. We have not thought of producing the transport planes. We are still importing An-32 transport planes from Soviet Russia. We should be able to think of producing them on our own. It was Gen. Eisenhower, who, retiring as President, warned America against the pernicious influence of industrial military complex that was emerging in that country. In spite of his warning American economy has been totally swamped by it. But the American economy did not stand to lose from it altogether. But Indian economy is getting killed because we are not using our defence expenditure for accelerating the pace of national development and for advancing the frontiers of our technology. This defence expenditure can be effectively used for enabling the nation to be at the cutting edge of the global science. But we are not doing it. We are using the defence expenditure only to import costly armaments.

Of late we have purchased parachutes worth Rs. 10 crores. Can't we even produce parachutes? We have also purchased 14 lakhs of blankets from Australia. I would like to know whether our sheep are not good enough or black enough. Or, is there any black money in the wool of Australia?

12.45 hrs.

[SHRI ZAINUL BASHER *In the chair*]

It was Carlyle who said that the low ideal is a crime. Our Defence Ministry cannot be accused of having committed the sin of low ideal. Our projects on MBT and LCA show that we are bubbling over with enthusiasm for high ideals. The MBT (Main Battle Tank) which is now named as

ARJUN is likely to end up like our pre-take over of Maruti Car. We know the pre-take over of Maruti had engine from one country, gear-box from another country and suspension system from still another country. I do not want to refer to the management of pre—take over Maruti, for that will only lead to loss of time through howl of protests from the other side of the House.

It was good we had Soviet collaboration for the production of MiG—21s. We should have built on that. Instead, we appear to have slowed down production of MiG-21s. I do not know the reasons for it. I would like to know about the proportion of indigenous content in it. I would like to know as to whether the MiG-23s are as good as that of our post-take over of Maruti in their import content. Then, what is the time schedule of indigenisation of MiG-23s?

Now, I would like to come to the light combat aircraft which has amounted to grandiose dreams of our rulers. I am not opposed to their roseate visions but I am wondering whether the LCA would not be another huge hoax. All this kind of a thing persist because the HAL which needs import of technology for such simple things like the production of Dornier, cannot be depended on for producing the LCAs. For the last 24 years we have had only one kind of Rifle, that is, the Ishapore rifles... (*Interruption.*) I would like to draw your attention to the fact that the Russians, in recent years, produced two new Rifles known as Kalashnikov and Tokaren; the Israelis have produced their Galili and the Americans have their own M-16s. It is, therefore, high time we had our own improved version of rifles which would relieve our infantry of some drudgery. This will give greater fire power to them.

(*Interruptions*)

Last year our Prime Minister waxed eloquent both at home and abroad not on one or two occasions, but almost 'ad nauseam' about the nuclear capability being developed by Pakistan, posing the danger of nuclear arms rise in the subcontinent. He was quite right in making this point though he

[Shri Zainul Basher]

carried it to excess. But what is intriguing is our Prime Minister in the second year of his tenure has become completely silent on it. I would like to know why this profound and protracted silence maintained by him. What was the lollipop that reduced him to the silence? What was the lullaby that put him to sleep?

There is need to develop amphibious forces in the country in view of the greater possibility of maritime activity in the Indian Ocean. It will take at least 10 to 15 years. It is, therefore, necessary to make a beginning in this area, here and now.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH (Bulandshahr): Mr. Chairman Sir, I had many things to say on the subject but since the time you have allotted is very short, it will be difficult for me to cover all the points. I will confine myself to making just a few suggestions for the consideration of the hon. Minister.

To begin with, two very important developments have taken place in the Ministry of Defence in the past few months which I welcome with all my heart. The first one was the taking over of Defence by the Prime Minister himself. The second one was the appointment of a new Army Chief. Both these developments are welcome and I am very happy about them. I am unhappy that the hon. Member who spoke before me has criticised that the Prime Minister has taken over the charge of Defence Ministry. It is a very good development because I feel it is a very important and sensitive subject which should be handled by the topmost executive in this country. I am sure all the problems of the Ministry and the policies will get the utmost and expeditious attention from the Government.

As far as the appointment of the Chief of Army is concerned, the House knows that he has given a very good account of himself, of what he is thinking of doing in the Army, what sort of a person he is, what sort of a General he is. I am perfectly sure that the

letter which he has addressed to his colleagues in the Army has shaken up the entire set-up and I am very hopeful that his efforts in the future will bring about the desired results.

I shall begin by saying something about the Annual Report of the Ministry which is a very important document. I feel that in certain matters this Report is lacking which I shall point out now.

The Report should contain a narrative of the working or the goings-on in the Ministry for the entire year and it should take on or begin the narrative from where the last Report left off, so that while reading it, the Members can come to know that have been the achievements or what have been the shortcomings of the Ministry and the Report should give a full picture. In addition to that, it should also contain, or rather should have contained, some critical and meaningful appraisals of the various important projects which are in hand in the Ministry. I find that this year's Report can be faulted on both the counts: It is not informative as I have pointed out just now; and as far as the analysis is concerned, there is hardly any appraisal mentioned in the Report about the various projects which the Ministry is handling. For instance, as was pointed out yesterday, the four or five important projects are the Main Battle Tank, the 155 mm Field Gun, the T-72 Tank, LCA, Submarine, acquisition of aircraft carriers and also ordnance factories. On some of these projects the Annual Report is absolutely silent or very nearly silent. In the last year's Report there was some mention, rather a brief mention, of some of these projects, but I find that there is hardly anything in this year's Report; we cannot make out as to what is happening to all these projects, whether they are coming up or they are proving too much for us to handle or what is the matter. The hon. Minister, when he was intervening yesterday, spoke at length about the Main Battle Tank and about the Field Guns. The point I am making is this: if at least a quarter of what he had said yesterday about these projects had been mentioned in the Report, it would have been better and the Members would have known something about them and the

misgivings and doubts in our minds would not have been created at all. So, in future, I would beg that the Ministry be more careful about these things ; they should spell out all these things in their Annual Report, so that the Members can have a clear picture of what is going on.

I have already said that I welcome the Prime Minister having taken over the Ministry. But on this occasion I would urge on him to revive the Defence Committee of the Cabinet to which Mr. Jaipal Reddy also referred a little while ago. At the present moment all decisions on matters regarding the Defence Ministry are being taken in the Political Affairs Committee where neither the three Chiefs are present nor has the Committee the time to deal with all those matters ; also they have not got the requisite expertise. It would be better if the Defence Committee of the Cabinet is revived ; it used to be there before ; for the last two years it has been given up. In the past the three Chiefs of Staff of Army, Air Force and Navy, were not invited to this Committee—the Defence Committee. I would request the Prime Minister to start a new practice where the three Chiefs also can attend this meeting.

As for the functions of the Chiefs, under the present system, we find that the three Chiefs, and especially the Army Chief, are bogged down in performing the normal day-to-day administrative functions and chores. The Chiefs have hardly any time to give some deep thought to the subject proper ; on to think about things in a calm manner so that they can bring about the necessary changes in the organisation, think-up of new strategies, long-term defence plans, etc. It is my suggestion that, as far as the Army Chief is concerned, we should appoint two very competent officers as his Deputies. One to take care of the operations and the other to take care of logistics. The Army Chief, who happens to be aptly called a thinking general, should be given ample time to give considerable thought to the organisation which he is heading. Because we are now moving towards the 21st century and the entire nature of the warfare has changed so much that we have to think ahead and prepare our Army for the futuristic war which will be based on technology, science, electronics etc.

A few words about the Navy. The responsibility of the Navy has increased tremendously. We have a very long coast line as we already know. We have enormous island territories and economic zone. I do feel that the present strength of the Navy is not adequate enough to look after all these responsibilities. So, it is my humble suggestion that the expansion of the Navy should take place as early as possible and the amount of money given to the Navy from the Defence Budget should increase.

I don't want to get into the controversy of whether we should have more aircraft carriers or we should have more sub-marines; that is for the experts to decide. But we must have some rational policy according to which we decide as to how many aircraft carriers are needed by the Navy and how many sub-marines are needed. Of course, under our conditions, I feel that both are necessary ; but how many of each, is for the experts to decide. I do feel that, perhaps, we should go in for more sub-marines than the aircraft carriers. Aircraft carriers are useful. We must have them ; we have already have one ; the second one is on the way and I believe that we are also negotiating for acquiring a third one. But one should not forget the point that aircraft carriers are expensive ; they are vulnerable and not so easy to protect.

We know fully well what happened to our Vikrant in the 1971 war. It was chased all over the world by Sub-marine Ghazi and with great difficulty—it was just providential — we saved the aircraft carrier. It is a vulnerable target and I think if we rely more on sub-marines that will be better.

In this connection I would like to mention that we have got two groups of islands which are strategically important — the Lakshadweep Islands and the Andamans of which we have not made proper use. It is my humble suggestion that we should set up two static land aircraft carriers on those islands. Land aircraft carriers are sometimes called "Aircraft Terrier" as they are established on Terra Firma. That can be done one in Lakshadweep Islands and the other one can be established in the Andamans group. If we have these two land aircraft carriers, they would give us a complete

[Shri Surendra Pal Singh]

control of the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean, and also provide better protection for our economic zone. That will also give protection to our other interests in that region.

There is news item which appeared in the papers sometime ago, about which I would like to seek the Minister's clarification. Sometime back one Mr. David Obe, who happens to be the Chairman of the House Appropriation Foreign Operations Committee of the USA had, according to him, invited India to give her views about the arms being supplied by America to Pakistan. He had apparently asked for a list of those weapons which, in the opinion of India, should not be given to Pakistan by America. According to the contention of Mr. Obe, India's response has not been positive so far. I would like to know whether such an offer came from any Committee from America or not. If so, what has been our reaction to it. Because he had said that there is no use making noises about arms being supplied by America to Pakistan. It is irrational, it has no logic. But we must know precisely what is it that India does not want us to give to Pakistan, so that we can think about it. I think, if such an offer is there we should take advantage of it and provide them with the required list.

Now a word about the Ex-servicemen. Very little has been said about them in the recent past; it has not been mentioned by any of the speakers who spoke before me. A great deal has been done for the Ex-Servicemen. Most of the recommendations made by the High Power Committee, have been accepted. But I believe that there is some difficulty in their implementation because the full cooperation of the States is not forthcoming. I would urge the hon. Minister to see to it that those recommendations which have already been accepted are implemented as early as possible.

13.00 hrs.

Sir, there are two aspects of this problem. One is the material aspect and the other is the psychological and moral aspect. The material aspect is being looked after, but I

feel that the psychological or moral aspect of the ex-servicemen is being neglected because I know that our ex-servicemen do not get the same respect and sympathy in Government offices, in business houses and public undertakings as they should get. I myself have heard with my own ears ex-servicemen being referred to as 'Fauji khurpas'. It is difficult to translate it literally but it means that the person is illiterate, uncouthed and rustic. This kind of behaviour is meted out to them. It is most humiliating. It hurts their pride and ego. Government should instruct the officers and the State Governments that whenever they are dealing with ex-servicemen they should show utmost sympathy and courtesy to these people. They are the people who are prepared to sacrifice their lives for the country and our officers should give them better treatment.

Lastly I would like to say a word about nuclear options. The matter has been raised in the House time and again. I do not want to elaborate on it. I just say that for God sake do not give up your nuclear option. I am not saying that we should make nuclear arms straightway. It depends on circumstances but we should never commit ourselves not to make nuclear arms. Our options should remain open always.

Lastly just a word about Defence forces personnel. Our soldiers, sailors and airmen are second to none in courage, energy and their capacity to put up with difficulties. All that they want is tools of war to fight with — the best tools that are available anywhere in the world. I would urge the Minister to see to it that our jawans and airmen get the best possible tools to fight with and if that happens, I am sure, no adversary who has an evil eye on India can go back from here without getting a bloody nose.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence. While doing so I do not want to touch the global issues but would confine my self to areas mostly around our country.

Sir, our country is encircled by hostile countries from all sides—from the north-western side by Pakistan; from North to

north-east by China ; from East by Bangladesh and from the South by Sri Lanka. Further the Indian Ocean has already become a place of super-power rivalry. The Chinese and Pakistani nexus has already linked the Gilgit-Sinkiang highway which is popularly known as the old silk route. Recently, they have linked this road with Tibet-Sinkiang highway through Khanejrab pass. As far as press reports go, they have opened up that road for civilian and military conveyances also. This has further threatened our northern border. The main reason for Pakistan's crying for Siachin and conflict in that area is perhaps due to the fact that Siachin and the area beyond Siachin, that is Shaksgam is just near the highway linking Khanejrab pass and Sinkiang highway. But in fact, they are carrying unnecessarily for Siachin. It was our area even before 1971. In the 1971 war, we extended and we went deep inside Pakistan occupied areas by liberating the areas of Turtuk. I do not know why they are crying. May be that it is for the reason I have already mentioned.

Pakistan is crying wolf for the presence of Russians in Afghanistan. In the name of danger on the border with Afghanistan, they have already received arms, ammunition and all sorts of military hardware worth Dollars 2.3 billion between 1981 and 1985 and now America has agreed to provide them with arms and ammunition and other military hardware worth over Dollars four billion. The question is, whether Pakistan is going to use the various military hardware against Afghanistan. I do not think so. The answer is in negative. They cannot use the warships there. Yesterday, our friend, Shri Faleiro told us that these Harpoon missiles can only be used against a ship and the question of using them against Afghanistan cannot arise.

Secondly, a full scale Pakistan involvement with Afghanistan means war against Russia. They cannot afford to risk that much of adventure.

Thirdly, the past experience has shown that Pakistan obtained arms and ammunition from the America, NATO allies and some Arab and other countries in the name of fighting Communist China, but then they

used those weapons against India. It was clear beyond any doubt in 1965 and 1971 and through. It has been proved that whatever they are trying to get, they are going to use against us. We must, therefore, be vigilant and we must buy arms and ammunition for our defence wing even at the cost of suspending or curtailing some of our plan projects. That is what I feel. The defence of the country is very important. Some of the interconnected points I had raised last week about the defence of the country, while speaking on the Ministry of External Affairs. I do not want to repeat those, but I would only like to say that we must give priority to solving the border dispute with China and settlement of some issues with Pakistan. That would be in our interest. It is important.

Then, I come to my own constituency, Ladakh. We have a very good liaison between the army and the civilian population. I must congratulate the personnel of the armed forces, the officers, the jawans for maintaining good relations. From the civilian side also we give all possible help to the army. I must also mention that the army is helping the civilians in the field of medical facilities, transportation in some of the remote areas and other help whenever we demand from them.

From our side also, we are helping them in supplying vegetables and other help in the form of manpower and whatever we can afford. Sir, on the defence research and development side, some good research work is being carried out in that area in the field of medical science to study the effect of high altitude on human system, and also regarding the treatment for frost affected patients. Research is being carried out in the field of agriculture and animal husbandry as well. In this way, the Defence Research and Development personnel are doing good work for helping the local population. I must say that they should concentrate more and more on these developments. I would also like to suggest that if they can help us in supplying some breeds of the jersey cows and cattle on cash payment, that will be very useful for the population. In turn, we can supply fresh milk to the army, which at the moment are being air-lifted from the plains.

[Shri P. Namgyal]

Lastly, I would like to say a few words about the service conditions of some of the middle ranking officers. They feel a little bit frustrated and there is some dissatisfaction among the officers of the ranks of second lieutenant to major or lieutenant colonel or so. I think, this needs to be looked into.

As per a recent newspaper report, the Chief of the Army Staff has a plan to make a change in the present system of writing the SCRs of these officers. This is a very good move. I must congratulate the new Army Chief because this will remove much of the frustration among the brilliant young officers.

Lastly, I would like to make a suggestion for the welfare and betterment of the Jawans of the Ladakh Scouts. These forces are employed at the Northern borders since 1947, when they came into existence. They are very much there, on the northern border, guarding our frontiers. My only submission is that these Jawans along with their families, should be allowed turn by turn in groups, to go on a Bharat Darshan tour or on a pilgrimage, on Government expenses by arranging a special plane or a connected transport, during the winter for two to three months. This will prove some encouragement to those Jawans who are always stand posted there guarding their frontiers. They are not interested to be posted out for other peace stations. They are happy in the snow peaked areas. So these are some of my suggestions

With this, I thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (Jhunjhunu) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, scattered stones and bricks are just rubble but when these are set properly with line and cement, they make a strong wall of a fort for protection. Similarly, the Armed Forces of our mother-land protect the boundaries of the country—be they on the land or in the sky or on the turbulent deep seas. The hon.

Member who spoke before me said that the ex-servicemen were not civilised. I want to submit that we all have shortcomings, but we cannot see them. The Members say one thing in this august House and something else outside. When a soldier joins the military, he recalls the words of the immortal martyrs like Avadh Bihari. When he was being hanged, the British officer asked about his last will whereupon he said that his country may shine in such a way that the foreign Government may be reduced to ashes and with it, our slavery may also end and an independent India may take birth from out of those ashes. Similarly, Ashfaqullah Khan had said, "O God ! there will be a morning when your Sun will shine on our free India." Our officers and jawans protect every inch of our mother-land even at the cost of sacrificing every thing they have. They do not do so with an expectation that they will get something in return. Rather they do so because they are answerable to the Almighty who has entrusted this responsibility to them. They sacrifice everything, but do not allow even an inch of our territory to be lost. If such people do not appear to be civilised to the hon. Member, then what can I say about that ?

I have some suggestions for the betterment of our Armed Forces. Firstly, whenever recruitment is made for the Forces that should be done simultaneously and collectively including the Government employees. They should get the same training and should be selected during the training and only after that they should be posted to different wings. At the same time, if it is made compulsory in our country that every citizen will serve in the military for five years, then there will be no agitations, etc ; there such conditions will not be created that those very persons who have been born in the country may like to harm it. It will then never happen that living in this very country, they may like to stab it in the back.

I would like to suggest that the free ration facility which you have provided from Jawan to Brigadier rank should be made available to higher ranks like Major Generals and General also, because the number of officers higher than Brigadiers like Major

Generals and General will be hardly between 200 to 300. Their number will not exceed this figure. Therefore, I urge upon you to provide free ration facility to them also. This will increase in them the feeling of discipline and they will think that in the Armed Forces, from the soldier to the highest officer, all are equal. You have increased the ration allowance negligibly. Earlier, it was Rs. 7.35 and now after increasing 5 paise you have made it Rs. 7.40. My submission is that it is a very meagre amount. You may yourself think whether a soldier can buy two meals with this amount? No, he cannot. Therefore, it should be further increased.

Now I would like to say something about clothing. Presently, in the Armed Forces, provision has been made for one dangaree whereas earlier two dangarees used to be given. Therefore, I request that two dangarees should be given and these should be fireproof so that during fighting the soldiers could remain protected.

MR. Deputy Speaker, Sir, regarding Armoured Corps, I would submit, through you, to the hon. Minister that it is the armoured corps which destroys enemies tanks. Since the British times this Armoured Corps has remained in 'D' Group. It possesses equipment with high technology which is very useful in the battle field. Therefore, it should be included in 'A' Group and not in 'D' Group. In the Armoured Corps from the beginning there have been five Groups, namely, A, B, C, D and E. In this connection I would like to submit that if it is recommended to the Fourth Pay Commission that these five groups should be reduced to three groups i.e., A, B and C, it will be very good and this Armoured Corps should be brought under Group 'A'.

Now I will speak about the education. The officers and jawans during operation and peace time keep on moving from one place to another. Therefore, their children should get all the educational facilities so that they may not suffer.

Now I want to submit about the rail facilities given to the jawans during their leave. At present, a jawan gets one railway

warrant free in one year and during Casual Leave he gets a concession voucher. In this connection my request is that a soldier should get two free railway warrants in one year.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the number of personnel in the Army has increased much as compared to their number, earlier but relatively traffic movement in the railways has not increased much. For example, M.B.F.U., kitchen cars etc. are the same as before. If we have to go from one place to another for firing, due to shortage of MBFU we are unable to go immediately and we are given a date after two to three months. I, therefore, request that the railway traffic facilities should be enhanced so that they may not be made to wait for such a long time. The railway traffic facilities should be increased in accordance with the increase in the strength of the Army.

You were mentioning about induction of Arjun Tank in the Armoured Corps and hon. Members of the Opposition also spoke about it. You mentioned about F-16 also. I would like to submit that if we have determination, then there is no doubt that no plane of the enemy can harm India. I am a living example of this. In the war of 1965, three Pakistani aeroplanes hovered over my tank, but they could not harm me in any way. I am mentioning this because you had been talking of F-16. They are not going to harm us in any way provided our hearts are strong and we have firm determination. One of my colleagues had asked me once that if I were in the front line in the battle and I did not get the support of covering troops, then what shall I do? I had answered that if our tanks were in the forefront or they were bombarding the enemy, we would not have to cut a sorry figure before our countrymen. The Army personnel lay down their lives for the country. And it should be like this, and not like the Opposition people whose words and deeds differ.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now I want to say something about the accommodation for the military personnel. During service time they rent out their own houses, but after retirement when they come back, they are unable to get them vacated and

[Shri Mohd. Ayub Khan]

they have to face many difficulties in getting their houses vacated. The tenants do not vacate their houses. Therefore, some sort of law should be enacted wherein it should be provided that when an army personnel retires, he should be in a position to get his house vacated immediately.

Sir, now I want to say something about my own constituency, Jhunjhunu. In the whole of India, Jhunjhunu is the only district from where 60,000 to 70,000 people have joined the Armed Forces. There may not be even a single district in the entire country from where such a large number of persons might have joined the Armed Forces. Therefore, I want to submit about my constituency that a defence factory should be set up there. That will give an impetus to the people of Jhunjhunu and the people will join the Armed Forces in a larger number and serve the country.

Sir, earlier I had stated that recruitment should be done collectively and in continuation of that I would like to submit that the retiring army personnel should be provided Service immediately after their retirement. They should not wander about in search of jobs. In this way, their talent goes waste. Arrangements should be made that as soon as an armyman is on the verge of retirement, intimation to that effect should reach the record office and from there this information should be available as to who is going to retire and against which vacancy he is going to be posted after his retirement. If this is done, his morale will get a boost. If he gets the facility of parallel service, then he will not have to bother as to what he will do after his retirement or that he will face difficulties in his old age. All these worries will be over with the arrangement of parallel service for him,

Sir, about pension I want to submit that they get lesser pension as a result of commutation. But when the money they have received as a result of commutation is made up, they should get the full pension and not the reduced pension.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the end I want to suggest that tank crew should get comporation so that they may be able to consume it within a short time at the time of need.

While concluding I would like to say that I fully support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence and if additional demands are brought forth we should not hesitate to support them. In this regard, whatever more we can do, we should do.

I request the Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi that as we are entering the 21st century, we must manufacture such a tank as may be able to operate on the land, in the air and in the ocean.

*SHRI P. SELVENDRAN (Periakulam):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, in support of the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence for 1986-87, I wish to say a few words on behalf of my party the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam.

At the very outset I would like to say that this is an era in which chaos confound the earth as a consequence of rapid strides made in space research. This is an era in which the world arena has become a political chess board in which the countries have become pawns. I would say that cowardice and fright should not be source for the security of a country. The security of a nation should derive its basic strength from courage and bravery. If I demand that the defence of India should be strengthened from the source of courage, I do not think that there can be any two opinion about it. India's freedom is our soul force. Whatever money is required to protect the honour and dignity of a free India, the Central Government should not hesitate to allocate that in the interest of security of our country.

So far all the wars we had faced were from north, west and east. But hereafter the threat of war and the danger to the freedom of the country will originate from south. This should be borne in mind by the Central Government. We have to

*The speech was originally delivered in Tamil,

admit that all our efforts to make the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace have not met with success. The proof of this is the ceaseless patrolling of Indian Ocean by the U.S. Seventh Fleet. Deigo Garcia on the Indian ocean has become the belligerent naval base of the United States. The Trincomalle port, which is commonly known as the Eye of Indian Ocean, on the east-coast of Sri Lanka, has been taken on long lease by the United States. In Trincomalle Port, there are giant 10' oil tanks, which have also been taken over by the U.S. Marines. The oil stored in these 105 giant tanks will fuel the American Naval fleet for two years continuously in an emergency. In the guise of scientific research, the Sri Lankan Coast has become the storehouse of the US Mines.

All this has encouraged the Sri Lankan Naval ships to come with impunity in our zone of the sea and harass our fishermen. They shout indiscriminately at the hapless fishermen. They confiscate their vessels and capture them. They are taken to Colombo and tied to their fishing vessels. There is no goodwill in Sri Lanka for India. Sri Lanka, in spite of being a Member of non-aligned nations, is indulging in inimical activities against India. The dynamic Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi's peace offensives have been brushed aside by the President of Sri Lanka. Our young Prime Minister has on many occasions expressed his apprehension about the growing Sri Lanka-Pakistan axis. In this environment it is no exaggeration to say that the danger to India is likely to start from the southern coast.

In order to foster neighbourly relations between India and Sri Lanka, we gave away the Kachchatheevu islands which were under the suzerainty of the Prince of Ramanathapuram State in Tamil Nadu, to Sri Lanka. We have documentary evidence to substantiate that Kachchathivu islands belonged to India. We gave on a silver plate these islands to Sri Lanka. But our good intentions have been thrown into the sea by Sri Lanka. From Kachchathivu islands the Sri Lankan naval vessels are attacking our poor fishermen.

I demand that we should take back unilaterally Kachchathivu islands and establish our naval base there. That will deter Sri Lanka from mounting wanton attacks on our fishing vessels. This will also ensure adequate security for our southern coast.

Our former Defence Minister and presently the hon. Vice President of India had in reply to a Calling Attention on the floor of Lok Sabha had stated unequivocally that Sethusamudram Canal Project is of strategic importance for the country. He also added that that this project of security importance would be taken up for implementation at the appropriate time. A high level Committee under the chairmanship of a senior officer of the Ministry of Transport was constituted to go into the feasibility of this project. This Committee was known as Lakshminarayanan Committee. The former Chief of Southern Naval Command was also a member of this Committee. This Committee had reported that Sethusamudram Canal project was really a project of strategic importance and also of national security importance.

This Sethusamudram Canal Project must be implemented by Defence Ministry. By implementing this project, there will be a direct sea-route for merchant fleet and naval ships going from east to west. They will not be needed to circumambulate Sri Lanka. They will not be exposed to the danger of passing Trincomalle harbour. You will be surprised to know that the ship carrying coal from Calcutta on the east-coast to Tuticorin on the east coast, it has to come around Sri Lanka. Similarly, the naval vessels going from east coast to west coast will have to go around Sri Lanka. The Sethusamudram Canal Project will obviate all the dangers to our merchant fleet and naval ships. This project should be taken up as a defence project and implemented expeditiously.

Presently, not even one-sixth of the total outlay for Army and Air Force is being given allocated to the development of Navy. This should not be continued hereafter because of the impending danger from Indian Ocean for the security of the

[Shri P. Selvendran]

country. The Indian Navy has to thwart the dangers from Sri Lanka Navy to southern coast. I suggest that a Naval Base should be established in Mandapam, on the southern coast. We have the Southern Naval Command in Cochin on the West Coast. Since the naval vessels from Cochin, in times of war, will have to come around Sri Lanka, a Naval Base in Mandapam will enable the rushing of vessels from Mandapam at short notice. This is a necessary precaution for the danger to our southern coast.

Similarly, during British rule, Uchippuli was an Air Force base. This has been neglected after independence. This place is also near to Mandapam. This should be revived as an active Air Force Centre. I suggest this because the combined Navy and Air Force centres in the southern corner will be an adequate protection against sudden exigencies.

There is a long road from Madras to Kanyakumari on the entire east coast. This road is also of strategic importance. The Defence Ministry should take over this as a National Highway of security importance and develop this road for movement of troops from Madras to Kanyakumari. This is also needed to face the threat to southern coast.

Before I conclude, I would suggest that an Army Training Centre, as has been located in Willingdon in Udhamandalam, should be set up in Kodaikanal also. Presently we have the Southern Army Command at Madras. I suggest that an Army Command should be set up in Madurai which will enable the immediate movement of troops to southern coast when need arises.

With these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence. The clarion call given by our esteemed Prime Minister,

Shri Rajiv Gandhi, for nuclear disarmament peace and development of developing and underdeveloped countries is very much appreciated throughout the world and it is successful. At the initiative of our esteemed Prime Minister, both the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union would meet together to discuss about the disarmament. Our foreign policy is very much appreciated even in the conference of the Communist Party of India, for the first time. They have said, it is a progressive Policy. The word "progressive" was never used before.

There are certain countries which do not like that India should be a third power in the world. They want that India should be approaching the other countries for its existence and it should continue to be dominated by them. But under the leadership of our esteemed Prime Minister, the things have changed. So, there are certain disruptive forces which are trying very much to destabilise inside India and also they are trying very much outside India.

The arms race now threatens to invade space and a thrust has been given to space weapons besides missiles, nuclear and conventional weapons. There is rapid advancement in weapon technology. We are concerned with China, Pakistan and also the crisis in Afghanistan. In Pakistan, weapons are flowing from America. Highly sophisticated weapons are flowing for a long time. In the name of Afghanistan, the Navy of America is supplied with sophisticated weapons, so also ports developed. The American Fleet which visited Karachi with the Enterprise, is certainly a matter of concern to us and it is believed that it had encircled India as had been attempted during the Bangladesh war. The Chinese as well as Pakistani persons have moved through the territory occupied by Pakistan and China and air bases with radar have been constructed on the portion of Indian territory of Kashmir occupied by Pakistan as well as the Himalayan Tibet. So, we cannot be silent spectator to it.

Recently according to an American study, the two most likely areas where a nuclear war could start would be of another

conflict between India and Pakistan or in West Asia. That study group has also stated that several nations are believed to have clandestinely made atom bombs and are in the very near of constructing the nuclear weapons, including that of Pakistan. Under this scenario, we must prepare ourselves for any eventuality that may occur. India has been invaded by Pakistan thrice ; yet it has not learnt lessons. If India wanted, Pakistan could have been wiped out from the world map but the intention of India was not to invade any other territory or to expand its territory. It wants peace. But our goodness should not be taken as a sign of weakness. So, under these circumstances, we should rise to the occasion and see that our forces should meet any contingencies. The morale of our Jawans is of very high order which has been exhibited more than once and what is needed is now the unity of the country, as it has been exhibited in the last three wars. During the Chinese invasion, poor people in the villages donated gold to defend India. During the Pakistan invasion, the unity was there, Now also, under the leadership of our esteemed Prime Minister, there will be unity. The disruptive forces, the extremists, are linked with Pakistan as well as America. It is an open secret and the people should rise to the occasion and see that these extremists are wiped out.

Another aspect is about the NCC. NCC should not be organised in a routine manner. Stress should be laid on making the NCC very very active so that they can come to the rescue of the people at the time of emergency. The students, both in colleges and schools, should be trained and, as has been said in this House, like France, China and other countries, military training is a must. Why not we adopt here in India the same system ? The NCC will inculcate in the minds of our students, discipline, integrity and love for the country. Stress should be laid on this.

The Committee has given its report about the Defence personnel, the security persons and the rehabilitation of the ex-service men. Some of the recommendations of the Committee have been implemented. They must be fully implemented.

Indian territories occupied by China and Pakistan should be liberated. Negotiations ought to confine with China. These territories should be liberated in a peaceful manner and while doing so, we should be in a position to bargain with them. If we are not in a position to bargain with them, if we are not equipped with arms and ammunition, they may not come forward for a legitimate settlement.

I thank you for giving me an opportunity to express my views and I only conclude my speech by reading two paras of the report which has been supplied to us. It is said therein :

“Defence preparedness is a comprehensive concept and a constantly on-going process. The officers and men of armed force continue to maintain constant vigil along our long borders with a sense of dedication and professional competency of a high order.

They are backed by the entire nation which is fully conscious of their service and sacrifice in defending our hard won freedom.”

[Translation]

SHRI LAL VIJAY PRATAP SINGH (Sarguja) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the proposed Demands for Grants. You know that our country firmly believes in the principle of peace, fraternity and global brotherhood and follow the same in actual practice. There is no doubt that neither our country wants to attack any other country nor it did so in the past. It is also a fact that our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, being the Chairman of NAM is making every possible effort to propagate the principle of International brotherhood throughout the world.

13.50 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the chair*]

You might have observed that whenever peace is disturbed, whether within our own country or in any other country, Shri Rajiv

[Shri Lal Vijay Pratap Singh]

Gandhi has always tried to intervene there to restore peace. Our country has always played a leading role whether it is the issue of disarmament, elimination of the possibility of nuclear war or the issue of restoration of peace. You know that our country has borders with other countries. You also know it very well that sometime instigative activities take place on the borders. Pakistan is small country. With the assistance of a big power it has not only acquired modern armament in large quantity, but also have its morale very high. Most sophisticated weapons are being supplied to it. Naturally, it is a matter of great concern. But even under such circumstances our country has not taken any step which may prove that we are preparing ourselves for a war.

You know that ours is a vast country and its requirements are also unlimited. We have every right to take steps for our security and we must also secure it. So, in view of it we have to prepare our long term defence policy and we have to achieve self-reliance and that may be achieved through the public sector. We have established many public sector units and sufficient allocation has been made for them. As per the budgetary allocation for the current year, the details of funds made available to various public sector units are as follows : Rs. 19 crores to Hindustan Aeronautics Limited ; Rs. 27 crores to Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore ; Rs. 19 crores to Bharat Earth Movers Limited, Bangalore ; Rs 30 crores to Mazgaon Dock Limited, Bombay ; Rs. 3 crores to Goa Shipyard Limited, Goa; Rs. 12 crores to Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited, Calcutta ; Rs. 5 crores to Praga Tools Limited, Secunderabad ; Rs. 15 crores to Bharat Autonomics Limited, Hyderabad and Rs. one crore to Misra Dhatu Nigam, Hyderabad. Similarly, arrangements have been made to give a boost to units in the private sector. This has shown good results. We have become self-reliant to some extent in respect of our national defence. We are not going to remain satisfied with our achievements. We are making every efforts to strengthen our Army, Navy and Air Force.

Hon. Chairman, Sir, I wanted to say something more, but there is shortage of time. You know that all the defence personnel lead a very hard life and 40,000 to 50,000 people between 40 to 48 years of age, retire every year. At present, there are about 4 million retired defence personnel. We should give priority to the work re-employment, pension and the housing problem as pointed out by Shri Mohd. Ayub Khane earlier. Through you, Sir, I would like to request the Hon. Prime Minister that these problems should be looked into. Our military personnel are the protectors of our country and defend the country at the time of national crises. Therefore, priority should be given to their problems and particularly the war widows should be given priority in every work. I know that education facilities are provided to their children in Central Schools, but even then sometime they face problems. Therefore, I request that some better arrangement of schools should be made for their children.

Sir, so far as the nuclear programme is concerned, our country is committed not to manufacture atom bomb. We should not go in for atom bomb, but at the same time I dare say that we must be in a position to produce it as and when we are required to do so. We should be fully prepared for it, because some other countries are very much eager to have it.

With these words, I support these Demands for Grants.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Sangrur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, today we are having a discussion on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence. Before I start my speech, I would like to express my thanks to the brave soldiers and the officers of our Army for remarkable and historied role played by them in the defence of our country. Apart from their present duty of national security, they had played a vital role in the national freedom struggle in the form of I.N.A. Some soldiers had joined INA and played a remarkable role. Indian Army is not only a protector of this country, it also presents itself as an ideal family. Our Army is a glorious example of national integration.

The brave soldier devotes the valuable period of his life for the sake of the country during his service. But during service and after his retirement from the service, he faces such problems as need to be given a serious thought. Be they soldiers or officers of the Forces, they live away from the society in cantonments, or on borders for quite or a long period. Therefore, they cannot protect their rights to property or land as the civilians can. We get a lot of complaints regarding illegal occupation of their land and houses by others. Legal security should be provided to them with a view to safeguard their properties. Society should give it a thought to provide them security so that their rights to properties may be secured.

14.00 hrs.

There are different scales in the pension structure of ex-servicemen. The soldiers who had retired 20 years back are getting different pensions from those who have now retired from lower ranks. Government might have some difficulties regarding financial resources and funds, but something should be done regarding this. It should not be that after retirement one Captain may be getting Rs. 1400 as pension and another may be getting only Rs. 300.

Today, while speaking on this budget, though I am in the opposition, I fully support the efforts of the Government regarding bringing about improvements in the Armed Forces and strengthening our defence. I would like to say that we all should support the Government wholeheartedly in whatever steps our Government takes for the country's security. Because international forces are indulging in such activities as are aimed at destabilising our country, so, it is the need of the hour that whatever money Government want to spend for the country's security, we should extend our support to the Government in the interest of the country.

Now I want to speak about some minor problems. Cantonments are constructed in the country. A very big cantonment is being constructed at Hoshiarpur in Punjab. When land is acquired for this purpose,

farmers offer their land happily as it is a matter of security of the country. But the problem arises when a meagre amount is paid as compensation for the land. When the farmer gives away his land, he becomes a landless farmer, who neither has land nor has any job. He should be allotted some alternative land or should be provided with some job.

In the history of a nation, moments come which bring sorrow and unhappiness to the nation. Sometimes such moments come under compulsion, nobody feels happy in meeting such a situation. I am saying it with sorrow that such moments have also come in the history of our country. After the attack by our forces on Darbar Saheb, some people were swayed away by their strong feelings and after an inquiry into their cases, this fact came to light that those soldiers and not indulged in any revolt, they had done nothing against the nation, but they were overcome by emotions. They were arrested, dismissed and also prosecuted. I want to say that we should pardon our children for their mistakes. I humbly request the entire nation and also our beloved Prime Minister who is very magnanimous to treat the Sikh soldiers who left their barracks, like children. They did a blunder but not knowingly. They were actually overcome by their strong feelings. Their cases should be dealt with sympathetically. Through you, Sir, I am appealing to the entire nation to deal with them sympathetically and efforts should be made to rehabilitate them and to provide them with employment. Everybody has realized the fault. With this serious appeal, I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar):
Sir, at the very outset I congratulate the Hon. Prime Minister who accorded the prestigious five star rank to Gen. K.M. Cariappa for his glorious services to the nation and who accorded the distinction of Vice Admiral to Rear Admiral (Retd.) Daya Shankar. I also congratulate the Hon. Prime Minister for announcing better emoluments for the personnel of the Defence Services and also for induction of new and high technology in the weapon system of the Army and other forces.

[Shri Ram Singh Yadav]

Sir, some of the Hon. Members from opposition have talked about that the information regarding Defence has been kept secret and whatever purchases which are going to be made by the Defence are only out to the nation when actually the negotiations have been over which are disclosed to the nation through the Press. I think, the Hon. Members from opposition during the whole of the debate could not give any concrete suggestion regarding planning, high technology and better equipment for the weapon system for equipping the Defence Forces with the latest technology in the field.

Their reflection is only frustration, The frustration which they have met in the political arena, the frustration which is in their minds about their ideology, the frustration which is clear from their performance are before the nation. That is why they are not in a position to give any concrete suggestion even on this vital subject of the defence of the country.

It is true that the security and safety of the nation is secure in the hands of the armed forces. But, first and the foremost requirement of any nation is the political will, the strong leadership. It was in the strong leadership of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru that the British Naval Fleet could not sail to the Suez Canal. It was in the strong leadership of Mrs. Indira Gandhi that in the year 1971 the American 7th Naval Fleet could not sail to the Bay of Bengal. Now it is in the strong leadership of the present Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi that the nation is safe and we are secure.

As a matter of fact, our leadership is a harbinger of peace, a messenger of peace. The whole of the nation is looking towards the efforts made by our Hon. Prime Minister to bring the two super powers closer and to the point of peace, so that the whole world can heave a sigh of relief. That is the only requirement of the whole world. Today it is not only the question of defence of one nation, but it is a question of the defence of the whole of the mankind, the security of the mankind, the survival of the mankind and the efforts towards this direction which

have been made by India, the people of India and the leadership of India are recognised and are being applauded throughout the world.

Sir, the Indian Army has got its glorious history. The Army has not only served this country during war but also in peace. I come from a State which has faced the fierce wars in the years 1965 and 1971. Rajasthan is located on the border of Pakistan and the people of Rajasthan in spite of living in desert, living in conditions of scarcity, living in condition of scarcity of water and so many other difficulties in their routine life have faced and it is a matter of glory that during the war of 1971 a large part of area in Rann of Kutch—1.74 lakh Kilometers of Pakistan territory—was captured by Indian Army. Not only in 1971 but also in 1965 the Indian Army on the western sector showed its valour, glory and bravery and the personnel of Indian Army have withstood the test of time.

Before, I being a citizen of that State which ways applauds warriors and patriots congratulate the other Members of the House that we must encourage and enthuse the brave soldiers who have served this country since ages and since long.

Today there is need of the scientific temper in the country. Our Prime Minister has given a call that this scientific temper is not only limited to one aspect of life but it extends to the Defence aspect also. Our engineers, our soldiers and our technocrats who are serving in Defence wing are expected and are also developing the latest technology—the technology which is based on Indianisation, the technology which is required for the development of the weapon system and for the warfare.

Now, I would like to give some suggestions. My first suggestion is that the Border Roads organisation should be strengthened and given more funds for the construction of roads. Rajasthan has a long border. There is need for roads—permanent roads—so that at the time of emergency the country can face the onslaught of Pakistan or other neighbouring countries who may have evil designs against India. Not only this we must have the

broad-gauge railway line across the border. It is necessary to maintain supplies. The meter-gauge railway line from Jodhpur to Barmer and upto Godra road should be converted into broad-gauge. This is the requirement of the Defence. I think it should be given greater priority. Further the soldiers who have retired want rehabilitation. They should be given loans to the extent of Rs. 25,000/- or Rs. 50,000/- at lower rates of interest. The sons of the soldiers should be given priority for employment in the Army because when their fathers serve in the Army, they are not looked after well and they do not get proper education in the schools in the villages. Therefore, they should be given priority. I would also like to request the hon. Prime Minister that the long-pending cases of litigation of the Defence personnel in respect of agriculture land given to them for rehabilitation should be settled quickly. Those soldiers who have been allotted this agriculture land are wandering from pillar to post. Their cases are pending since long. There should be some system whereby those soldiers whose agriculture land has been captured or tress-passed by other persons and are undergoing prolonged litigation they are given some sort of help. There should be a law that if any tresspasser occupies the land of the army personnel, it shall be restored to the army personnel in a summary trial in the court.

Further, I suggest that the officers or the jawans who retire from the army should be given a chance to serve in para-military forces like BSF, CRPF and the Industrial Security Force etc. Today, the District Welfare Boards for army personnel are not in a position to give any employment to the retired soldiers, who are in a physically fit position. They do not get the opportunity for a job. I request that there should be some guarantee for employment for such people after retirement.

With these words, I support the Demands of the Ministry of Defence.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore):
Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence for the year 1986-87.

As we all know, the defence policy of a country is really based on its national policy and its foreign policy too. The defence strategy must be adopted in considering the national policy, which has been framed and formulated by the country concerned as also the foreign policy and the environments around us.

Our present Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, had repeatedly told that we have no intentions of aggression on any other country and we have no territorial ambitions at all. Though our present Prime Minister is incharge of defence portfolio, he has always been advocating and trying his utmost to have a full ban on nuclear weapons. We all know that as the Chairperson of NAM his significant role for disarmament and non-alignment has been highly praised and appreciated by all the countries in the world including Super Powers. But unfortunately, some of our neighbour countries, specially Pakistan, have been accumulating sophisticated arms in the name of using these against Afghanistan. Pakistan has been procuring sophisticated arms from USA and accumulating them. May I put one simple question? Will the Harpoon missiles be used against Afghanistan? Similarly, I am sure that the ships, sub-marines, etc. procured by Pakistan will not be used against Afghanistan. Also, the accumulation of arms on the other side of our border in Pakistan, will never be used against Afghanistan. So, our defence preparedness should be done in considering all these developments around us.

There are so many aspects to which I would like to refer. But here, I want to pose just one problem which has been raised yesterday in this House by my hon. friend Shri Kumaramangalam. In his speech, yesterday, he mentioned about the National Test Range—NTR. I am not referring to Shri N.T. Rama Rao. For this NTR, the site has been elected at Baliapal-Bhograi area in the State of Orissa. This area falls in my constituency Balasore. He has suggested that, as there is great resistance by the local people against this project, the site may be shifted to Kanyakumari. I very much welcome his suggestion. But I

[Shri Chintamani] Jena]

understood from the scientists and experts as also from the present hon. Minister of State, Shri Arunji as well as from his predecessors that before selecting this site, they have considered 22 probable sites all over the country including Kanya Kumari and lastly they have found Baliapal-Bhograi area suitable, because of its geographical location. The hon. Minister Arunji has also told us about this in his speech yesterday. The House might be knowing that this site was selected by the then Janata Government in the year 1978-79, but they could not implement the scheme then.

When this National Test Range is going to be established, there will be about 5000 families which are going to be displaced from this area. So, there is strong resistance from the people. Taking advantage of their sentiments and also their plight, some of the political parties are trying to exploit them for their own political benefits. One of the political parties, the CPI (ML) has gone to the extent of imparting arms training to the people of that area, during night times and these political leaders are instigating the people to resist Government's action. Government officials cannot enter that area. The people are so much provoked by these political leaders that they are not allowing any outsider to go into that area and a total ban has been imposed on the visits of the Government officials to that area. Very recently, the Collector of Balasore and some other officials went there and they were so much humiliated and harassed.

However, these people are very sentimental and especially when they are asked to leave their sweet homes, they are resisting it. Added to this, they are being instigated by these political leaders. Whatever the situation may be, if the Government, in spite of such resistance by the local people, decides to have the project, from the point of view of national/country's interests, at Baliapal-Bhograi area only, the whole situation need be considered on a humanitarian ground. I would also appeal that the Government should not take more than an inch of land which is not required. They should take the bare minimum, which is absolutely necessary. The compensation,

rehabilitation, employment and other such helping measures should be implemented through negotiations with those beneficiaries. There are many public institutions like schools, colleges, dispensaries, hospitals, clubs and so many other public institutions located there. Due compensation should be given to all the institutions and employees such as teachers, etc. who are employed in these institutions. Compensation to thousands and thousands of people who are the owners of betel-wine gardens, mango groves, coconut and cashew-nut orchards etc. need be paid in a very befitting manner. Many people have raised such type of mango-groves, and built houses and pisciculture tanks on Government land. Compensation should be given to all those people. The people of that area are not relying on the State Government rehabilitation programme. They want that the Centre should come to their rescue in the matter of rehabilitation, compensation and appointments, etc. I would request the hon. Prime Minister to kindly consider the issue of establishing the Main Battle Tank (MBT) Factory there. The people will think that this is a gift given by the hon. Prime Minister for their plight.

Some arguments and counter-arguments are raised about the expenditure on Defence Budget. But we know well, that our defence expenditure is much less than that of Pakistan, China, U.K., U.S.A., U.S.S.R., Sri Lanka, France and many other countries. I am not going into the details of it, but I will quote one paragraph of the annual report of the Defence Ministry for the year 1985-86. In page 7, point 7.4, I quote :

"The 1985—90 Defence Plan is at an advanced stage of finalisation. The emphasis continues to be on modernization and replacement of equipments, securing greater fire power mobility and more modern means of communication and on self-reliance and import substitutions."

In keeping all these things in mind, we should talk about the expenditures, whether it should be more or less, when we are going for modernization and sophistication and especially in considering the size of

our country and also security environment, our expenditure is definitely less than that of others.

While we are speaking of more expenditure, we should keep in mind that, in 1940's when we were talking about "Swadeshi", it was meant hand made clothes, but today, when we refer to "Swadeshi", we mean Indian Satellites and Computers. So we should not compare expenditures on satellites with that of hand made clothes.

Sir, I want to make one small point on this issue, from the figures of "Strategic Analysis of February, 1986. It is worth seeing that, in 1962-63 the expenditure on defence was Rs. 473.9 crores, i.e, 3.1 per cent of the GNP, whereas in 1980-81, it was Rs 3866.77 crores and the percentage of GNP was 3.38 per cent only. So, if we take 1970-71 Price Index, the percentage of GNP is 3.8 per cent.

It is a matter of great pride for us that our Jawans and defence personnel deserve all praise and gratitude from all of us for their sacrifices, patriotic spirit, their devotion to their duties which is second to none, which we have noticed in 1962, 1965 and 1971. The ideals they have placed before us will go a long way to overcome all eventualities which may come on our way of progress.

One more request : The Second Sainik School should be there in our State Orissa—in Balasore District.

With these words, I wholeheartedly support the Demands.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur): I rise to support the Demands for the Ministry of Defence,

The defence policy of any country is a matter of national consensus, and we are happy to note that in this House there is a broad consensus on the various perceptions. First of all, I would like to appreciate the preparation of this Report, and I would like to say that it is not only objective, but also imaginative. In the first Chapter,

there is a sentence in the last paragraph viz. paragraph-11. I would like to read it and compare it with what has come out recently. It says :

"Finally, the international dimensions of India's security are naturally of great concern to us. More particularly, the fact that external forces could interact with internal forces of dissent in the political and socio-economic spheres to exacerbate our security problems is a scenario that must be reckoned with."

This is a very important observation in this Report. It must have been prepared at least a month or a fortnight ago.

There is an interview which Pakistan's President, Gen. Zia has given to the magazine 'New Life' in London, in which he has said that India wants to make Pakistan a scapegoat for its internal problems.

14.31 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Here is a link, and I am happy that this has been understood much better by our own people ; but Zia had to say it later on.

So, it is of increasing concern to us that the western Super Powers are involving themselves in the internal forces of dissent in India, and they are trying to sharpen the conflict. Thereby, it is a matter of grave concern for us.

Our armed forces have had to be called upon to their duty sometimes to maintain internal security of the country, and I must appreciate the role played by them during the past few years in not only guarding our frontiers, but also in maintaining peace and harmony in this country whenever they have been called upon to do so.

The commendable role of the Forces can be seen from the fact that a number of martyrs have laid down their lives in the successive wars with Pakistan and China, in

the past few years since Independence. My own State, Himachal, has effored 1049 martyrs in the armed forces of the country ; and that is a matter of pride for us.

We have to see that new challenges are emerging for our national defence. One of these challenges is Pakistan's determined effort for nuclear status. Secondly, the ruling party in Pakistan has recently passed resolutions, which are also a matter of concern to us.

Similarly, the intention of the Western Super Powers to make the Indian Ocean the play-field for their designs, is also a matter of concern for us. So, we have to remain prepared for all these eventualities ; and I am sure that our Armed Forces are at all times ready to meet the challenges.

It is in this context that the money spent upon them is very generously granted by the nation, by the Government and by this House, and there is an appreciation for them on all scores. We have not only to look after their various requirements, including the new challenges of technology, new acquisition of weaponry, the arms race, acquisition of arms by Pakistan, but we have also to look to the various other aspects of our defence, the defence planning has acquired its own status in the past few years ; and it has come to stay. As some figures have been rolled out recently, as some friends have said that 3 per cent of our GNP is spent on expenditure. It is a very meagre amount, but it is spent and it is well spent ; it is the amount that is spent in guarding the country's frontiers and therefore armed forces deserve a pat on their back.

We have to pay special attention to our ex-service men and we have to see that their welfare is the concern of the nation. Since 1919, after the First World War the Soldiers Boards have been created in the country and our government has taken many steps to strengthen the Zila Sainik Boards, the State Sainik Boards and various other measures. But we have to plan for a long term strategy, because, at the moment, the services send out their men—say over 60,000 per annum—retire

men at the age of 35 or 37. So, it is an unfavourable comparison with the other services in the civil sector. The result is that when they have to find placement, they find it difficult ; and the amount of pension that we pay is huge according to one estimate, the bill for pension is coming to as much as Rs. 600 crores per annum and it may soon be over-taking the cost of salary. There fore, we have to take a fresh look at the strategy and we have to find a way in which the money is well spent and the people in the armed forces are not made to suffer and feel any inconvenience at the age of retirement. Therefore, I would plead that we may take a fresh look ; we may have to review the whole situation and instead of retiring them at the age of 35, we may retire them, let us say, at the age of 25 or near about 30 ; and then make their placement in the civil services in a manner that they draw regular salary so that the problem of pension is reduced to the minimum and they are not put to any unfavourable competition with the State services with the result that the armed forces remain young on the one hand and there problem of pension is solved on the other. At the present moment, the ex-service men are demanding removal of disparity in pension which has been referred to the Fourth Pay Commission. I am happy to learn this. The High level committee for the welfare of ex-service men made certain recommendations, and one of the recommendations was that a Parliamentary Committee of both the Houses should be constituted so as to look after their welfare, because it is felt that the executive alone cannot ensure implementation of the various measures which are made in this House and outside for the welfare of the ex-service men. So, if there is a Parliamentary Committee and the sister committees in the State Legislature, they will be able to call the executive to the scrutiny and that will be a step in the right direction. The demand for one rank one pension is also a cry for the ex-service men. So, this may also be looked into sympathetically.

229 Zila Sainik Boards in the country are doing good work, but they need further strengthening. In our tour—I was fortunately a member of this committee we found that some of the Zila Sainik Boards

were suffering from lack of finance. Therefore, they should be strengthened.

In my own constituency in my State, there is a proposal for setting up three military stations—one in Hamirpur, one in Una and one in Nogli in Shimla and Kulu Districts on the border of both. An early setting up of these military stations would help us. Similarly, a demand for the ordnance factory from our State—our Chief Minister has made this demand—should be looked into by the Minister of Defence. I would appreciate the good work done by the armed forces and I would also appreciate the various steps taken by the government headed by Shri Rajiv Gandhi in keeping the young services at a very important key role position in guarding the nation's frontiers; they have so far guarded the frontiers of our country; they have also come to the rescue of the nation at a critical hour without any discrimination of caste, colour or creed. Their role in the disturbances in Punjab without any communal bias in them is a tribute to the secular nature of the armed forces and it must be appreciated at all hands that even at the risk of their life and even at the risk of being misunderstood they had played a notable role and saved the unity of India not only from challenges across the border but also against the challenges on our own soil.

With these words, I commend this Report.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I request the hon. Members to be brief. Already, we have exceeded the time. Now Shri Narayan Choubey.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : At the outset, I pay my tribute to the Armed Forces who are guarding our borders in the Himalayas or at sea-shores or in the deserts.

First of all, I want to mention one or two points which I want the Prime Minister also to hear. I am astonished to see in the report that again you are equating the two super powers, on the same footing.

Even Shri Parashar also spoke about it; you are putting them on the same footing that the two super powers, are creating tension in the world. It is for truth, Shri Rajiv Gandhi knows it, all the Ministers know it, and you also know it. But in your reports you are equating the super powers. I cannot understand why you equate the super powers. Who is your friend, among the super powers? Who is your friend and who is your foe? You know it. The U.S.S.R. has stood by your side on all occasions and that you know. One super power is against tension, that super power is against tension and that super power is asking for curtailment of tension. Another super power is asking for never and never explosive nuclear device, and it is not correct to equate the two super powers. That is my first submission.

Second submission, Sir, there is another super power, the Pentagon, of the U.S.A. They are not going to give us anything. They do not want to transfer any sensitive military technology to India, because, India did not sign the security military information agreement. India has not signed it, so India has not been given the information. So, this is the position with one super power that is U.S.A. And, there is a super which is USSR. You know its behaviour towards India.

And, you know, Sir, many revelations are taking place, the Larkin Brothers case, Ram Swaroop case, and so on. Who is working for whom? All the Western countries are anxious to have our Defence installation information they want to get information regarding our Defence installations and there are some scapegoats or black sheep in the country, they work for them.

So, I would request the Government not to equate the two super powers, and not to put them on the same footing.

The third point I want to make is, they want to create trouble for India, actually the Sixth Fleet ships are there in Karachi. Pakistan has given bases to the U.S.A. There are all military bases given to the U.S.A. by Pakistan.

[Shri Narayan Choubey]

Sri Lanka has also given bases or is on the point of giving bases. And it is wrong to say that both the Super powers are making the Indian Ocean an area of conflict. Our problem is that the Indian Ocean should be declared a zone of peace. See what has happened to Diego Garcia? What is happening in such a situation? Who are there with nuclear weapons? What Super power? Our Defence preparation should be there taking all these into consideration and money required for this should be given. We understand that more money is required. Because, new technology is developing and Defence should also be improved.

I said it, you also know, we all know it, ours is a poor country. We have to see what is needed in the circumstances, and we have to spend in a correct manner. In this situation, we are asking our Prime Minister and the Defence Minister what we need for the country. Yes, I do agree that we require another Aircraft Carrier. We do agree, that the Eastern side and the other side, both need to be watched. But what is the use of taking the Hermes aircraft from the British? Even the British Navy said that it was Junk.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (katwa) : We require junk.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Some say, it will cost 40 million Pounds. The 'Hindu' dated the 5th said that we need one hundred thousand crores. And, we are buying an out dated vessel when ever British Navy decided to make the Mothballing of Hermes. But you see, Australia did not buy it, Chile did not buy it, Brazil did not buy it. But I want to know, why India is buying it. We wanted to know it.

Moreover, in this report, we find that along with Hermes, you want to buy some Sea Harrier Jumper Jets, Sea-Kings Helicopters, and large assemblments of missiles, and electronic equipment running into several hundred crores. I want to know as to why this is being bought. Will that help us in any way? When are we going to produce our own aircraft carrier?

It seems that the Defence Department is on a big buyin spree from foreign country. It is reported that we will be buying 400 pieces of 155 MM field guns from Sweden costing Rs. 1500 crores. Only yesterday, the PAC in its report on Ministry of Defence has said :

"From the perusal of the Enquiry Committee Report, the Committee have observed that there were lapses on the part of Technical Evaluation Committee, Negotiating Committee, the second team of Government officials, the Resident Inspector who cleared the item before pre-shipment and of officers who did not initiate legal action against the firm as early as in July/August, 1979."

So, these people who are dealing in arms deal are earning a lot of money.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : In 1979 it was your Government.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : In 1981 the country was ruled by you. Anyhow it was an independent country whether ruled by you or by Janata and it was country's sum. It should be gone into.

I want to know why we are buying those things from abroad which can be and are being produced here. What is the reason of buying parachutes worth Rs. 10 crores from South Korea when they can be produced in Kanpur? What is the use of buying 1000 pieces of goggles? (*Interruptions*) You go through the report published in the recent India Today'. We have the reports that we are going to buy 1.5 million woollen blankets from Australia for the Army. I do not know why there is a craze for foreign goods even in the Army.

We welcome modernisation. It is well and good. But then we are told that in the name of modernisation you are going to reduce 30 per cent of the employees.

Yesterday, the Minister of State for Defence Production has said that we have got very skilled people. I do not think you can dispense with them. You can make use of them. Both the recognised federations have protested against that.

We are told that in the name of modernisation you are doing privatisation in the defence units. The clothing factories under Ordnance factories, which are producing tents, etc. are not getting orders and you are giving orders to private firms. Orders for Arctic tents and army clothings are being off loaded to big contractors. In UK, the Government of Mrs. Thatcher, is trying to allow privatisation in defence industry. I am sure, our Government led by Shri Rajiv Gandhi, would not follow them in this regard.

170 high skilled workers in HAL Agra were laid off. With the induction of AN 32, I am sure, they will be having enough job. I hope, the Minister will look into it.

1107 employees of Class C&D working various defence units under the Director General of Inspection have been rendered surplus. I hope, the Minister will look into it and they will not be rendered surplus.

You have accepted that there is a good cordial relation in the Defence Production Departments. But in the Defence Production area, there is the Anomalipe Committee's report of 1981 which has been accepted by the Government on 14.10.85. But that still has not been implemented. I want you to implement it.

I have personal knowledge of corruption in MES Department. I know what is happening at Kalakunde air base in Midnapore District. There the contractors are fattening. The officers in the Garrison Engineers are fattening. And your services are not done in a proper order. I would like you to look into it and see that it is stopped.

As many of our friends from both sides have demanded, the suffering of the employees working in the Border Roads

Organisation should be looked into. I would request you to look to the employees also. Who are they? They are neither civilian nor Army men.

[Translation]

Neither fish nor fowl.

[English]

I would like to say that either you allow them to form their unions as the civilian employees are allowed to do, or accept them as army men so that they get all the benefits of army men. Neither doing this nor that should be stopped.

I want to make another point regarding ex-servicemen. Regarding ex-servicemen some good things have been talked about in your Report. This single window clearance system is meant for retiring employees of Defence Secretariat and Service headquarters. Our ex-servicemen are praised throughout India. If you make only one single window clearance system in Delhi, that will not help. At least in every State capital there should be such a thing. I hope the hon. Minister will kindly look into it.

The last point I want to make is that in my district Midnapore, the Defence Department has given notice to some 25 villages in Jhargram and Sankarail police stations. They want to occupy those villages for Air Force training. The authorities have not given them proper notice. They do not talk to them. They behave in a most beauracatic manner. If for the needs of Defence these villages have to be taken over, let them take over but they should kindly give them due compensation they should be given due notice and also they should try to give them employment as far as possible. I know it is not possible to give employment to everybody. But if in these cases they only give notices and do not behave with the civilians as a civilian and behave in a most high-handed manner, I request that these things should be looked into.

[Shri Narayan Choubey]

With these words I beg to submit that our Defence personnel have performed very good things and I hope that in future also they will be able to defend our borders and save the integrity of the nation.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND DEFENCE SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM) : Sir, the hon. Member has just now said that about thirty per cent employees of the Defence Production Department are going to be retrenched. I think probably the hon. Member was not present in the House yesterday. I made it very clear that in the process of modernisation, no employees is going to be retrenched. The hon. Member should correct his impression.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT (Nagpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence. Sir, it is a point to be kept in mind that war may break out any time. The wars do not break out on a fixed date or on a 'muhurt'. We can not claim that in the next five years we shall not have to fight a war against any nation. If we see the present conditions, then it appears to us that our neighbouring countries, i. e., Pakistan, China or Sri Lanka may wage a war against us at any time. We can only talk about our intentions. We do not have any bad intention against our neighbours and we do not intend to fight with any country, but the same we cannot say about their intention. There is no guarantee that they will not fight. Our hon. Members from the Opposition have asked as to why we wanted to buy the old aircraft carriers. I want to tell them that in case after four months, a war is thrust upon us, then shall we be able to fight the enemy with a single aircraft carrier—Vikrant? It cannot move to Arabian sea or to Indian ocean as well as to the Bay of Bengal simultaneously. We need at least 3 to 4 Aircraft carriers. These people go only by the newspapers. We need not go by newspapers. You should keep it in your mind how the foreign powers plant stories in the newspapers. We have

got expertise. On one hand, we say that we have full faith in the expertise of our officers of Army, Navy and Air Force and on the other we talk in this manner. What objection is there in accepting their ideas? We should consult them only. We should decide about our security instead of going through the planted stories in the magazines by foreign powers. It is a very delicate matter and we should not be carried away by emotions. I am of the opinion that we should act according to the advice of our officers. Today there is the utmost need to strengthen our Navy. We have more than 7000 kms. of sea coast as our boundary. There is a great need to protect and strengthen it. You should acquire submarines for this purpose. In my opinion, for Navy we should make available as much funds as possible.

Hon. Minister, Sir, you should take steps to stop spying in the Navy. In Bombay where Shri Dandavate lives, there is a 35 storeyed Taj Mahal Hotel. You should keep a watch on the Navy officers coming from foreign countries who stay there and use binoculars at the top floor of the Hotel. They might indulge in spying activities about our naval activities. You should look into it. Today, sophisticated arms have been manufactured. New types of missiles and rockets have come into existence. If somebody comes there with two suitcases and stays at the Hotel, he may have a rocket in a suitcase which might damage our one or two ships. You should consider this matter seriously. This need not be ignored or laughed away. I went to draw your attention to this as it is very important for the security of the country.

Above all, we need a closed port for our Navy in the country. All our ports are open and we do not have a closed port. All our ships are anchored at the ports and our enemy may watch their activities. You should also keep this in mind. This is my special submission to you.

Our defence production is also very important. We have made a lot of progress in the field of defence production. Our defence production has doubled. But the actual production is less than the figures furnished by you. Your production figures

are based on the price level of 1980, whereas in 1985, the prices have risen to a great extent. No doubt the production has doubled on the basis of those prices, but you should also take into account the inflation during these five years. If we look at our progress from this angle, we shall not be very happy. We cannot say that our production has increased if we take this aspect into consideration while evaluating our growth in the field of defence production. We should increase the defence production in our country.

One of the most significant shortcomings in our country is that our factories are very old. Some of these factories were established 70 to 80 years back. Those plants were obsolete even at the time of their installation and old machinery was installed at that time. Till now the plants have not been modernised. Therefore, there should be rapid modernisation of these factories.

In the end, I would emphasize that special attention should be paid to the war widows. Once a heart-rending story of a war widow came to my notice, which touched me deeply. She had been widowed after 15 days of her wedding, during the 1971 war. The Government showed some sympathy. According to the rules of those times, two persons could jointly share a gas agency. One of them was a war widow and another a disabled person. Under this scheme, the war widow of our story along with a disabled partner started a small business. The Government allotted a place at an annual rent of Rs. 460 for this purpose. After a period of five years, an eviction notice was issued to them. It was stated by your Estate Officer in the notice that the yearly rent was Rs. 10,000 and not Rs. 460 which they had been paying. They were also asked to pay Rs. 50,000 as arrears for having used the place for five years. The present situation is such that, they have to make a payment of over Rs. 2 lakhs. On one hand, the Government wants to help the war widows, on the other, its bureaucracy is bent upon harassing them. So due attention must be paid to the condition of war widows. Merely shedding crocodile tears would not help. I have related an example of how the bureaucracy harasses the

war widows. Hence I request you to pay special attention to the condition of the war widows and the ex-servicemen.

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN (Cooch Behar) : Sir, looking to the global situation and nuclear war threat by USA's Sixth Fleet in the Pakistan border and the tense situation prevailing in our borders I am not worried about how much budgetary provision has been made for Defence, but I am worried how this money is going to be spent. I am putting this question to the Prime Minister. May I know whether the purchase of Hermes Aircraft Carrier will not be a waste of money? Sir, I am worried how the jawans and soldiers and sailors and airmen are being treated. I am worried how the jawans of our country are getting frustrated in the Defence Services. If you go out in the country and visit different parts of the country, you will find that there are slogans and phrases : "Defend the Country's security and safety with all your might" ; "Join the Army, serve the Nation." This type of advertisements all over the country attracted lakhs of youths.

(Interruptions)

15.00 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Pradhan, you address me.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : I am addressing you, Sir.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur) : He is even otherwise immortal, why should he weep then? (Interruptions)

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : I weep when I see the conditions created by you in respect of our defence.

[Shri Amar Roypradhan]

[English]

(Interruptions)

If they make noise in this manner, how can I speak, Sir ?

One could find that hundreds of young men with sound health, full of vigour and energy and with so many plus points are standing before the Defence Recruiting Centre. But it is a fact that for final selection one will have to add so many plus and backing points. And I shall ask the hon. Prime Minister to enquire about it in different recruiting centres. However whatever cost a young man has to pay, he forgets everything as he considers himself to be fortunate enough when his name appears in the list of selected people. Of course, in these days of unemployment, if he is appointed as a sepoy he considers himself fortunate even if he has to pay for it. The boy never looks back. Though strenuous he goes on marching round the clock as he is committed to the sacred soil of our Motherland. He is inspired when he hears the slogans "Jai Jawan" and "Jai Hind", and when he joins the Army he is ready to sacrifice himself in the service of the Motherland. He gets the inspiration from Tennyson's poem which says :

"Theirs not to make reply
Theirs not to reason why
Theirs but to do or die."

So, the boy mentally prepares for the supreme sacrifice for the nation.

But his frustration begins when his name is included in a particular Regiment, whether it is a Sikh Regiment whether it is a Jat Regiment, whether it is a Gorkha Regiment, whether it is a Madras Regiment, whether it is a Maratha Regiment or Dogra Regiment or Rajput Regiment. The boy does not find the Regiment in the name of Bengalee or Oriya or Assamese. He thinks that some sort of regimentation has been started on the concept of national integration in the Defence Services. So, in the name of Motherland why are you indulging in these types of communal and sectarian outlook ?

Why don't you accept the idea of Azad Hind Fouz of Azad Hind Government headed by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose long back, in the year 1943 ? The Prime Minister was saying that he would go to the 21st century. Let him come to the 21st century, but let him also go back to 1943 and re-name those regiments in the style of Azad Hind Government, like Gandhi Brigade, Jawaharlal Nehru Brigade, Subhash Chandra Bose Brigade, Azad Brigade, Rani Jhansi Brigade and so on. Let there be a Gandhi Brigade, Jawaharlal Nehru Brigade, Indira Brigade and so on. Let there be national integration in the minds of the jawans.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE
(Rajapur) : Let there be Bhagat Brigade.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Yes let [there be Bhagat Singh Brigade (Interruption)]. Why are you telling in this manner ? This should be done.

Another thing is that this frustration is coming very rightly to the jawans for whom you shed crocodile tears. The frustration is when the jawan is on the dining table. What does he find on the dining table ? What is his minu and what is the menu for the Army officer. Please let me know the daily items served for the officers of the Brigadier rank.

For Officers, the quota of rice/atta is 450 gms. For Jawans and others, it is 620 gms. It is better. Vegetables, 110 gms for officers and 110 gms for others. Salt, 20 gms for officers and 20 gms. for others. Dal 40 gms. for officers and 90 gms. for jawans. It is, of course better. But regarding meat, for officers, it is 260 gms. whereas for jawans it is only 110 gms. Milk, 500 ml. for officers and 220 ml. for others. Eggs, 2 eggs for officers and nil for others. Butter, 20 gms. for officers and nil for jawans and others. Corn flakes, 7 gms for officers and nil for jawans. Dalia, 20 gms. for officers and nil for jawans.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You please be brief and conclude.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : This is a fact. The Prime Minister may come out and challenge this fact. Why it is going on like that ?

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH (Padrauna) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir every Member of this House is looking up to the Defence Forces for defending our country. I think, it is not a very fair thing to create a difference between officers and jawans.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Let them deny it. Let the Prime Minister deny it. Jawans are getting only this much. This is how the jawans are being treated in this country. The House should know why they are given a different treatment.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please wind up. You please conclude

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Yes, Sir. Regarding fruits, 230 gms. for officers and 100 gms. for jawans. About condiments, it is 20 gms. or Rs. 50/- per month, whereas for jawans it is only Rs. 5.05 p.m. Regarding oil, it is 378 ml. for officers whereas for jawans, it is 0.5 ml. I know, oil is much more necessary for the officers because they have to oil the superior officers. But for the jawans, only 5 ml. of oil is provided.

But jawans are doing the manual labour and why should they not get butter, milk, dalia and fruits, at par with the officers. Regarding these items, the jawans and other ranks should also be given. Otherwise the entire morale of the jawans will go down. You please do something for the betterment of the jawans, for whom you don't only shed crocodile tears but you please do something.

[Translation]

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence. This year an outlay of Rs. 8728 crores has been earmarked for the Defence Budget. This outlay is Rs. 867 crores more than last

year's budget. Although the basis of our foreign policy is Non-Alignment, Disarmament and Panchsheel, yet for the defence of our borders and to maintain our internal peace and security, the Army, Navy and Air Force are most essential. In view of the present circumstances, when Pakistan has developed an atom bomb and China has shown Arunachal Pradesh as its territory in its map and the Indian ocean has become a zone of unrest particularly since a U.S.A. Warship Enterprise has been anchored at the Karachi port, this additional budget allocation of Rs. 867 crores cannot be said to be excessive. When compared, it will be found that our neighbouring countries like Pakistan, Burma, China and Indonesia spend much more on defence than us. If we are to move towards self-reliance in arms-production in the 21st century, then we must incur this extra expenditure.

Though we want to maintain good relations with our neighbouring countries, yet we should always be prepared to face any situation which is thrust upon us. At present we are confronted with threats on all our borders. On our western border, Pakistan is getting more and more military aid in the name of meeting the threat from Afghanistan and Pakistan has concentrated her forces in Poonch, Rajouri and Hajipoor sectors. In the Muzaffarabad and Rawalkot areas of the so-called Azad Kashmir, Air Force bases have been set up. Besides, it has attacked Sia-Chin area of Ladakh four times this year. These evidences amply indicate that they do not have good intentions towards Sia-chin area. Not only this, the USA and China have begun showing siachin as a part of Pakistan in their maps.

On the other hand, when we look at our northern borders, we find threats from China. Before 1962, India and China never had to encounter each other, but when the latter grabbed Tibet which is located in between the two countries, China's expansionist policies came to light. In pursuance of this policy, she first raised the slogan 'Hindi-Chini Bhai Bhai' and then attacked us and grabbed 14000 square miles of our land. Hence, it is essential to be always alert and vigilant under such circumstances.

[Prof. Nirmala Kumari Shaktawat]

If we look towards our southern borders, we find big powers concentrating there. The United States of America has already set up her military base at Diego Garcia and this is an open secret. Besides, Sri Lanka has also startled us by giving inhuman treatment to the Tamilians there. Thus, the overall situation is very explosive. And when we are facing the possibility of war from all sides, we should not adopt the ostrich like policy and bury our necks in sand, but face the situation squarely. As to the accusation of some Opposition Members that the increase in the defence budget is wrong, I would say that in view of the overall situation, it is a step in the right direction. The Government must also be congratulated for its efforts to modernise the Armed Forces and in this manner our Government must constantly move towards self-reliance in this field.

Sir, I would like to request the Prime Minister that it is high time that we adopt an offensive policy in place of a defensive one, because, all the nations in the world today have developed nuclear capabilities. When we look towards our neighbour, Pakistan, we see that Dr. Abdul Qadir Khan has openly declared that she is 25 years ahead of India in her uranium enrichment technology. Besides, the huge stock piling of nuclear weapons by the big powers of the world is even beyond our imagination....

Sir, I have just begun and kindly do not discriminate against the women M.Ps. I would finish my speech in another five minutes.

We must be alert and cautious against the motives of the Super Powers. Again, although we have been using atomic energy for peaceful purposes, yet the United States of America has been continuously indulging in false propaganda against us. At Tarapur uranium is being enriched only for generating atomic power. In spite of possessing capabilities for developing an atom bomb, we shall not sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty which we are being urged to do, because this Treaty is partial and, therefore, we can not sign any such discriminatory

agreement. I would also like to submit that there cannot be any agreement against our freedom and prosperity. No doubt, we should continue to use our atomic energy for peaceful purposes, but we should develop the capability of using the same otherwise also, if it is required to do so. Our mythology bears testimony that although Lord Shiva was very peace-loving, yet to annihilate the demons He had to open his third eye. Hence, we must be prepared for every emergency and must not lag behind.

Sir, our Armed Forces are full of heroes and there are innumerable stories of their heroic deeds. We cannot doubt their courage. Also there can be no doubt that our soldiers would fight with great courage and bravery during wars, but if they have to combat the atomic weapons, their valour would not work. The battles in future, would be fought in the air and in water and not on the earth. In such a situation, it is essential to increase the striking power of our Air Force and Navy. Today, Pakistan has acquired F-16 aeroplanes, and we have MiG 23, MiG 27, Miraj 2000 and Jaguars. But it is doubtful whether our aircraft can successfully combat the F-16 planes of Pakistan. I want to draw the Minister's attention to the fact that the Soviet A.N-32 planes have been responsible for the deaths of many of our brave personnel of the Air Force. That is why I would request him to ensure that our officers of the Air Force are properly trained before actually flying such aeroplanes which are acquired from abroad. Proper training should be imparted to avoid such accidents.

Sir, all our atomic plants particularly Narora, Rana Pratap Sagar and also RAPP atomic plant which is situated in Rawat bhata in my constituency are not safe. So, steps should be taken for their safety and Air Force should be made alert to protect them, because the effects of an atomic explosion could be very devastating.

Sir, there is a need to strengthen our basic industries, because weapons procured from other countries become useless when their spare parts are not available from the suppliers. Hence, we should invite our own scientists from abroad to help modernise our industries and ordinance factories, so that we can become self-reliant in every respect.

At present, there is no need to increase the strength of our Army, but the second line of defence, that is the CRP and other para-military forces should also be strengthened. The sentinels in our border areas have to work under very adverse conditions. They have to face terrible cold and heavy snow fall. We are responsible for their safety. I would like to suggest, through you, Sir, that the children of our soldiers, wherever they might reside, should be provided with the facility of free education. My second suggestion would be that the Government should ensure accommodation for their families, if they happen to live in the cities.

I would also say that the widows of the defence personnel who die in war exercises are not given the same facilities and importance as the war widows. I am proud to be the sister of a brave soldier who had fought in the Bangladesh war in 1971 during Indo-Pak conflict. My younger brother, Major Vijay Singh Shaktawat, died during a war exercise and I am proud of him. But his widow and children are not getting the same facilities as other war widows. Hence, I would request that the widows of those defence personnel who die in war exercises should be considered at par with the war widows. The personnel who are working in the field.....

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now please conclude.

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Only two minutes more, I will finish.

[Translation]

I would like to raise a point regarding Sainik Schools. As many as 18 Sainik Schools have been established throughout the country by the Government. One more Sainik School has been established in Chittorgarh, the land of the brave people. The results of this School have been very encouraging. The Board and the Principal deserves congratulations for such a good result.

The 18 Sainik Schools which have been opened are for boys. I would like to submit that at least one Sainik School should be opened for girls also so that they may also get military education and may join Air Force and other offices.

In the end, I would submit that the reins of defence in our country are in the hands of our beloved leader Shri Rajiv Gandhi in whose intellect, wisdom and farsightedness, the country as well as the people have full faith. Our borders are not only safe, but they are well guarded as well and under his leadership the country will always remain united.

With these words, I convey my thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN (Badagara) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very conscious of your very alert time sense. Forgive me, if I observe that we have successfully reduced the annual debate on the demands of this vital Ministry into a ritual i.e. we dispose of about Rs. 8000 crores of tax-payers money in about 6 hours and I do not want.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The time is decided by the Business Advisory Committee.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : I am not talking about it. I am sorry. Nothing about you. 'We' mean the 'House'. Therefore, I shall confine my observations to some of the essentials of our approach and policy and I should not go into the many details I would otherwise like to.

I shall begin with the Annual Report of the Ministry of Defence which ought to be the frame-work for our debate. Sir, in the true bureaucratic fashion the Report adopts the stance of the three Chinese monkeys wise monkeys. It does not want to invite the reader's attention to the great dangers posed to the world peace by the Star Wars or the Strategic Defence Initiative of President

[Shri K.P. Unnikrishnan]

Reagan and the United States' military-industrial complex. It gives a fairly good narrative, I must say, of issues at stake. But it does not say who is behind what? It refers, for example, to the theatre of the third world which remains in a cockpit of international tensions and that their sovereignty and integrity and freedom are threatened. But who is responsible for this? It fails to focus attention on the criminal activities of President Reagan and the US military industrial complex wanting to play their 'Gendarme' to the world, whether it is in South Asia and South-East Asia, Latin America or in Africa. So is the case with the grave dangers that are arising in India's own security horizon in the Indian Ocean theatre. The position adopted is that of weakling Umpire who has got the whistle but would not even use it. It is an extremely politically naive position to take 'Alice in the Wonderland' position, that is reflected in the report on national security environment. You can afford, and undoubtedly, to be naive at your own cost in a complex internal political environment. Possibly you can also correct some of these mistakes; but you just cannot afford to be naive and refuse to call a spade a spade in matters which concern our vital security interest.

In para 11 of the Chapter on National Security Environment, I find a reference and a strong reference and I quote :

"Finally, the internal dimensions of India's security are naturally of great concern to us, more particularly the fact that the external forces could interact with internal forces of dissent in the political and socioeconomic spheres to exacerbate our security problems a scenario that must be reckoned with".

What exactly, I would like to know, do you mean by this partisan reference to internal forces of dissent? Dissent is relevant and vital to a democracy and in a democratic set-up. In fact, the entire democratic process depends upon the vigorous dissent. We on this side represent that dissent. Are you in any way charging

any of us with interaction with external forces? This is far too serious a charge for anybody to make without adducing proof. But if you are referring to those who are trying to subvert our integrity and indulge in senseless violence and acts of secessionism...
...(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER : Why do you think that it refers to you?

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN : I am not yielding.

...you should have specifically said so and not put across a subtle innuendo which would implicate the entire Opposition. This is not a one-party democracy. The democratic processes of our constitutional democracy as reflected by Parliament are supreme and supremacy of civil authority unquestioned. Therefore, it is deplorable that consciously or unconsciously—I am prepared to say that it is 'unconscious'—these references have crept in or appeared in a document of this kind. This calls for an explanation.

Independent India's strategic environment changed first with partition of the sub-continent. On the West and North-West we had a belligerent and aggressive neighbour who sought to change the balance of power by its recourse to aggression in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The situation in the North was changing with our final acceptance of Chinese suzerainty over Tibet through which we tried to buy time.

There was that great and vigorous Chinese Revolution with the forces that it has released which we had hoped to befriend but could not, but it gradually turned hostile and completed the arc of potential aggression.

Our neighbour Pakistan got enmeshed in the global security interests and involvements of the United States and U.S. neo-colonialism. It was the strategic theory of Sir Olaf Caroe, once Governor of North-West Frontier, a great apologist for imperialism which was seen at work in the sub-continent. We went through the wars of 1947-49, 1962 and 1965 and saw this doctrine at work.

The 1962 experience enlivened the historically dormant northern frontier which we were able to partially rectify only in 1971. But the developments in West Asia and the consequent changes in Afghanistan changed the scenario again in the Seventies. And now with the developments and problems of our own national integrity thrown up by certain violent movements in Punjab, one has the temptation to look at this problem by going back to history and see a kind of military position or scenario—if you revert back to the days of Lord Dalhousie or Hardinge and the days of Sikh wars which it is very similar.

It is as though certain groups of people—one aided with State power and the other motivated by senseless bigotry and violence—are holding the entire sub-continent to ransom. And territorially, unfortunately, may I say that it comes from both sides of Punjab and is one of the great ironies of history that one aided by military State power and the other motivated by partisan, secessionist and a kind of misguided religious bigotry are trying to pose a threat to the entire sub-continent.

With the developments in the Indian Ocean and nearer home in and around Sri Lanka and in West Asia and the aggressive moves of the United States in the theatre of the Indian Ocean, it would be correct to say that all our frontiers including the long coastline have become alive again—alive all along. And it is with this geo-strategic parameter in mind that one should approach the problems of our defence and security.

Yesterday I listened with rapt attention to the maiden intervention of our young Minister of State, Mr. Arun Singh. It was an impressive performance by any yardstick, but he would for give me if I say that it was rather an apolitical performance which of course, does not detract from the value of what he said. But Sir, it cleared some of my doubts; but many of them still remain. I would agree with him to a large extent when he said that there is no self-sufficiency in the modern warfare systems. Self-sufficiency should not be confused with self-reliance and, as he rightly said, we

cannot blunt the cutting edge of science. But what ought to be reiterated is the significant interdependence between defence and development and, therefore, self-reliance strengthens the sinews of our economy. Consequently our capacity to defend ourselves and our territories and the technologies we borrow or update should be complementary. In other words we should be self-reliant in all the critical areas. That is to say, the responsibility of defence with all its components and with all its burdens should be our own and not be passed on to anybody else's shoulders. That is the essence of our sovereignty.

Therefore, there is a close linkage between our efforts and pattern and path of development that we choose for ourselves and our foreign and defence policies. Our foreign policy is non-alignment and peace also integrated with our anti-imperialist outlook which we inherited from our freedom struggle, our policy of self-reliant development of our skills and resources and economy are both complementary efforts to strengthen our capacity to defend our territorial integrity.

Sir, it is more important for us to have a long term defence plan. I know you have one, but we need a more scientific one, more important than the long term fiscal policy of the new Finance Minister. Somebody yesterday said that one does not grudge the defence expenditure which seems to grow. It is important that Rs. 8000 crores that we spend today which will cross Rs. 10000 crores in another decade even before the turn of the century, should be spent economically and every paisa should be spent in a cost effective manner. It is true that there is a nexus between defence spending and expansion of the economy. It has to be an integrated process used for and towards modernisation and nation building.

Sir, the most important thing is, I would repeat, the deployment of funds in a cost effective manner. It is more relevant and more important in a society with uneven development and the uneven nature of distribution of wealth and the resources we manage to eke out of this economy with its colossal burden or vital burden—I am not

[Shri K.P. Unnikrishnan]

grudging a paisa of it—should be spent in a cost effective manner. As there are different product mixes in an industry, there are different mixes or alternatives and choices in defence as well. That is why one would like to pose certain questions on some of the recent deals as in the case of the purchase of 21 Westland helicopters which was dubbed only the other day by our own Prime Minister—who was also a pilot—on the floor of Parliament as unsuitable to our needs. Why then did we buy it? Same is the case with aircraft carriers Hermes.

One of our great patriots Dadabhoi Nauroji once evolved a drain theory. That was one of the most powerful and intellectual arsenal that we had during our freedom movement. He proved how the Britishers were sucking the life blood of this great nation and how it was taken. But eight decades after he wrote this, the independent India seems to be doing the same thing. When the production line of Jaguars was to be closed down, we went to their rescue. The Westland also had a similar fate, according to the Press Reports. It has been forced to discontinue its production and then we went to their rescue. It is sought to be financed, I know, through a 65 million pounds British Aid, which according to Press Reports again, they had said can only be used to buy this junk. What advantage did we have in buying this junk, the Parliament is entitled to know.

I don't want to go into other details. As I said earlier tremendous R & D efforts have been put in. There are also many unseen, unsung heroes—not only those who go to the front, but also those who work in the laboratories. For example, I know a young boy who has developed, contributed a great deal in developing an armour in the BRDL set up in Hyderabad. There are many, those who work for a pittance of salary—one-fifth or one-tenth of what they could get abroad. We owe a deep debt of gratitude to them.

In conclusion I would like to say that approach the Defence may not only be confined to the way we run and direct these

forces or even the R&D effect but also it has to be fully integrated progress within our economy—whether it is transport or communications system or rapid modernisation of production and diffusion of skills in this country. Let Defence be a spear-point. It is important that this Parliament or at least some of its Committees be set-up so that we may get more opportunities to debate this policy at length.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL (Erandol) :
Sir, I rise to support the Demands of the Ministry of Defence. The Defence budget in any country depends on the mental attitude of the head of the Government and the form of Government that a country has. In this world we have got democracies, dictatorships, kingdoms and other forms of Government. Ours is the biggest democracy and our priority is for social and economic development. Further, ours the land of Gandhi and Nehru and we believe in peace and peaceful co-existence.

But, Sir, when there are determined enemies in the neighbourhood we cannot predict when the potential enemy may strike. In this context, I would like to say that there is a book written by late Johan F. Kennedy, ex-President of USA. He has a Naval officer in the second world war. He has written in a book "why England slept," how England was caught napping when Germany attacked it. So, we must be in complete readiness. So, In Defence the emphasis has shifted more from land to air. We need more aircraft carriers. We need surveillance objects. America, USSR and other countries have got satellite spying. Fortunately we have got our own satellite and our radar system is the best. It is second to none in the world. Our scientists have developed satellite launching vehicles for which we can increase the pay load and if need be we can develop not only atom bombs but also ICBMs.

But, Sir, when we believe in peaceful co-existence and dis-armament we cannot go fast in this direction. At the same time we must be ready and we must develop new capabilities and modernise our Army, the commando operations and the integrated approach of the Navy, Military and Air Force.

Sir, the morale of the Defence personnel depends on how you treat the ex-servicemen. There is need for immediate re-employment of the ex-servicemen. There is a plan of establishing ecological task force where there will be environmental protection. In this ecological task force more and more defence personnel will be employed. I would urge upon the Prime Minister to take effective steps in establishing and developing this task force.

This morals and discipline comes through games and sports. There was a talk of a sport plan for which an allocation of Rs. 20 crores was to be made. But I fail to find that in the budget here. I urge that this allocation must be made for such a plan. It is through sports that discipline is inculcated and the team spirit develops and it helps to enhance the national strength.

The strength of the country is not only in the armed personnel but it is also in its people. We must be able to create defence awareness in our people and for imparting training to more people, we have got plans for Sainik Schools. I come from a State where the Britishers had started the first National Defence Academy. I come from a place which is backward. The Prime Minister is shortly visiting there, and I request him to start a Sainik School there.

Lastly, looking at the concentration of military forces in the Indian Ocean and the experience of Folkland Island, we must build strong military bases in Andamans, Nicobar and Lakshdweep Islands as also other islands. Prevention is better than cure.

I also wanted to make some more points but as we are anxious to listen to the Prime Minister, I would conclude here. With these words, I support the Demands for Grants of the Defence Ministry and also thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

[Translation].

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would take a very little time. I would like to submit

only two or three points regarding the security environment. Only yesterday an hon. Member from the Opposition had said that China had not done any harm to us and in future also she would not harm us(Interruptions) No information regarding China could be more factual than what has been given in the report of the Defence Ministry. In the report of the Defence Ministry, the nexus between China and Pakistan has been explained in a very frank manner which is really commendable (Interruptions) I would like to speak on Sri Lanka. The country is passing through such a critical phase which it has not witnessed earlier during the post-independence period. The nexus between China and Pakistan is very dangerous. China is a very closed society from where little information is available. The Chinese watchers in the world are of the opinion that China is concentrating huge armed forces in Tibet. The strength of the Chinese forces in Tibet has increased manifold today than what it was when Dalai Lama left Tibet in 1959. This is a very dangerous situation for us to which we cannot close our eyes easily. The attitude of Pakistan towards us is ominous. We are apprehensive that Pakistan might create some trouble after some months and China would support her.

Pakistan would have got arms even if there was no Afghanistan problem. You might recall that during the regime of Pandit Nehru, when the USA supplied arms to Pakistan, Pandit Nehru had objected to that. The USA had said at that time that those arms were meant against China and not against India. But those arms were used against India. The USA is behind the nexus between Pakistan and China..... (Interruptions).....We are self-sufficient in the matter of defence. Unless we become strong, no one will respect us. Such a thing can not be tolerated that others should hold threats to us and we should talk of friendship with them. China achieved independence in 1949. From 1949 to 1965, she had committed acts of treachery against India a number of times which no other country has committed. No other Country deceived Pandit Nehru the way China did. India is surrounded by hostile neighbours. There is a nexus between Sri Lanka and

[Dr. G.S. Rajhans]

Pakistan and the U.S.A. is also helping them. The situation is very critical and it needs our serious attention. It cannot be treated lightly. Even citizen should be security conscious.

I am not satisfied with the study conducted by the Institute of Defence Study and Analysis. The analysis is not satisfactory. The study in regard to our defence should be conducted in a very serious manner and every information obtained from all quarters should be analysed seriously.

In the end, I would like to say that the security environment is posing a danger for us and it should be looked into in all seriousness.

*SHRI C. SAMBU (Bapatla) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have been discussing the demands for grants of the Ministry of Defence since yesterday. Sir, Defence Ministry is an important Ministry. The armed forces are playing a commendable role during war and peace. In maintaining law and order and in rescue and relief operations during natural calamities, their contribution is immense.

Sir, on three sides we have waters. We have got a very long coastal line. Yet, the Government had been concentrating on the Army only. Air force and navy were accorded only a secondary importance. Now the Indian Ocean has become the hot bed of super power rivalry. The attitude of our neighbours i.e. Pakistan and Srilanka towards us is quite unfriendly. In these circumstances it is imperative that we should strengthen our Navy and Air Force. More money should be allocated for the expansion of our navy and its development. We know what has happened in Libya recently. Americans conducted naval exercises in the gulf of Sidra off the coast of Libya causing much damage to Libyans. The Americans have gone to the extent of threatening Libya to not only destroy the naval and air force bases but also oil installations on the

coast of Libya. Keeping in view all those global developments, we must strengthen our navy and Air force. We have important oil installations like Bombay High etc. which are vital for our economic growth. These places are constantly exposed to danger. Our enemies can attack these installations without much difficulty. Hence, the need of the hour is to strengthen our navy. The navy must get the pride of place in our defence matters.

Sir, Visakhapatnam is a natural harbour. It can very easily be developed into one of the most outstanding naval bases in the world. It needs rapid expansion. Hence I take this opportunity to request the Government to develop Vizag which is strategically located, into one of the most modern naval bases not only in the country but in the region.

Sir, we have got regiments like Sikh regiment, Gurkha regiment and Assam Rifles etc. in our army. Some time back we demanded naming the regiment were jawans are predominantly Telgu people as Andhra regiment. Even our Chief Minister Shri N.T. Rama Rao also requested the Centre for Andhra regiment. But the request was turned down saying that it is a parochial demand. Sir, we the Telugu people are second to none in patriotism. There were several outstanding leaders hailing from Andhra like Prakasam Alluri Seetha Rama Raju etc. Thousands of men and women have sacrificed their life for the sake of our beloved mother land. Our demand for Andhra regiment is not parochial. We are demanding it only to provide more jawans to fight for the cause of the country. I hope, the Government would give a favourable response. To our demand to form Andhra regiment on the lines of Gurkha and Sikh regiments. It would certainly contribute to the unity and integrity of the country. Sir, an ordnance factory was set up at Medak. The foundation stone was laid by late Smt. Indira Gandhi who once represented this constituency. But for some unknown reasons, the Govt. decided to manufacture only bodies of heavy vehicles here and the

*The Speech was originally delivered in Telgu.

engines would come from elsewhere, Sir, this is not proper. The cost of production would also go up. It would hamper production. Hence I request the Govt. to drop the idea of manufacturing engines elsewhere and start producing them at Medak only. It is better if every component is manufactured under one roof. I hope the Govt. would revise its decision.

Sir, our ex-servicemen are facing many difficulties today. They are leading a miserable life. At the age of 35 or so, they are thrown out of employment. They have nothing to fall back on when they retire from active service. Many such ex-servicemen in my constituency are pulling cycle-rickshaws in order to earn their livelihood. It is the responsibility of the Central and the State Governments to show them employment. So that they can lead a respectable life. I request the Govt. to step up the allocation ment for Ex-servicemen and rescue them from their present miserable conditions. Similarly, Sir, I request the Government to extend timely help to our war widows. The Government should provide all facilities to the Ex-servicemen and war widows. Loans on liberal terms should be extended to these people, so, that they can stand on their own feet. This is the responsibility of the Govt.

Sir, compulsory military training should be provided to all in the country. It should be made compulsory in all the schools and colleges. N.C.C. be made compulsory at all stages of education. The military training will turn out our students to be disciplined and patriotic.

Sir, the modernisation of armed forces is quite necessary. The Govt. should see that our armed forces are modernised as rapidly as possible.

Sir, I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak and conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI P. K. THUNGON (Arunachal West): Sir, I belong to a constituency which is quite of ten treacherously shown in

the maps of China. Therefore, I am thankful to you because, I am the last person perhaps you have given this opportunity to speak. Since, I belong to a border area, I would like to share some of our experiences in Border areas and would like to put forward some suggestions. I would like to recall that in 1962, whatever had happened was most treacherous and most dangerous so far as border area people are concerned. Therefore since then, onwards, we have been having a feeling that until and unless, there is faith and good relationship between the defence forces and local people, it may be very dangerous and the fighting forces in those areas may not be so successful.

Therefore, I would like to suggest few points that is, in those border areas, when land is acquired by defence personnel for defence purposes, quick actions should be taken so that people are not put to harassment.

There are instances in Arunachal Pradesh particularly in my constituency, when land is taken on hire for years together, but no hire charge is paid. Sometimes, the acquisition charges are very low. In this regard, I would like to urge that certain steps be taken, so that people have good faith in the men of our fighting forces, because the people there do not see the Government; they see only the Generals Officers and the Jawans. If this kind of confusion rather the irritants are removed, good relations can be developed very easily.

It is also a fact that in Arunachal Pradesh, roads can be constructed only upto a certain point from the international border. Until and unless Defence clearance is taken, the State Government cannot construct roads in the border areas. But it is quite often seen by the local people in the border areas, that just across the border, in the Chinese territory, roads are constructed and vehicles are plying. This creates a sense of insecurity, or a feeling in the people of border areas as if they are being neglected, and that in the event of an attack by China, they may be left behind again, and they may not be taken care of. Therefore, I would like to urge that the policy that Defence clearance should be

[Shri P.K. Thungon]

16.00 hrs.

obtained, be removed. In any case, if some clearance has to be taken, we have our Home Ministry ; and this matter can be taken care of by the Home Ministry.

So many other social and economic developmental activities depend on the Defence population in those areas. It is quite often seen in the matter of supplies. The local people produce fruits, vegetables etc. but they cannot supply them to the Defence people there. The Defence people engage contractors from outside. An arrangement may be thought of in such a way that the local people themselves can supply these items because they are small farmers, and they can produce fruits and vegetables which are perishable.

Coming to the national level, I have heard with rapt attention the suggestions put forward by our hon. Members. I would also like to add that Defence no doubt is most important for the integrity and freedom of the country. It gives morale, protection, and it defends our rights, our freedom our borders and thus our national integrity. Therefore, we should be self-reliant. If we keep on buying or purchasing, or being dependent on other countries, at the time of need we may not be able to do well. So, I would like to particularly stress that the Research and Development department of the Defence Ministry should be strengthened. Research should be conducted in such a way, as some hon. Members stated, that we can produce our own requirements, our own equipments and whatever is required, in accordance with the conditions prevailing around our country.

I would like to mention here—we are told—that when an aircraft flies very low, the existing radar facilities cannot catch the image of the aircraft. But if we can develop in such a way that we can have a stationary satellite by which the image of a low flying aircraft can be caught, then in that way, our defence capability can be strengthened more.

I would like to answer the point raised by Mr. Chaubey. He said that the orders for clothing requirement of our defence should not be given to the private sector it should be taken care of by the defence department. In this regard, I would try to convince Mr. Chaubey. If the private sector are capable of producing shoes and clothes for defence people, why should we burden the Defence Department for this requirement, because they have got so many other things to do which are more urgent. Therefore, I don't think that placing orders for defence requirement on defence department, only will be justified. By not asking the Defence Department to do, I think, we will be doing better and the whole nation will become more involved and responsible in this regard.

Our young boys should be mentally prepared to join the Defence Services at any time at the time of requirement. Here I must mention that so many members are vigorously pleading—Shri Mohd. Ayub Khan and others—for ex-servicemen. I would like to plead for the existing service men and would be ex-service men. Our youngsters should be mentally motivated to join our defence forces. If there are better amenities, then they will join our defence services. Today the situation is that our talents are going to the private sector where more money is paid. But our defence services do not get proper talent, do not attract more talent. I must congratulate the hon. Prime Minister for increasing their emoluments. I would like to urge that more amenities should be given to the services, more amenities should be given to our officers and thus attract talents at the time of recruitment. If there are no proper amenities, emoluments and other status, we cannot attract better talent. Therefore, right from the level of the student motivation should be started particularly we can start from the border areas like Arunachal Pradesh, or U.P. hills, Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Jammu and Kashmir. NCC can be made compulsory throughout the country. If it is not possible to make N.C.C. Compulsory throughout the country then, at least, we

can start it from these areas to see how best we can work out. With these few words, I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur) : While supporting the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence and commending the good role played by our defence forces, I like to draw the attention of the hon. Prime Minister through you to certain points which I am putting forward.

There are certain areas and certain communities in this country which have participated in the defence efforts traditionally. They used to send their boys, to the Defence Forces not for earning a livelihood, but because they wanted to take part in the Defence effort and they were proud of participating in the Armed Forces.

Sir, that was a real prestige that they have sent their sons for taking part in the Armed Forces. Sir, my constituency belongs to that area and also, there are certain communities in my constituency and neighbourhood which were taking part in the Defence Forces.

Sir, the first Victoria Cross winner was Khuda Dad Khan, the first Indian who got the Param Veer Chakra, Hawaldar Abdul Hameed, Brigadier Osman Shoukat Ali Ansari, both got Maha Veer Chakra—they belong to that area.

The young men of that community, particularly they are all Muslims, they want to enrol themselves in the Armed Forces. When they reported to the Varanasi Recruiting Office, they were told that no vacancies for the Muslims had come. Whenever they report to the Varanasi Recruiting Office, they are plainly told that no vacancies for the Muslim had come.

SHRI NARAYAN CHAUBEY : Is it so ?

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : Yes, Sir, it is so. I have written several letters to the Ministers of Defence. I am still awaiting a reply.

AN HON. MEMBER : It is not in good sense.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : Certainly, it is not in good sense and there are maximum number of people from our area in the Defence Forces, for which we are proud. Our Defence Forces have nothing to do with any community or region or anything like that, but there may be certain black sheep, certain officers who are in this service, I request the Minister particularly hon. Minister. Shri Arun Singh to look into this matter

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : You request the Prime Minister.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : Secondly, my district is one of the two districts of Uttar Pradesh, which sends people to the Armed Forces. One is the Bulandshahr District which my hon. friend Shri Surendra Pal Singh represents, and the second is Ghazipur which sends many young men to the Defence Forces. There are some 60,000 retired Defence Forces personnel in my district alone and I think Bulandshahr most probably they have little more. I expect it so. There was a proposal to open a BPM office and an office of the Defence Accounts in my district. But, I do not know why, but the proposal has been shifted, though Ghazipur district and Bulandshahr send so many people—to Balia which has very little number of Defence personnel, very little compared to Ghazipur. I have been told that there is a certain officer in that place who belongs to Balia and he wanted it to be shifted there, so the BPM was shifted to Balia. I request the hon. Minister, — Shri Arun Singhji to look into the matter. Ghazipur has got more than 60,000 retired Defence personnel, more than one thousand war widows, and many others. So, a BPM office should be located at Ghazipur.

Again, Sir, my district has got 260 acres of Defence lands which belong to the Air Force, and there used to be an air-field. But now it has been closed. I request that a Defence Production Unit should be established at that place. It is situated at Village Ferozepur, Mohammadabad tahsil, District Ghazipur. Two hundred and sixty acres of land is there, and a Defence

[Shri Zainul Basher]

Production unit can easily be established. There is no Defence Production Unit in the whole of Eastern U.P. There is none in Western U.P., yes, there are units, but no Defence Production Unit is there in the Eastern U.P. and here the land is available. I have drawn the attention of the hon. Minister, and I hope that he will take note of it. And, that is all. Thank you,

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I must first apologise for my absence from the House yesterday. But as hon. Members are aware, we spent the whole day at the National Integration Council on a subject which is exercising all our minds. And I have been sitting here most of this afternoon listening to what the House has to say.

I would like to start first with congratulating our defence forces for their action in war and in peace time, their devotion to duty, their patriotism, their valour, their sacrifice for the nation.

The first consideration in any defence debate must be the security environment not only just around us but also in the whole world. We have seen during the past year the general international security environment deteriorated. There have been many attempts to try and reduce tension, but we still see tension rising in many parts of the world. We see active involvement of major powers in a way that we have not seen for a long time. And this only adds to the situation that existed earlier.

Disarmament is perhaps the most important issue in the international environment. It is not just a question of pedantics and India trying to take a major role for itself. Nuclear arms race affects India in many ways. No nuclear entanglement will remain limited to any sphere or any area of war or zone of war today. It will spread very very quickly and it will affect not just areas or people close to the war zone, but it will very definitely affect perhaps every one in the world, perhaps all forms of life in the world. It has been made very clear by certainly some of the major nuclear powers

that they do not believe that nuclear war can be a limited nuclear war and if any one nuclear power does not believe that it can be a limited war, then it is not going to be a limited war and we must plan on that basis. The only plans which we can make are those of trying to build public opinion to push for disarmament amongst those nations that are armed with nuclear weapons. The effects of nuclear war are well known to the House. We have debated it on a number of occasions and it has been answered to questions on a number of occasions. But it is still worth bringing out that the effects are not limited to radiation or direct damage but a nuclear winter which does threaten to eliminate all forms of life on earth. We were extremely glad to know the proposals and initiative taken by the Soviet leadership on disarmament. The initiative raised our hopes. Then further concessions were given; new initiatives were given. Hopes were further raised. The Geneva Summit again brought about a changed mood in the world. Unfortunately, in recent months, we have only seen a deterioration from that situation and we have not seen adequate follow up on the proposals that have been made. We have not seen adequate action on the proposals that have been put forward. If this opportunity for disarmament is lost to the world, the only word that could describe it, would be 'unforgivable'.

India has taken a major role in disarmament over the years and more especially, since the middle of 1984, when the five-continent, Six-Nation initiative was started. We have worked for a test ban, we have put forward proposals for verification and we have condemned the move to take arms race into new dimensions. We have had a very positive response from certainly one nuclear power and from people all over the world, more especially, in the nuclear power countries, and we believe that this movement must be strengthened, we must come out very strongly to build public opinion further so that the move for disarmament comes about in every nuclear weapon country.

Closer to home, we have tried to reduce tensions in our own region. Perhaps the one really concrete step forward that has

been taken is the formation of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. SAARC will help in reducing tension in our part of the world and in bringing about the new friendship among member countries. Working through SAARC and bilaterally, we hope that the differences amongst us can be reduced and the atmosphere of tension which still prevails in certain areas can be totally removed. Unfortunately, in our very region, there has been a substantial change in the military atmosphere, a qualitative change. The arms that are available to certain countries are now available against very soft financial credit. The veil that was being used—the veil of Afghanistan—has been removed. We have always maintained that the types of weapons that were being brought into the region were not such as could be utilised in the mountainous terrain of Afghanistan and I had pointed this out to very senior leaders on my visits abroad. Today, even that veil has been removed. We have to think very seriously if these weapons are not to be used in Afghanistan, where are they to be used? And our planning must keep this in mind.

One other aspect in the region has been drawing the attention not only of this House but of all of us in India and that is Pakistan's nuclear programme. As I have reiterated many times in this House—and I would like to repeat again that India does not want to go ahead with the nuclear weapon programme. We do not have a nuclear weapon programme. But we have every indication and information that leads us to believe that Pakistan has not given up its nuclear weapon programme and is bent on acquiring a nuclear weapon. A nuclear weapon with Pakistan will very definitely change the atmosphere in our area and our nuclear programme which is entirely peaceful and which we want to maintain as a peaceful programme, but if Pakistan does get a weapon, we will have to seriously think about our own options. We have been taking a very active stand on this with anyone and everyone that could use influence to try and stop any move for a nuclear weapon capability by Pakistan.

With China, well, the border problem remains, in spite of what some of our Members believe. I was not here yesterday

but I do have the transcript of what some people said yesterday—and that also brings me to what one of our Members said today. I also read in the papers—there was some comment about my having called some opposition parties anti-national. Now, I have not, and I do not believe that every opposition party is anti-national. It is not. But you cannot deny that there are a few opposition parties—opposition means opposed to us—in certain border States which are anti-national. This fact you cannot deny. And what I said in the speech in Bombay was in relation to that. But sometimes one has to re-think, and I would like to quote: This is from the Lok Sabha Debates of, I believe, yesterday:

"I do not feel ashamed because China has never harmed India, according to me."

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA: What is wrong? I said it.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): What is wrong?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please, order.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: I am sorry. I did not hear that.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: I said After the war, they have not taken a single inch of Indian territory. After the war, they went back to where they were before the war. That is what I said. It is unfortunate that it has not come on the record. And that is how I came to this conclusion that by the war they have not harmed us.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not know whether that has gone on record; but I would like... (Interruptions) I believe what the hon. Member has said is that after the war, the Chinese went back from the territory that they had occupied.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : They went back to where they had started. I am not expressing any opinion about the border dispute. But they have not taken advantage of the war to occupy a single inch of Indian territory.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am absolutely dumbfounded.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Sir, I want to go on record that even today part of Indian territory is in the hands of the Chinese.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You tell us how many square kilometres of Indian territory China has occupied after the war. I say, after the war.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Sir, I am absolutely dumbfounded. I do not know from where the hon Member gets his information. And I would like to thank Prof. Dandavate for substantiating what we have always upheld.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : The question regarding the border is different.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I know.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You go on further.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I do not want to talk again.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Everybody knows about the Chinese aggression. Everybody knows what is it. Please take your seat. I do not want further discussion on this.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Then what is the solution of this ?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Kindly sit down.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I think the hon. Member has very clearly said, as I understand... (Interruptions) Let me finish please. (Interruptions) As I understand you have very clearly said that China does not occupy any territory of India today.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : What I said was...

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : You said it just now.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Let me explain it. And let it be very clear.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Sir, we are not having a discussion. (Interruptions) I do not think we need an explanation.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : If the hon. Member wants to explain...

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Uncorrected records are not to be quoted, you know that. I will correct it. I said, they have not occupied any Indian territory after the war.

AN HON. MEMBER : Oh, after the war !

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I am sorry, Sir, I have misunderstood that. They have not occupied any of our territory after the war !

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Have they not gone back to their original place ? If they have not, you tell me.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, I suggest that this controversy should not be dragged further, it will not be in the national interest to carry on this controversy. I think we should leave it at that. You should go on.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I agree entirely with Prof. Dandavate ji, so we should not discuss this. But I would just like to remind ——I do not know whether they are Members in this House, but I remember in one of our Consultative Committee meetings we were discussing the China problem and our border problem with China, and I believe the Member did belong to the same Party. He also said that we should give up Aksai Chin and it did not belong to us. And this can be taken from the Consultative Committee records.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbub nagar) : I am on a point of order, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What is your point of order ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You are not supposed to quote from the Consultative Committee records.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I have not quoted.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY :whether there is any provision like this.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : He cannot disclose that.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : He should not do like that.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He has not quoted.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I have only mentioned the point because.....

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I am on a point of order, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What is your point of order ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : I just cannot accept it. In that meeting I was there, I know what transpired.....

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I do not want you to discuss anything further. I do not want to allow anything further. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Chowdhary, please sit down. I won't allow you, Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Why are you discussing this point now ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CAOWDHARY : It is very wrong.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I will answer you. Just sit down for one minute.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Don't you know what is our stand ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Chowdhary, please take your seat.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I am on a point of order, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What is your point of order ?

**Not recorded.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I withdraw my remarks in respect of the Consultative Committee. I was only reacting to what one hon. Member said about my having said that certain parties acted in an anti-national manner. I have just given a question from the debate of this very House. *(Interruptions)* Well, I will stand corrected when you correct it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Let it go on record that in this manner he is trying to equate our Party with anti-nationals. They are doing a great harm to the national integrity.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Why are you getting excited? He has not meant like that. He only quoted the Member, that is all.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No, no. He never said like that.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, our stand is very clear.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He never told that your Party is anti-national. He never told that. Take your seat.

(Interruption)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : May I request the Members to take their seats first?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please, all of you take your seats. I do not want any further discussion. I do not want you to interpret anything.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Take your seat. All of you please take your seat first. Mr. Acharia, take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Madam, please take your seat. The hon. Prime Minister has never said—any Party is anti-national or like that. He only quoted the Member. He gave some clarification.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Take your seat. Anti-national, he never told like that.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : He should not.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He quoted some thing and the Member denied that. That is all the matter. There is no further discussion.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I do not understand...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, point of order.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You quote the rule.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I am reading.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I think, there is no point of order.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What is the rule?

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : How can there be a point of order?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What is the rule which is violated? Which rule are you referring? You tell me.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He is quoting from the report.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is no point of order.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You quote the rule. You quote the rule. Which rule do you want to quote? You tell me. Which rule is violated?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : While proudly... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No. I do not want any statement. Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You quote the rule.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please, Order.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I do not want to press the point. But... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is no point of order. Take your seat.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The point that is raised is, whatever happened in the Consultative Committee.....

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I have withdrawn.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He says, he has already withdrawn it. That is why, I said, there is no point of order. He has already withdrawn that. He has announced it. The Prime Minister has told it.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I have withdrawn that point. I have said it myself long ago.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You withdraw my point also. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please, Order.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Sir, I may be permitted, as I am replying to the debate on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry

of Defence. I may be permitted to quote from this very debate. In what I am quoting from this very debate, I see nothing about "before the war" or "after the war".

AN HON. MEMBER : It was not mentioned.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : No.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : There were Interruptions.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : It might be that the word might be expunged because it is unparliamentary!

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Sir, let me just read the substantive portion of what has been said. I have got it, marked it in yellow. I should have marked it in red perhaps.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : It is "uncorrected".

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : To what extent you will correct it?

[*English*]

You cannot change the substance of what has been said. You can correct a comma, a full-stop, a preposition. You cannot correct the meaning of what has been said. The meaning is very clear. The meaning is :

"I do not feel ashamed because China has never harmed India..."

This is what you said. (*Interruptions*)

Is this what you wanted to say? If you did not, you might clarify it in a personal explanation at some other time. But let us not waste the time of the House now.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : He will clarify later on.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I am sure, he will. (*Interruptions*.)

**Not recorded.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please, Order.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Sir, digressing just for a minute, because an hon. Member has raised the point.

When I said that some Opposition Parties were anti-national, like I said, I did not mean all the Parties. But if the cap does fit in and somebody wants to wear it, then I cannot prevent you from wearing it.

SHRI NARAYAN CHAUBEY : It is too much. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I have not taken any name. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NARAYAN CHAUBEY : Is this the way the Prime Minister should speak ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have already spoken. You please take your seat.

SHRI NARAYAN CHAUBEY : Quoting a certain portion of a speech, he is rubbing it like a boy in a college.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please take your seat, Mr. Basudeb Acharia. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : As we are talking about the subject, there is one more thing also—the Paper which is laid on the Table of the House and one hon. Member referred to this Paper. So, I will also refer to it. This is the Report of the Public Accounts Committee, 1985-86, Defence Ministry, one Member talked about it “Now what can be more anti-national than getting defective equipment for defence because you are really subverting our defence forces ?” We agree entirely with you. I would just like to remind the Member that this import was done in 1978 ! (*Interruptions*).

One other Member—I was going to come to it a little later—one other Member talked about the Jaguar aircraft and production line being closed, and we are buying rubbish. It was bought in 1978-1979. It was not bought by our Government.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN : But it is a continuing thing. (*Interruption*). I was referring from Jaguar to Westland. Answer Westland.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I will answer for Westland.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : You leave now Jaguar and answer for Westland.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I will answer for Westland. (*Interruption*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I am sorry you did not say. There were interruptions after the sentence of my speech you quoted. Part of my speech has been washed out.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No, no.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : It should not be taken out of its context.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I would have told him about the Westland also but the Defence is not procuring the Westland. (*Interruptions*.)

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : I am sorry for your remark. You are the Prime Minister I am sorry for your remark. You are speaking in Parliament.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : You are speaking in the Parliament of India.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I will explain to the hon. Member some other time, not in the Defence debate because it does not belong here. But there is absolutely nothing wrong with the Westland. We had a couple of complaints about it. They have been rectified. (*Interruptions*) I have said we had a couple of complaints. I am still saying we had a couple of complaints and those have been rectified. One complaint was on the financial aspect of how much it cost to run. Anyway, we would not go into that discussion here. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Complaint about an equipment is not an anti-national phenomenon. It is too late in the day.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : No, no. I am not complaining—importing defective equipment. I am talking of importing defective equipment.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : There can be difference. Please don't try to stretch it.....

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I was only referring to the point that was raised here in this debate. I am not talking about other points. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI AMAL DATTA : We are entitled to information. You do not give us any information.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I will come to giving you information also.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : We have to collect information from all places and if we make a mistake, (*Interruptions*), you say "Oh! you have made a mistake", (*Interruptions*). The Westland point I raised in the debate (*Interruptions*). It is the central point I raised.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Perhaps other Members are not aware but I believe hon. Member himself was given a briefing. Certain Opposition Members were given a briefing on questions that they asked. Anyway, let me get back to our immediate environment.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : We spoke to Mr. Arun Singh just now. But no briefing.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : So you did clarify and get your information from the Defence Minister. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Clarified, but we did not get any information as to what should be done in future.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : What more can we do when there is information which we feel should not be made public? We allow the Minister to talk to the individual Members to clarify their doubts. What more can be done? And the sad part of it is that the particular individual who got that opportunity is saying that he was not

given the opportunity. I can understand other members saying "We are not involved." But the member who was given the opportunity to ask questions is saying that we are not given information.....

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Amal Dutta, please take you seat.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Dattaji, I know you are feeling bad that you said that and it is embarrassing but let me finish the rest of what I have to say.....

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Please read my entire speech, it will be educative.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Coming back to our immediate environment.....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You are again reading?

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : You want it again?..... (*Interruptions*) Sri Lanka is another area where the internal disturbances are causing a problem because a lot of refugees are coming over into India and the tension in that country is also causing tension within our own areas. But, perhaps, what is even more disturbing from our defence point of view is the various defence presences that this is inspiring in Sri Lanka. And, as has been said a number of times, politics make strange bed-fellows. I do not want to point it out here. But it is incredible that in Sri Lanka we see the Pakistanis and the Israelis working together and hand in hand. It is indeed extra-ordinary.

The Indian Ocean is an area where we have always wanted to have no external presences. Unfortunately, this has not worked out like it should have due to certain big power presences and big power objectives in the area. What started out as a zone of peace is becoming much more a zone of tension. But every effort must go on to turn the area into a zone of peace.

One member mentioned dissent within, I think.....

AN HON. MEMBER : Mr. Unnikrishnan.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Who mentioned it is not relevant. I agree entirely with him. I am agreeing with him for a change. I agree entirely with him that dissent is an inherent part of democracy and it must be there and we want dissent. But the dissent must be within the system and through the system. Dissent cannot be picking up a gun or picking up a weapon or bomb.....

SHRI K. P. UNNIKISHNAN : That is not dissent. That becomes subversion... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : That is also dissent.....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You cannot take an arm and call it dissent. That is not our idea at all.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I am just clarifying what the thinking is and if there has been a mistake, we can correct it.....

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Change the language in that report.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : It is not decent dissent. It is indecent dissent.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : In our own environment, the defence environment itself is changing very rapidly. New technologies, sophisticated technologies are being brought in and such technologies do cost money. They are expensive. They are expensive to buy. Sometimes they are expensive to run, expensive to maintain and expensive to train our people to use them effectively. But, unfortunately, the numbers and quantities in which it is coming into our region force us to equip our selves to match that. We cannot be complacent. If we are to maintain our independent posture, our freedom of action and policy, then it is necessary that we bear this cost. There is no alternative. There can be an alternative if we want to compromise on our integrity and on our freedom and our policy. But we do not want to barter these

away as some countries have, to get access to high technology on easy terms and easy way. But if we are to maintain our independence, there is only one way and we have to bear that cost. I am very glad to hear a very large number of members supporting this basic idea and concept even in their speeches..... (Interruptions)

I see not everybody likes this idea.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : We said, we should be able to make them by this time.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I do not really want to know what you said, neither does the House.....

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You should know. You should have read the entire speech.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Datta, please take your seat.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You should know because we said that we should be able to make them by this time.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Perhaps on the territory, that you say, belongs to them.'

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Again you go on repeating the same thing !

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : An integral part of any such process has to be our self-reliance. As my Minister of State has clarified, self-reliance does not mean that we manufacture every nut and bolt, washer and every component because it does relate to the cost of the whole project and some things are inefficient and somethings are not, but strategic items, yes, we must make them. Another point that came up is : why we are stopping making shoes and uniforms. The fact is that there is sufficient capability and capacity in the country in the small scale and even in the smaller than small scale to manufacture these things and there is no need at this stage which there was, may be 20 years ago when this capacity had not been developed for defence production to make such items. But today it is necessary

for defence production to concentrate on items which are not available to us where high technologies are involved, very advanced technologies are involved which we are not able to get, from outside and if this concentration has to be in one area, we cannot be doing all this mundane production across the board. Then, Government industries public sector sometimes is more expensive than smaller units and the units that would be making these will be absolutely Indian units. There is no doubt about their integrity or their loyalty to the nation and we see no reason why more and more people should not be involved in defending the country, in whatever way they can.

But self-reliance must have frontline R & D and we are having thrust areas where we will develop. We must improve our production process to be efficient, to be fast enough to produce the equipment on time and in sufficient numbers. But perhaps most of all, and this is something a question which will keep coming to the House is that if we are going to stick our necks out on Defence R & D, we have to take certain risks in development processes. There may be failures, there may be faults, but unless we have the guts to take those steps, we will never learn and we have to take that. The House will be taken into confidence, but we will need all your support for our defence scientists, our technologists and our defence production managers.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : The House has never been taken into confidence before.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Very sullen to-day.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : It is true ; that is why.....

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Mr. Amal Datta is not going to sleep tonight.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Perhaps the amount of elaboration that has been given in this particular debate by the two MOSs for R & D and DRDO and Production, that amount of elaboration has never been given to the House before and that is one of the reasons that why I do not want to go into minute detail of everything. Most of

it has already been covered. Now, I am trying to talk in general concept. At this time we should also appreciate the work that our R&D and production and technologists have done to-date. We cannot tell you everything because it would not be right. But I would just like to tell you some of the work that they have done is as advanced as the work that is taking place in any country in the world.

(Interruptions)

You cannot please everyone all the time.

(Interruptions)

Much has been made about the secrecy of Defence contracts, dealings, assessments and I would like to say two words about this. First I would like to say that the question of classification of documents because there is a feeling in this House, I know and I myself have that feeling that there is over-classification of documents. I am not talking at this stage just about Defence but it is a whole of all other departments and we will look into this and try to rationalise this. There are tremendous difficulties because Defence thinks is top secret or what Defence thinks just may be secret, the equivalent of that may be taken as top secret by another Ministry. Atomic Energy might think that this is all irrelevant and does not bother any one and it can be de-classified. So, there are these differences of view point on single issues. We will try to and bring about something which will rationalise the classification of documents and perhaps make it easier. There is no intention at any time to keep Parliament or the country in the dark about any details but.....

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Arms acquisition ?

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I will come to all that and we would like MPs and the House to have discussion on any such issues. In the House, outside the House and in the Press we will welcome these discussions. But you must realise that we ourselves have certain limitations. We cannot disclose to you the performance limitations of the equipment that we have. We cannot disclose to you the evaluation

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reports of the equipment that we have because that will compromise our Defence and our security. That you will have to allow us to keep to ourselves.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Some secrets may not come to Ministers also !

(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER ; There are people who pass it on to China.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Under the present circumstances like just I have mentioned with the high technology and weapons, with the cost constraints that are put on us and the compromises that we have to make between a development programme and a Defence programme, we have to see that Defence expenditure is optimised to the maximum. That means, we get the maximum defence out of every rupee that we spend. Now, this will require, perhaps, shifting people around. But like the Minister of State has said there is no question of actually sacking any one or large-scale unemployment coming about because of any such programme, But you will have to bear with us when we say that certain technologies are changing and we cannot have 200 people working here and they must shift and work somewhere else. We will train them, we will put them there. But the social difficulties will have to be borne by the families and we will try and help them. But if Defence is to be optimum then this must take place.

We are now planning a new structure for Defence Planning. It will definitely be more scientific. One member said that our Defence Planning structure is not scientific. In the same breath he said : "You do not tell us what your Plan is." I do not know how the two go together. But I can assure the members.....

SHRI AMAL DATTA : There is a difference between a 'structure' and a 'Plan'.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : But if you do not know it, how do you know that it is scientific or it is not scientific ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : But the plan is not disclosed.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I am a little confused again by the hon. Member because either the hon. Member knows our defence plan in which case he cannot complain about secrecy or... (Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : The structure is inadequate. But the plan is not disclosed. There is a difference between structure and plan.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : We are having a look at the structure and we are bringing out a new defence planning structure. It will be more scientific and it will be much more dynamic...

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I will be happy.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : We will be happy.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : He is already laughing.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He is in a good mood now.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Perhaps he will sleep in peace.

We have to optimise our logistic and administrative mechanism. We have to see that our command control and communication systems are not just optimal but also functioning and operating in the best possible manner. Our tactical intelligence needs to be optimised. Our weapon-mix, our inter- and intra-Service weapon-mix, has to be optimised. Perhaps, the maximum coordination is required amongst the three Services, the R&D set-up, the production units and the political and administrative set-up as well.

The future battle-field would demand a very close link between the three Services which has been demonstrated in many recent

conflicts. Members would also be aware that one of the pending issues before the Defence Ministry in this connection was the question of creating an Army Aviation Corps. While appreciating the significant role which the attack helicopter would occupy in future battle-field, we have had under consideration for some time now the possible recruitment of an Army Aviation Corps. Government fully appreciate that, in today's warfare, total integration is necessary between tank regiments and attack helicopter squadron for optimum results in battle. However, Government is convinced that this integration is possible within the existing structures of the Army and the Air Force by rationalising the organisation and command and control of the helicopter squadron without creating a separate Army Aviation Corps. The attack helicopter squadron, while being owned and maintained by the Air Force, will henceforth come under the command and control of the Army. The pilots in this Squadron will be trained in the tactics and operation of both the helicopter squadron and tank regiments so as to understand fully the entire gamut of anti-tank and anti-helicopter operation.

In modernising our Army, we have looked into many new areas. Night fighting equipment is perhaps the most highly advanced of them all. Opto-electronics are now coming into the Army and they will be soon an integral part of the Army.

Air defence capability is being increased. Mobility of infantry and combat support unit is being tremendously increased. Artillery systems are being updated. We are also at the same time upgrading our tanks, our air defence guns and our communication equipment.

The Navy is getting new maritime reconnaissance aircraft. Anti-submarine capability, whether it is air to sub-surface or surface to sub-surface or sub-surface to sub-surface, is being improved. We are strengthening the Navy in all the three dimension—air, on the surface and below the surface.

Many MPs have been talking about the *Hermes* aircraft carrier. Well at this stage I can tell you is that the negotiations

are under way and are at a substantially advanced stage. I would also like to point out that some of the figures that you have got on the cost of the *Hermes* are very highly exaggerated. All I can compare them to is your idea of what we spent on the Asian Games. The dimensions are the same—sometimes ten times and sometimes more.

17.00 hrs.

In the Air Force, again, the new dimensions are proceeding as per schedule. We are getting a new improved air defence system. ECM and ECCM systems are being incorporated. Flight safety which has been a problem of late, although there has been some improvement in the past months but we are setting up a new Inspector General Branch in the Air Headquarters which will set and analyse standards for flight safety. We hope that this will improve the safety standards.

The most important of all, in any defence set up, is the man behind the equipment. It is, perhaps, here that we must concentrate most. Training has to be one of the key factors in optimising the man for the battle field, for defence; Physical training, military training on specialised equipment—whether it is actually using the equipment which today is not really that complicated; but much more complicated is maintaining and keeping that equipment serviceable. With new technologies coming in, this will require very high levels of training in our armed forces.

Attitudes and motivation of the people must be an integral part of the training process and this has to be looked at very carefully. Modern education systems are being brought in and the quality and quantity of training is being substantially increased, raised.

We are also looking into the terms and conditions of service. Proposals for improvement have been sent to the Fourth Pay Commission. The Government are also considering the possibility of modifying the terms of engagement without sacrificing the fighting efficiency of the Army. Our

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objective is to tackle the problem of ex-servicemen more effectively, increase their employability and reduce the financial burden for the Government by way of construction of accommodation and payment of pension.

Welfare measures are one of the key factors in keeping a high morale in the forces. We are going to construct 70 new Central Schools every year for four years. Housing also will be looked at on a priority basis. We are reviewing the disability pension.

Ex-servicemen have always felt that we have not done enough for them. We had a high level committee which looked into various aspects. Out of the 68 recommendations that the Committee had recommended we have accepted 51—48 wholly and 3 partially. Pension policies have for the first time ever, been sent to the Pay Commission. We are going to open a new division in the Ministry of Defence to look after the welfare, resettlement of ex-servicemen and the liaison between ex-servicemen and the various State Governments.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, this debate has been very useful. Many suggestions, contributions by the Members have been taken note of and we will keep them in mind. We are always striving for constant improvement and any inputs that we get, we will try and use them.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN :
Even from Shri Amal Datta.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Sometimes, depending of course on what he says.

Perhaps, it would be right for me to clarify at this stage what we, under no circumstances, are of the view that he is—on that part that I quoted. The Government has totally a different view. We feel that our territories are definitely occupied and we cannot be complacent and pretend that they do not belong to us. Perhaps the hon. Member could be taken to Ladakh by our hon. Member from Ladakh and shown the territories, so he can look across and see.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : He will get high altitude hang over.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I do not know whether it is different from low altitude hangover.

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, and Hon. Prime Minister, I want to read an Urdu couplet. As Chaubey Saheb is a senior Member, he may perhaps explain its meaning to Datta Saheb :—

*Kal Unhone khud-ba-khud ghunghat Uthaya tha
Ab Aap hain ki aaj hi Sheesha dikha diya*

[English]

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Sir, lastly may I just end by saying that India is not expansionist in any way. We do not cover others territory. We do not interfere in others internal affairs. We have never attacked any other country but we will not compromise on our independence, our sovereignty, our territorial integrity or the freedom of thought and our actions. Our Defence Forces are and always will be ready to face any challenge or eventuality that they may be called upon to face. I would request all the hon. Members who have moved cut motions to withdraw them and pass the Demands.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall now put all the cut motions moved to the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Defence to vote together, unless any hon. member desires that any of his cut motions may be put separately.

All the cut motions were put and negatived

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I shall now put the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Defence to vote. The question is :

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account

shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st

day of March, 1987 in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 17 to 22 relating to the Ministry of Defence."

The motion was adopted.

Demand for Grants [General], 1986-87 in respect of the Ministry of Defence voted by Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 15th March, 1986		Amount of Demand for Grant voted by the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
17.	Ministry of Defence	89,50,51,000	23,72,04,000	4,43,27,55,000	1,18,60,21,000
18.	Defence Pensions	91,74,88,000	...	4,58,74,37,000	...
19.	Defence Services- Army	9,10,96,20,000	...	45,54,81,02,000	...
20.	Defence Services- Navy	1,13,35,00,000	...	5,66,75,00,000	...
21.	Defence Services- Air Force	3,11,23,08,000	...	15,56,15,42,000	...
22.	Capital Outlay on Defence Services	...	1,82,08,00,000	...	9,10,40,00,000

DEMAND FOR GRANTS (GENERAL 1986-87—*Contd.

(II) Ministry of Water Resources

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand No. 97 relating to the Ministry of Water Resources for which 5 hours have been allotted.

Hon. members present in the House whose cut motions to the Demand for Grant have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. Those cut motions only will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of cut motions treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly. In case any member finds any discrepancy in the list he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table without delay.

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

Motion moved :

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

Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1987 in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against "Demand No. 97." relating to the Ministry of Water Resources."

**Demand for Grants (General) 1986-87 in respect of the Ministry of Water
(Resources submitted to the vote of Lok Sabha)**

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 13th March, 1986		Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
97.	Ministry of Water Resources	27,12,29,000	2,57,07,000	1,25,43,92,000	12,88,33,000

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri V. Sobhanadreeswara Rao may begin.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to initiate the discussion on this important Demand of Water Resources. Irrigation is a very very important item for the alround progress of the country. In our country nearly seventy per cent of the population are having agriculture as their main preoccupation and without adequate irrigation, agriculture cannot provide food and food products that are required for the people and also the raw materials such as cotton, jute, and sugarcane required for the industry. Any major shortfall in production of crops will have serious repercussions on the economy. The Prime objective and the main approach of the Government should be to divert and store water in the respective river basins and make it available for agricultural and other consumptive purposes.

Assured irrigation is a prerequisite for agricultural development and for increase in the peoples standard of living.

Out of the estimated ultimate potential of 58 million hectares from major and medium projects and 55 million hectares from minor schemes, till the end of 6th Plan, the potential created by the major and medium irrigation projects is 30.5 million hectares, and from minor irrigation projects, it is 37 million hectares.

The 7th Plan envisages creation of additional potential of 12.9 million hectares at an estimated outlay of Rs. 14,360 crores. With the total outlay being Rs. 1,80,000 crores this allocation for water resources work, out to 7.9 per cent only. This is the allotment for irrigation.

The nation has already paid a heavy price for the mistake committed in the past. From the Second Plan, the allocation for

irrigation has gone down as a result of which, the country had to import foodgrains worth thousands of crores of rupees from other countries. Let us not commit the same mistake now.

As time is passing, there are terrible pressures from all sides for completion of projects already taken up as well as new projects and schemes to be taken up for socio-economic development of backward areas, and in particular, chronically drought prone areas. I suggest that more funds should be re-allocated to water resources in the 7th Plan.

Assured irrigation helps in eradication of poverty. The Government is proposing to spend Rs. 9,000 crores on anti-poverty programmes such as IRDP, NREP, RLEGP etc. With assured irrigation, the farmer can be very sure of more than one crop in a year, and definitely one crop in a year and the agricultural labour will also get more working days and they will receive increased wages as a result of which it will go a long way to eradicate poverty among the millions of poorest of the poor agricultural labourers in the rural areas.

Highest priority should be given to minor irrigation schemes, because in respect of minor irrigation, the gestation period is small and it will take a very short time to complete minor irrigation schemes. While in the major and medium schemes providing irrigation facility the cost per acre comes to Rs. 10,000 or even more, in respect of minor irrigation schemes, it is around Rs. 3,000 crores. The Government should provide more funds for minor irrigation schemes.

I suggest that there should be a radical change in the attitude of the Government towards tubewells. Government is collecting water tax from the farmers whether the irrigation source is provided either by the Government or through the own efforts of the farmers. Government is spending nearly Rs. 10,000 or more per acre in respect of major/medium schemes. In regard to tubewells, only small and marginal farmers are given a subsidy of nearly 33 and 25 per cent under minor irrigation schemes. So, in the national interest, let the Govern-

ment give a subsidy of 20 per cent to the other farmers also, especially in those areas which are not covered by any irrigation projects or to be covered in future by irrigation projects.

In respect of ground water potential, some States have completely tapped the sources. In such States, Government should restrict further tapping of underground water, because already tapped sources will go empty and it will damage their own interest. In States like Andhra Pradesh, where only 50 per cent underground water is tapped, I request that the Government should provide more funds for minor irrigations schemes. In such areas where intensive survey has already been completed in respect of the availability of ground-water. Intensive survey should again be conducted to guide and enlighten the farmer regarding the availability of ground water, its depth and the quantity that can be taken per minute.

Government is giving some subsidy in respect of failed wells. I suggest that this facility should be extended in the case of those farmers also, who might have suffered because of failed tube wells or dug wells. I suggest this because the criteria is the same and the loss is same to the farmers. So, this facility should be extended to them also.

Regarding sprinkler and drip irrigation equipment, the Government is giving 20 per cent subsidy to those farmers who are outside the purview of the small and marginal farmers. For the small and marginal farmers, it is 50 per cent. Let it be so and it is okay. But the upper limit on the amount as subsidy received by other farmers should be increased not only in the interest of the other farmers, but in the national interest as well, because this will help to cover 30 per cent more area with the same quantity of water. As the cost of sprinkler system is very high, Government should increase the upper limit of the subsidy amount to the other farmers.

Abnormal delay is taking place in the clearance of the project proposals and several projects are pending with the Government from all the States. This is a

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thing which deserves the immediate attention of the Government. Because of this delay, the estimated cost of the projects is increasing every year and it is putting a lot of burden on the State Governments. The Central Water Commission is not seeking the information in a single format. They put some questions and when those questions are answered by the State Governments, they again express some more doubts. Like this, it is going on and on and very precious time is being lost. So, let the CWC put forth only one single format for all the information that is required by them, so as to enable the process to be completed as early as possible.

Non-clearance of the projects from the Forest and Environment Department has become another stumbling block for taking up the projects. Members in this august House have mentioned many number of times regarding the inordinate delay caused by the Department of Forests and Environment in giving clearance to the projects. We do share the concern of the Government regarding the reduction in the forest area. An allocation of Rs. 7000 crores in the Seventh Plan for reforestation itself clearly shows what the Government's concern is. I would like to mention that we are also of the same view. At the same time, the implementation of the 1980 Forest Act should not come in the way of the development of our nation. The Government has accepted that during the last 30 years, on an average, 1.5 lakhs hectares of forest land was lost per year. And now, this has been brought down to about 3600 hectares per annum after bringing this Act into force since 25.10.80. But, I would like to say that State Governments, only when there is no other alternative, make a proposal for alienation of forest land that is paraly required for the project and for the canals. At the same time, the State Government also takes up the responsibility of reforesting equal area elsewhere in the State and handing over it to the Forest Department. So, in these circumstances, the Government should clear those projects which are pending and in this context, I will quote a single example pertaining to my constituency which I have brought to your notice also previously.

"There are Eight Schemes under Nagarjuna Sagar canals in Krishna District where only 60 hectares are involved and there 60 hectares of land are also not forest land but waste land with bushes which can irrigate 6386 hectares."

There are only shrubs and the other portions of the canal were already dug by the time the Forest Act came into force and if this is cleared, 6386 hectares of land can be irrigated. The Government's policy is to fully utilise the existing potential already created to reap the benefits by the farmers. So this is a single example regarding the opacity of Forest department which I desire to bring to your notice. The Forest Department is consuming a lot of time. I would like to say that the State Governments are also responsible Governments just like your Central Government. They are also aware of their responsibilities. So upto 200 hectares of land, the power be given to the State Government, over and above that, the Central Government can deal with it to reduce the time that is required for processing of these cases and clearing of projects. I think a stage has come where the Government-both Central as well as the States should give necessary advise to the farmers, because already the country has reached a stage where the foodgrains production has reached a satisfactory level and we are having enough food stocks. At the same time, we are short of oilseeds, pulses and grams. And for the last 20 years, the grams' level have not increased. So the Government should say that in respect of their command areas only where the land is very low-lying and it is only fit for the food cultivation like rice, then only it is allowed to grow paddy, Whereas in other areas, the farmers should be advised to go in for irrigated dry crops, where with the same quantity of water, more land can be irrigated, more number of farmers can be benefited through these irrigation systems. Water Management Call has a very key role to play and it has to advise the farmers depending upon water requirements. Under the concerned projects, the crops that are grown in that area and the nature of the soil, they should give information regarding these modern management practices to the farmers as

well as the officials concerned there. Efforts should be made to involve the farmers in the command areas. Till now, we have been adopting the same old practices that we there right from the days of the British Government. Now, the farmers are not involved in any way with the Water Distribution System as a result of which a sense of belonging has not come. They feel it is entirely different and I need not say how much bungling these officials at the lower level are resorting to, as a result of which the farmers face lot of troubles. I need not quote in detail. But I would like to say that while in Dhule and Nasik districts of Maharashtra, where the "phad" system is going on, where the farmers themselves are managing distribution of water for the last three hundred to four hundred years, why not this system be extended to other areas also so that the farmers themselves can take up the distribution of water. Mohini Water Cooperative in Kakrapur project in Gujarat has started the initiative. The farmers themselves are maintaining the Micro-Distribution System and they are collecting the water taxes. With the farmers' involvement, water can be equitably distributed, and optimum usage of water can also be achieved in the Command.

Coming to the problems pertaining to our State—regarding clearance of the irrigation projects, I am compelled to say that the Central Government is intentionally delaying the clearance of Telugu Ganga project. This project is the only hope of the chronically drought-prone areas of Rayalaseema region. Rayalaseema is recognized as a permanent drought-prone area ever since the days of the British Government. I will not go into the details of the scheme, which I have brought to your notice earlier. Myself as well as my other colleagues from our party have brought it to the notice of the Government on several occasions. I would like to say once again that the Bachwat Tribunal has made it crystal clear that Andhra Pradesh is permitted to use all the water that is coming in excess of its share, as otherwise the water will simply go waste into the sea.

The Tribunal also made it clear that by utilizing these surplus waters, Andhra Pradesh will not acquire any right in such

warers. Our Government on all occasions has made it very clear that we stand by the Accord, we stand by the words and judgement given by the Bachawat Tribunal. It can be re-opened after the year 2000 A.D. Now it is the responsibility of the Government of India to implement the Award. If some State says something contrary to the Bachawat Tribunal's award or some other tribunal's award, and if the Central Government does not try to implement the Award, what is the sanctity of the Award? Why a tribunal or a commission at all? Why should it take all the pains and give its judgement, when it is not going to be implemented?

I request that Government of India should not play politics and delay the justified and genuine demand of the Rayalaseema people in Andhra Pradesh. This type of behaviour on the part of the Centre will strain the otherwise normal relations between the Centre and the States.

I am happy that Karnataka has at last come see the realities. It has accepted that Andhra Pradesh can use the excess water; but it wants Andhra Pradesh to restrict that usage to only 25% of the excess water. If the Andhra Pradesh Government uses only 25% water, the remaining 75% will go to the sea, which will be a waste; and it will not serve the national interests.

The Bachawat Tribunal has clearly stated that Andhra Pradesh is entitled to use all the waters so let not Karnataka come in the way of the Telugu Ganga project.

The Polavaram project is an equally important one. Apart from irrigating 7.25 lakh acres, it will supply water to the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. The Visakhapatnam Steel Plant Phase-I will be ready by 1988, as per Government's latest information. So, this Polavaram project should be cleared by Government of India. There is proposal for power generation of 720 MWs also in that project, including a firm power generation of 60 MWs. Through the Polavaram project, 80 TMCs of water can be diverted from Godawari to Krishna river. In fact, this can be a part of the prestigious project, that is linking of

[Shri V. Sobhanadreeswara Rao]

Ganga with Kaveri. By the construction of this project, 80 TMCs of water in the Krishna river can be utilized in the drought-prone Rayalaseema area, because this Godavari water can be supplied to Krishna river above the Prakasam barrage.

So, in view of the national importance that this project has, I request the Centre to take up this full project. In case it is not able to do so, at least the energy component of it let the Government of India take up, and expose the remaining part to World Bank.

The Vamsadhara Stage-II is very important project in respect of north coastal Andhra districts. The only thing is that the Chief Ministers of the two States have to sit together and finalize the question regarding the submersion of land in Orissa. Already, talks at the Ministerial and official levels have taken place; and our Chief Minister has written a number of times to the Chief Minister of Orissa as well as to you for arranging a meeting; and we again reiterate our request for arranging a meeting of the two Chief Ministers to resolve this issue.

Modified stage I and stage II of Sreerama Sagar Project are yet to be cleared by Central Water Commission. The total area envisaged in the revised stage I has increased from 5 lakh acres to 10.22 lakh acres. It is under consideration of C.W.C. for quite long time. I suggest that it should be cleared without any further loss of time.

Regarding the stage II, the expert committee constituted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a revised study report establishing the net 75 per cent dependable yield at Sree Rama Sagar Project site as 171.7 TMC. This report was sent on 31.7.1985. I suggest that the CWC should clear it immediately.

Yeleru Reservoir Project—it is an important Project which is to supply 73 mgd of water to Visakhapatnam Steel Plant apart from stabilising the ayacut under the

river channels. Since the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant is coming to be ready by 1988, we request that this project should be cleared immediately over which the Government of Andhra Pradesh has already spent nearly Rs. 46 crores.

Regarding modernisation of Krishna Delta System, it was a century old system, the structures have outlived their age Canals silted up, need to selective living of canals and so on. So, already there is a scheme for modernising of this system and it has to be cleared by the government.

Finally, to reduce losses due to flood and drought, the government should take up linking of Ganga-Kaveri. This can be a project which will help a lot in minimising losses due to drought and floods. Only in the year 1985-86, the government has provided an assistance to the tune of Rs. 527 crores for drought relief and another Rs. 502 crores on flood relief programme. In the single year 1983, the damage to crop was estimated to be Rs. 1280 crores. You are not compensating the farmers; you are not giving any assistance to the farmers. All these years, if we calculate, if we compound, if we add, these losses will go to several thousands and thousands of crores of rupees. So, to reduce these losses, ultimately this scheme, Ganga-Kaveri link should be taken up. Of course, it is a very costly matter and it need big effort, but, let a beginning be made; let the unemployed youths in the villages be involved in that programme so that ultimately this country can utilise the God's gift, this precious and perennial water resource, which is not available to all other countries, which our country alone is having in the form of Himalayas in the north through which we can get irrigation water round the year. With these words, I conclude.

17.34 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI (Bogusarai) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of water Resources,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate the hon. Prime Minister and express my gratitude to him for the untiring efforts he has made for making the waters of the Ganga river, which is a symbol of the culture and civilization of India, clean and pure. I visited Hardwar on the occasion of Kumbh festival. At that time, many eminent scholars and philosophers from various parts of the country were present there. Everyone praised the efforts of the Government in cleaning the river waters with one voice. I hope and expect that effective steps to control the pollution of other main rivers like the Ganga river will be taken up under the leadership of our Hon. Prime Minister. I am happy that our Government has constituted a National Council of Water Resources. Its first meeting was held on 30th of October under the Chairmanship of our Hon. Prime Minister. In the meeting of the Council it was opined that water is a rare and valuable national wealth. It was decided that it should be utilised as a rare commodity. Besides this, concern had been expressed to utilise the underground and ground water to the maximum possible extent. It is a matter of great pleasure that our Government has laid great stress on the need for formulating a National Water Policy after a long time.

Sir, I have gone through the Approach Paper. A great emphasis has been laid therein on the development of infrastructure like irrigation and power. It has also been mentioned in the Approach Paper how to utilise the irrigation potentiality to the maximum and how to execute the on-going schemes which are under implementation for a very long time. There are a number of such schemes which cannot prove to be very effective perhaps in the present times. A review of these schemes is called for so that they may either be recast or given up and in their place other schemes may be taken up. All these things have been given priority in the Approach Paper.

In our country, water resources are a gift of nature. It is a bounty bestowed upon us by a God. Through it we can bring about prosperity in the country and change the life of the farmer for the better. Their economic condition can be improved.

But, unfortunately, we have not been able to utilise fully the total cultivable land so far. A vast part of our land has been deprived of the facility of irrigation. I do not want to dwell on statistics. I only want to say that survey has not been carried out to utilise the vast resources of water in the predominantly agricultural States like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Bengal, Assam and others. It should be examined as to how we could use such a large source of water. The Central Government has itself admitted that there are many projects in almost all the States, which are going on for many years and there has been undue delay in their execution resulting in escalation of the cost of the projects and this is proving to be a great financial burden for us. I would also like to say that since independence, many commissions were set up and so many experiments were carried out. Many commissions like Central Water Commission, Agriculture Commission, Flood Commission, Irrigation Commission, etc., had been set up and all of them have concluded that we are not able to utilise the entire rainy water and it goes waste. Therefore, attention should be paid towards this. The Planning Commission also says that irrigation potential has not been utilised to the full extent. Sir, this is a boon as well as a curse. Every year 'huge loss of life and property is caused due to floods, drought, soil erosion, cyclones and other natural calamities. During the period from 1953 to 1983, a damage of approximately Rs. 335 crores per year has been caused due to the floods. After natural calamities, Flood Control Board was set up at the national level and River Commission was set up at international level, but these commissions have not discharged their responsibilities to the expected extent and these have not proved to be effective. Their task was to construct especially the long embankments and drainage canals, to do away with water logging and to raise the level of the villages. All these tasks remain incomplete. As a result, the people living in the villages are facing a lot of difficulties. Even after 37 years of independence, we have not been able to use our water resources properly. It is a very serious matter.

[Srimati Krishna Sahi]

It is true that we should conceive and formulate big projects and display farsightedness, but I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that there are many small schemes which are beneficial to the villagers and which are implemented by the State Governments, but there are many shortcomings in those schemes. Such small schemes include cleaning of wells, repair of embankments and minor dams. These works have not been completed. Tubewells have been installed for irrigational purposes, but these have proved to be white elephant, because crores of rupees have been spent on the administrative set up alone. Even the work relating to these tubewells could not be implemented in a planned and time-bound manner. In this regard, I would like to mention the examples of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh where Government Tubewells have proved to be a total failure and the people are not getting any benefit out of them.

It is a matter of great happiness for us that our achievement in the field of foodgrains production has been very commendable. There can not be two opinions about it. But despite our talk about green revolution and self-sufficiency, I would like to say that we have not been able to achieve self-sufficiency in the matter of all the foodgrains. With regard to rice and wheat, we may talk of self-sufficiency, but are we not lagging behind in the matter of oilseeds and pulses? If we eat rice and bread, would we not eat pulses along with them? The poor and those who are deficient in protein, require pulses. 87 per cent cultivation of pulses out of the total world production is done in our country. Pulses are produced in eight States i.e. Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra, etc. India is the only country where the acreage under pulses production is the maximum throughout the world. Despite such a large acreage under pulses cultivation in India, the yield of pulses per hectare is very low. We have not been able to increase the production of pulses during the last two decades. The most painful thing is that most of the pulses are produced in unirrigated areas. I had said this in the last session also and since 1980, when I was elected as M.P., I have been drawing the attention of the Government

continuously to the fact that Mokama and Badahiya in our area are very fertile in the matter of pulses production, but our Government is not taking any steps to increase the production of pulses there. There is 410 square miles of such area.

I would like to refer to Sivaraman Committee's report in which it has been stated that Rajasthan where there is major content of sand and hilly areas are suitable for production of pulses, the Central Government should formulate and implement special schemes for such areas and the State Governments should be provided special funds for this purpose. I would like to draw your attention to the fact that our State of Bihar is generally affected by floods or drought. A vast area of Bihar consists of sand and 'Diar', our colleague Shri D.P. Yadava also comes from that area. The Central Government should provide special funds for the purpose and formulate special schemes. It is very essential. I would like to submit that we should pay attention towards the resources of foreign exchange also. Our foreign exchange reserves are being affected very badly. We should, therefore, pay special attention towards the cultivation of pulses and oilseeds. It is most regrettable that a lot of land erosion is taking place and this erosion is affecting the general public in such a way that agricultural land is being damaged. I was going through a book entitled "Forest Farming of India" which contained all these figures. I do not know to what extent these figures are true or false. But it has been said in that book that during the last 50 years, there has been indiscriminate felling of trees and 9 or 10 crore hectares of forest land has been denuded of forests. It has also been said that 600 crore tonnes of soil is washed away every year. This means that 60 or 70 lakh acres of fertile land is lost every year. In this connection I would like to submit to you that you should kindly implement Mokama Badahiya Pulses Project which is pending for the last 20 years. This project should not be considered a project of the State Government. The Central Government should pay special attention towards this project as it is a very important and useful scheme for our country. When Shri K.L. Rao was the Minister, he had visited Mokama twice and he himself had

found that the land there was very fertile. If pulses are grown there by using modern techniques not only this area would be self-sufficient in the matter of pulses, but it would provide pulses to the entire country in case irrigation facilities are provided.

Secondly, I would like to submit and I have been making this submission repeatedly that a large area of Bihar has been affected by erosion by river Ganga and the people have become homeless. The Government should formulate a long term plan to check this menace. In the absence of a long term plan, the State Government and the Central Government have to spend crores of rupees. If a long term plan is formulated, the people living in the country-side would be benefited and their difficulties would be removed for ever.

So much about the natural calamities, Now I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to what action would be taken against the man-made difficulties? We all know that your ideals are very high. All of us want that big tasks should be accomplished and there should be co-ordination everywhere. You have created a new Department of Water Resources. You want that the Department of Water Resources should co-ordinate the entire work in such a manner that there is an increase in the irrigational facilities and irrigation potential of the country is increased, but what would you do with the administrative set up through which you want to implement the schemes? You have renamed the Department of Irrigation as the Department of Water Resources, but merely changing of the name is not going to solve the problem. You have to give due thought to it also. What steps would you take which may prove to be Aladin's lamp? The hon. Minister would have to pay attention to earlier mistakes, due to which we could not increase our irrigation potential and could not formulate time-bound schemes.

I would like to ask the hon. Minister how he will check the corruption and the red tapism in the Department of Irrigation? He will have to give an assurance to us in this regard. He will have to tell us what measures he is going to adopt in this regard. You might be aware that perhaps in every

Department, there is talk of economic offences, mafia or corruption, but I would like to submit to you that there is a mafia gang in the Irrigation Department also which misappropriates 50 per cent of the budget allocations. I would like to ask you how you are going to check it?

Before concluding I would like to ask how you are going to solve the problem of water logging. We have received the annual report regarding this Ministry, but there is not mention about water logging or about the measures which would solve this serious problem being faced by the country. Water is life. Water is priceless and it is vital for our survival. Despite that we have not been able to make arrangements for drinking water supply in the villages even after so many years of independence. With a view to make arrangements for supply of drinking water in the far-flung villages, you will have to make changes in the system. One Department shifts its responsibility to the other Department. The Department of Public Health says that it is not their responsibility and the other Department would do it. After all, who is responsible to make arrangements for drinking water supply in the villages and how could the maximum irrigational facilities be provided in the villages?

With these words, I would like to express my thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I hope that after creation of this new Department, there would certainly be some improvement in the situation. In future, there will be some change in the set up and the functioning.

[English]

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REEDY
(Hindupur): I beg to move—

“That the demand under the head ‘Ministry of Water Resources’ be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to continue the Tungabhadra Board.] (24)

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Water Resources be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Shri K. Ramachandra Reddy]

[Need for Central assistance for the early completion of Pennahobilam Balancing Reservoir and Dharmavaram cannal in Anantapur in Andhra Pradesh.] (25)

“That the demand under the head ‘Ministry of Water Resources’ be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to resolve the Water disputes of Chitravathi and Penner rivers between the States of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.] (26)

“That the demand under the head ‘Ministry of Water Resources’ be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to restore free flow of water in the Bakkapatnam (AP) Tank through Chitravati.] (27)

“That the demand under the head ‘Ministry of Water Resources’ be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to allot more funds for taking up in-well Bore Project at massive scale in the district of Anantapur in Andhra Pradesh.] (28)

“That the demand under the head ‘Ministry of Water Resources’ be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to provide deep drilling Rigs to Anantapur district in Andhra Pradesh to exploit fully the underground water.] (29)

“That the demand under the head ‘Ministry of Water Resources’ be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to take up detailed survey of underground water in Anantapur District of Rayalseema.] (30)

“That the demand under the head ‘Ministry of Water Resources’ be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to allot sufficient funds for exploitation of underground water in Anantapur district in Andhra Pradesh to save this area from turning into desert.] (31)

“That the demand under the head ‘Ministry of Water Resources’ be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to sanction Parallel Cannal Project from foreshore to Tungabhadra to irrigate certain Talukas in Anantapur district in Andhra Pradesh.] (32)

“That the demand under the head ‘Ministry of Water Resources’ be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need for immediate survey of diversion of Netravathi from west to east to irrigate the parched land in the districts of Anantapur Chittoor, Chitradurg, Tamkur and Kolar which was chronically affected by drought.] (33)

“That the demand under the head ‘Ministry of Water Resources’ be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to open a Regional Office of the Central Ground Water Board at Hyderabad.] (34)

“That the demand under the head ‘Ministry of Water Resources’ be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to prepare a special plan and allot sufficient funds for better exploitation of groundwater in chronic drought prone areas in the country.] (35)

“That the demand under the head ‘Ministry of Water Resources’ be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Need to nationalise all river waters in the country to prevent dispute between the States.] (36)

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Water Resources' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to take up Ichchampalli Project to benefit Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Maharashtra.] (37)

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Water Resources' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to consider Telugu Ganga Project as a national project and allot funds for its early completion.] (38)

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Water Resources' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to deepen the Tungabhadra Project which is silting up at a very fast rate.] (39)

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Water Resources' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to improve and activate the working of the Water Management Cell.] (40)

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Water Resources' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to activate the centrally sponsored minor irrigation schemes in Anantapur district in Andhra Pradesh.] (41)

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Water Resources' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to streamline and improve the functioning of the flood forecasting system in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.] (42)

SHRI GOPAL KRISHNA THOTA
(Kakinada) : I beg to move—

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Water Resources' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to give financial assistance to the Yeleru Reservoir Project for supply of water for Vizag Steel Plant and also for irrigation purpose.] (59)

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Water Resources' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to increase the staff of the Central Ground Water Board.] (60)

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Water Resources' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to increase the financial assistance to the farmers for borewells.] (61)

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Water Resources' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to take steps to resolve differences between the States arising out of water disputes.] (62)

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Water Resources' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to give clearance to Polavaram Project.] (63)

SHRI M. S. GILL (Ludhiana) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you please excuse me if I express my opinion over the working of this Ministry at the very outset.

In my humble opinion, if there is one Ministry in the Central Government which when looked into from different angles, can be accused of gross negligence and resultant inefficiency, that is this Ministry of Water Resources. It has got a history behind it,

It is a common concept of the people of this country, both inside the House and outside the House, that Water—may be

[Shri M.S. Gill]

rain water or river water or lake water—— is the property of the entire people of our country. But unfortunately, this Ministry, successively and progressively, has failed to bring new law or to change existing law to show that the aspirations of the people are realised.

Sir, I would like to turn the pages of history back to the time when our Constitution-makers were seized of this problem and they, somehow or other, in their own wisdom, incorporated therein, half-backed, borrowed ideas from the Constitutions of Western Democracies whereby this subject of 'Irrigation' of 'Water Resources' was left with the States as a State subject. It was then and there that the Constitution-makers incorporated these ideas in Article 262.

And thereafter again, I want to turn the pages of history to the time when the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 was enacted by this august House.

I would like to draw the attention of this honourable House to these legislations and the failure of the Government to bring in a changed law, so that the disputes regarding the waters are avoided or eliminated. It was here, when the Constitution was made that, for the first time, this subject of 'Water' was left with the States and not with the Centre with the result that a colossal problem was seeded in the womb of provincialism. It was here, for the first time, that this very idea well-recognised well-established and well-accepted principle of national justice prudence that all Waters are natural resources and the property of the entire people of India, was shaken, shattered and smashed. It was here for the first time that the riparian States were given the idea that they alone are the owners of the waters that flow through their lands and sands and they alone are the owners of the waters which are forming the lakes in their territories. It was here that the non-riparian States for the first time were made to feel that they are not entitled to a drop of water which is not flowing through their lands and they were made to look to the skies for the merely of God of rain and to seek the help of so many other oddities.

I happened to be in Rajasthan about a couple of years ago because I wanted to see for myself——I was given to understand by the pages of the history that my ancestors and for that matter, the ancestors of the farmers of Punjab, came down from Rajasthan to Punjab. When the rains failed them in their crops and their cattle and famine conditions were made, they were compelled to move in waves and batches to the greenery of the Punjab or to the greenery of the Himalayas. It was with this very idea that I happened to go to the remote corners of Rajasthan like Jaisalmer, Bamer and other places and I could see for myself sand dunes standing on their toes in perpetuity and with their noses towards the sky praying for every drop of water. I could see with my own eyes sisters and mothers carrying pitcher full of water on their heads for a distance of more than 3 to 5 kilometres for their kids, for their oldies and for their sick. And I could read through their eyes that one tumbler of water was much more precious for them than millions of tonnes of silicon under their feet and heaps of uranium lying underneath their scorched land. They are also sons and daughters of Bharat Mata where the Ganga, the Godavari and other rivers flow and carry along with them millions of tonnes of surplus water into the Indian Ocean. These are the people whose sons have sacrificed their lives may be in Bomdila, may be in Zozila or any other place for every inch of our motherland. They are such people, but they have been denied this right because of the failure of the Ministry to change the law and to bring it up to the expectations of the people.

Mr. Chairman, we have to see whether these people have to pay for every drop of water which goes down their throat with the same number of drops of water of their sweat flowing out of their body. This is where the Central Government has failed and you would find that although they are the people of this country, the Supreme Court Judges and the High Court Judges sitting as a tribunal under the Inter-State Water Disputes Act 1954, had to tell the Rajasthanis that Rajasthan has got no 'locus standi,' Rajasthan is not entitled to have any claim over the Narbada waters although the Narbada may be flowing close

to the ribs of Rajasthan. Why? Because the law or the Inter-States Water Disputes Act has said that only the riparian States are entitled under the law. The hon. Minister while replying to the debates on the Ravi and Beas Water Tribunal Bill, put forth the arguments which to my opinion do not carry much weight. This is the judgment of the Tribunal presided over by the Judges of the Supreme Court that non-riparian States have no 'locus standi' or they cannot claim any water from rivers flowing in other States. This is what has happened. This is also what has happened in the case of Godavari and Krishna Water Disputes Tribunals. This is the law because Judges cannot afford to traverse beyond the limitations of law and the rules made by this august House. This was the occasion, when the Ravi—Beas Waters Tribunal Bill came for discussion, to look into the whole past history of the law and bring it upto date. But no effort has been made to bring it upto date and the law stands as it is, with the result that certain non-riparian States have been left at the mercy of the riparian States. It is due to these reasons that certain disputes have arisen. One of the disputes has arisen between Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. The other disputes have also arisen. They have arisen not because the people do not want to share the natural resources with each other but because they have been given to understand by virtue of the provisions of law, that certain people are entitled to and the other people are not entitled to. This is to be changed. Unless the Ministry changes this law, this idea will continue to be going in the minds of the people and the disputes will continue to be arising.

18 00 hrs.

I just give an example, Before the partition of the Punjab, the Jamuna river was passing through Punjab and U.P.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Sir, we will extend the time of the House by one hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I take it that the House agrees for extending the time by one hour.

You need not take one hour.

SHRI M. S. GILL: Sir, I will take only proportionate time.

Before partition of the Punjab, Jamuna river was passing through the Punjab and it was a border between the Punjab and U.P. After the partition, Haryana claimed Jamuna to be its own river because it flowed on the soil of Haryana. And the verdict of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister, was that Punjab was not entitled to any water from the Jamuna river through the Jamuna Charbi canal, only because Punjab was no more a riparian State of Jamuna. Thus the question arose that if the people of Punjab are not entitled to Jamuna water, Haryana too is not entitled to Ravi and Beas waters. This controversy started. It started only because there is a defect in the law. That has to be corrected and brought up to date.

The other day, the hon. Minister, while arguing about the Inter-State Water Tribunal Bill, said that the words any State in the river valley, would mean any state in the Indus Valley. Unfortunately, this is not correct, at the same time, the hon. Minister quoted one sentence from the Indus Valley Treaty which was signed by Jawaharlal Nehru. There the word used was. "The system of rivers". The system of Indus river is absolutely different from the river valley. "River valley" is a very short term, whether it is Indus river valley, Jamuna river valley Ganges river valley or Brahmaputra, river valley. It belongs to only one river.

It does not mean rivers valley. Therefore, the present law would not cover this inter-State issues or cover the situation which has arisen in this country. The law has to be amended. The Constitution has to be amended in such a that the water should be taken as a natural resource and it should be taken as a property of all Indian people and should be distributed as and when and where it is required and that can be done only by the change of law.

Our State, Punjab do not exactly say that Haryana or Rajasthan should not get water. We will be the happiest persons,

[Shri M.S. Gill]

if we are able to share our water resource with our brothers who need it most, as I have already said. But the question is field of Punjab also need more water. We have to supply them some energy, may—be in the form of atomic energy unit or some other manner whereby they can pull water from underneath and use it for crops, or some other method has to be used, for this purpose. That is why, we have to think and rise above these petty disputes and, at a national level, we have to enact laws.

With these words, I thank you Mr. Chairman,

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA (Hassan): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Water Resources. At least, after 39 years of independence, the Government have thought it fit to evolve a national water policy. It is a good thing. But first, before prescribing medicines, we have to diagnose. If there is proper diagnosis, then we can give proper medicine.

Now we have to understand the problem first to find out long lasting settlement of disputes in this country regarding water disputes. We have to analyse the problem first. In the earlier days, that is before independence, in the 1930s and 40s, the development of water resources was very scanty in this country merely because they did not find the necessity. At that time, the total population of undivided India—comprising today's India, Pakistan and Bangladesh was only 33 crores. Now it is more than treble. All the same, even during that period also, the vast arid and semi-arid regions or pockets in the country had been suffering from famine and pestilences throughout the ages.

During the British period, they concentrated on developing only delta irrigation, not uplands irrigation in the basin. That is how, some of the States where delta areas are more, the percentage of irrigation also more and other States, upper riparian States, they were arid and famine-stricken. There was no proper effort to develop irrigation there. What

happened was even if attempts were there to construct projects and develop irrigation in the upper riparian States, the British Government which had sovereignty over the native States had prevented it. So, we have inherited a country after independence, only with very little irrigation and also a country with lopsided development of irrigation in the delta areas. What was the position in 1947? There were plans also to use the remaining waters by the lower riparian States only, not by the upstream States which were hit by drought. So, the Centre had a responsibility to hold the scale even and order an equitable distribution of water resources. But what the Centre did? It has miserably failed—I am sorry to use this word—by resorting to ad hocism and yielding to pressure. That is what the Centre has done up to this. There is no national water policy. There is no rectification of the inadequate deficiencies in the law. Even to this day, nearly 39 years after independence we do not have a national water policy. Not that nobody wanted a water policy. Some States like Karnataka had been crying for a national water policy so that it could be a guideline even for the tribunal. Since 1960, Karnataka has been pleading for a national water policy. At last, the Government has now come forward. It is a welcome thing.

There are deficiencies in the Inter-State River Disputes Act. The River Disputes Act recognise the river basin only to the extent of assessment of Basis water. But what about the distribution? It would not restrict distribution within the basin area. It allows distribution outside the basin also. That is tribunals are constituted the tribunal will assess the when water in basin area only. But, While allocating the water they allocate outside the basin also. That is how it happened even in the cases of the Krishna tribunal. In fact, as per the statement of the late Shri Hafiz Mohd. Ibrahim who was the Irrigation Minister in 1963, it was to be Krishna Godavari Tribunal. But while the Tribunal was constituted, because they say that law restricts the tribunal for a river basin, so only it was Krishna Tribunal. What happened? The Tribunal also allocated waters outside the basin also. Now,

inequity and injustice is inbuilt in the existing law, that is Inter-State, River Disputes Act. I am happy the other day I read in the newspaper that hon. Minister Shri Shankaranandji is reported to have said that the law is inadequate to deal with water disputes. With such an inadequate law, what sort of a solution can be expected from the tribunal? Their decisions also are bound to be ad hoc and more often designed to meet the political exigencies. The consequences of this state of affairs are disastrous so far as the peninsular areas are concerned. Most of the upper basins are famine stricken, rainshadow belt of Sahyadris (Western ghats). While most of the river flows are from these mountains, the use of waters for these famine-stricken areas are being restricted, by entertaining demands by a lower State to use water mostly outside the river basins where 40 to 45 inches of rainfall is there. The Government can recognise even how the areas and the people of a river basin to have the right and priority in the use of water of that basin, as they have no other source of sustenance. That would go a long way in solving the problems of the drought-affected areas.

One important point is the question of dependability. During the 1930s there was not so much of population. They adopted 90 per cent of the dependability. After independence, the Central Water and Power Commission advocated 75% dependability. Now, all over the world, the dependability adopted is 50 per cent. I am telling this because if the dependability is not lower, you cannot have more surplus water. If the dependability is higher, there are no surpluses left for diversion also. While making the National Water policy, the Government must adopt this dependability. I would request the Minister also to make a note about this and try to implement it.

Now, they are investigating a scheme to divert Mahanadi waters to Cauvery. I do not know what our Orissa colleagues say. How Government have come to the decision that there are surpluses in Mahanadi. What criteria have they adopted to know whether the river basins are having surplus or not? Have they come to any national standards of the percentage of irrigation? Without prescribing some formula acceptable to all

the States how is it possible? For example, suppose the Government intends to make minimum 50 per cent of irrigation in all the states. Then if there is above 50 per cent, it should be decided as surplus. But if it is not the case, then what is the criteria to assess the surplus. So, the Government should prescribe 50 percent dependability also. Also prescribe what amount of irrigation should be in a river valley so that it can be declared surplus and then deficits and surplus can be incorporated.

For diverting waters from Mahanadi to reach Cauvery, I understand, it requires 400 ft. of lift irrigation. Actually it is lift irrigation. Water goes to the delta areas where 40 to 45 inches of rainfall is there. If it is justified then is necessary to provide lift irrigation to arid and semi-arid regions also. For example, in Karnataka, if we take into consideration the Krishana waters, we have to atleast provide 200ft lift irrigation for drought-affected areas like Bijapur etc.

There are always famine stricken areas. For example, Karnataka has been reeling under drought for the four consecutive years. Temporary relief measures are repeatedly taken. Instead, when they evolve national policy on waters on the projects in the arid and semi-arid regions, Government of India should finance 100 per cent. Otherwise, every year we have to go on repeatedly spending some amount in the name of drought relief. Instead as a permanent relief the centre should finance 100 percent for the projects in arid and semi-arid regions.

To sum up, National Water Policy should recognise :

- (i) priority rights of land and people of a river basin for use of its waters ; and
- (ii) amending the Water Dispute Act so as to conform to equitable rights of the land and people of a river basin. Divert the surpluses only after fully meeting the needs of the basin.
- (iii) 50 per cent dependability in place of obsolete 75 per cent in assessing the quantity of water in a Basin.

[Shri H.N. Nanje Gowda]

- (iv) Centre's special responsibilities to provide and finance irrigation projects in arid and semi-arid regions.
- (v) Acceptable formula to assess deficit and surpluses in a river basin.
- (vi) Lift irrigation scheme in arid and semi-arid regions to be recognised.

I request the hon. Minister to include these points while formulating the National Water Policy. Without a proper Water Policy and Water Disputes Act based on equitable principle there could be no lasting settlement of any dispute which could command the respect of the concerned States.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very happy to make a few remarks on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Water Resources.

Since we discussed this subject last year, there has been a national consensus in favour of evolving a national policy for the development and use of water resources in the national interest. It is really a happy augury that a National Water Resources Council has been set up under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister. There is unanimity in the country that water resources should be treated as a very precious and scarce national resource and should be dealt with accordingly. There is an urgent need to evolve a National Water Policy. That has been accepted, and just now my friend, Mr. Nanje Gowda, has given certain suggestions in this behalf. What is important is that not only should we evolve a National Water Policy very soon, without any delay, but it should also be implemented effectively. While welcoming a National Water Policy, what I would like to suggest is this. To implement the National Water Policy it is very necessary that there should be a good atmosphere in the whole country, particularly among the riparian States. What I would suggest is that, while evolving a the National Policy, we should see that the pending water disputes are settled by mutual

settlement. In this connection I welcome the stand taken by the hon. Minister for Water Resources. I think, there are three or four major water disputes and he has been straining every nerve to see that these disputes are settled amicably.

One such dispute is the Cauvery water dispute. I once again urge the hon. Minister to call the Ministers of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and other concerned States and see that there is a mutual settlement. I personally feel that the best settlement is the one that is arrived at by mutual agreement, because these Tribunals are ineffective, they have no teeth. How are you going to enforce their decisions? You cannot enforce them. That is why I feel that every-body including the Prime Minister should use their good offices to see that these disputes are settled.

We are all agreed that a country like India cannot afford to waste even a drop of water. The rainfall in our country is not uniform in all the parts. In some areas the rainfall is about 40 inches and there are also areas which are drought prone and where the rainfall is only four inches. We have the drought-prone areas, we have the water-logging areas. Such is our country. Therefore, I urge upon the hon. Minister to see that there is proper management of water.

My friend, Mr. Sobhanadreeswara Rao, who initiated the debate, mentioned about the Telugu-Ganga scheme. The other day we had a discussion on this subject. I would like to make the stand of the Karnataka Government on this matter very clear. So far as Karnataka is concerned, Karnataka stands by the Bacchawat Award. There has been some misunderstanding because Mr. Rao has said that there has been a change in the attitude of the Karnataka Government. There has been no change, and the stand of the Karnataka Government has been very consistent. We have been saying that the Bacchawat Award should be implemented in letter and in spirit. Our fear about the Telugu-Ganga scheme is this: where is the surplus water for the Andhra Pradesh Government to take up such a big project—on such a big scale? The Bacchawat

Tribunal has allocated water not only upto 2060 TMC ; but also—even when there is surplus, it has clearly stated—when the quantity is about 2060 TMC and upto 2130, then also Maharashtra will get 35%, Karnataka will get 50% and Andhra Pradesh will get 15%. When it is above 2130 TMC, the State of Maharashtra will get 25%, Karnataka 50% and Andhra Pradesh 25%.

So far as the present 800 TMC which is already allocated to Andhra Pradesh is concerned, it is committed up to 749 TMC and the evaporation losses are that at Srisaïlam it is about 33 TMC and for Zurilla Project, it is. 18 TMC.

Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka are very good neighbours. So also in the North Avenue both of us are very good neighbours. So we have got cordial friendship not only in the North Avenue, but also between Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. So, what I would suggest to the Hon. Members of Telugu Desam is that you please come to the negotiation table. Shri Shankaranand has invited Andhra Pradesh Government for two-three meetings. Even the officers did not attend the meetings. We shall have to sit and decide. There is some mis-understanding we shall solve this problem because we belong to one nation and one country. Our interests are the same. Our national interests are supreme for all of us. So, I earnestly request the Minister to settle this matter. There is no use in our simply saying that it has not been cleared. There is some misunderstanding. We say that we abide by the Bachawat Tribunal, you say that you also abide by the Bachawat Tribunal. When both of us have got the same aim...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Don't ignore Maharashtra.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : What my Hon. colleague has mentioned is after the year 2000. Before the year 2000, Andhra Pradesh is entitled to use the full surplus water

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : When the Maharashtra Members speak, they will also certainly mention about it. What guarantee is there about the surpluses? Because surplus also has been allocated among the states. For your scheme if the entire water surplus is given to you then it is all right because you are investing 700 crores. If the entire water is given to you, without Maharashtra and Karnataka getting any share, then you will have sufficient water for the project which is envisaged. So, Sir, we will leave it at that. Anyhow we will discuss it.

I would like to mention two or three more points. So far as irrigation potentiality in our country is concerned, I think, we have got about 150 million hectares which can be brought under cultivation. Out of it only 50% has been brought under cultivation now. We have to strive and see that the other 50% is also brought under cultivation. In this connection I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the fact that since the commencement of the plan development, in 1951 till the beginning of the 6th Plan, only 205 major and 900 medium irrigation projects have been taken up. Only 29 major and 460 medium projects have been completed at the beginning of the 6th Plan. What is the position today? The position today is, at the beginning of the Seventh Plan there were 118 major and 423 medium projects are on-going projects with a total spill—over cost—astronomical figure—of Rs. 24,600/- crores. Even to complete the on-going schemes in our country we require Rs. 24,000 crores. Where to get this money? Some of the schemes are pending for the past 20 years.

So Sir, priority should be given to the on-going projects. In the report also it has been stated. What I earnestly suggest to the Hon. Minister is that you have to somehow find resources for these projects. You cannot tell the States that it is this business to find money. Because unless you come to the rescue of the States, it is impossible for any of the States to complete them.

[Shri V.S. Krishana Iyer]

Take for example Karnataka. To complete the on-going projects we require Rs. 6000 crores. The Minister also very well knows about it. In Karnataka their irrigation potential is 55 lakh hectares whereas they have utilised only 25 lakh hectares. Whereas in Andhra Pradesh, the percentage of irrigation is 40%. In Tamil Nadu, it is 40% and in Karnataka it is only 22%. In our State there are seven major rivers with a number of tributaries. We have not yet been able to harness river water because of constraint of financial resources. So, you should provide more funds. You must fight with the Planning Commission for provision of more funds.

What is the total allocation in the Seventh Plan? It is only Rs. 14,000 crores whereas the spill over works alone will cost Rs. 24,600 crores. So, where are we giving we will be where we were. So, I earnestly appeal that so far as Karnataka is concerned in Seventh Plan a number of projects have been included, recommended and sent to the Centre for approval. We know there is financial constraint but at the same time you remember that Karnataka Government has requested the Central Government to allow them to have assistance from external sources so that Karnataka can take up and complete all the projects. Our P.W. Minister has also made a special appeal to you to release Rs. 100 crores outside Plan every year. I am sure you will consider it sympathetically.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL (Phulpur):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Water Resources. The hon. Minister has presented demands of his Ministry and I feel these are very important demands.

Ours is an agricultural country. Without development of agriculture our country cannot become strong, because 80 per cent of the people of this country are dependent on agriculture and earn their livelihood

smoothly from this source. If there is shortage of water, the farmers will not be able to have resources of irrigation and as a result of that there will be lesser production of foodgrains and the country's economic condition will be weakened. After independence, our Government formulated Five Year Plans and through these Plans, the farmers of the country tremendously increased the production of foodgrains with the result that now we do not have to import foodgrains from foreign countries. I feel that the way the farmers of the country have contributed in making this country strong with their untiring hardwork, they deserve a pat on their back.

A little earlier, the Demands for Grants of the Defence Ministry were being discussed in the House. I am of the view that in the development of this country the farmers and in the defence of the country the jawans have played a vital role. Therefore, the demands presented by the hon. Minister of Water Resources for his Ministry should be considered seriously and should be utilised well. Only then the farmers and the country could be benefited.

In our country, the rain waters are not utilised properly. I would request that a survey should be conducted in this respect. Unless we are able to utilise the natural water resources properly, we shall remain lagging behind, because most of the water flows down to the sea. Floods occur due to this reason. The flowing away of rain water, causes soil erosion and results in floods and we have to face many difficulties. If we are able to collect rain waters and prepare some projects to utilise it, I think we can check the level of underground water from going down further. With the storing of water, climate can also change and if the water level rises high, the people can sink wells and can use water for drinking as well as for irrigation.

For the advancement of the farmers, better seeds, fertilisers, water and insecticides are needed. Water is most important. I, therefore, would like to emphasise that the Government must prepare projects to store rain waters. I know in Madhya Pradesh large tracts of land are lying waste. If small ponds are constructed there, irrigation

facilities could be made available through them. I feel that the Government should take interest in constructing ponds in the country side, on the village community land lying waste. In these ponds, water can be stored in large quantities which will help in lessening the fury of floods to some extent. We have to spend crores of rupees every year to give relief to the flood-affected people.

One thing more. In our country, tubewells are being installed on a large scale. The Government also intends to increase the irrigation facilities through tubewells. But I would like to submit one thing in this connection. The tubewells sunk by the Government Department are supervised by the technical personnel like engineers and overseers and in the villages these tubewells are installed by the non-technical persons, but these tubewells do not go out of order for ten to twenty years and provide good service and help in increasing the production of foodgrains, whereas the Government tubewells which cost three to four lakh rupees per tubewell, go out of order after a year or two. Their drains get broken, though these are constructed with material in the ratio of 1 : 4. On the other hand the farmers use material in the ratio of 1 : 6 and even then they do not get damaged for ten years. The drains of the Government tubewells get damaged within two years. When we ask the engineers and other officers, they say it is technical matter. It is an ordinary thing and injustice is done in the name of technical knowledge. I want to submit that the officers should put their heart and soul in their work and should keep the interest of the country in mind and should strengthen this vast country. Work cannot be done with law and fear only. The Government should pay attention towards this and wherever irregularities are detected in the construction work, strict action should be taken against the concerned officers because rod and carrot both are required to get the work done. If you are too polite, even then you cannot get the work done. It needs to be specially taken care of. I come from Uttar Pradesh and see there that more than half of the tubewells are lying out of order. I want to know the reasons for this. We should be given suitable answer. The tubewells owned

by farmers, who are non-technical persons, remain workable for 18 to 20 years and the Government tubewells which cost Rs. 4 lakhs each go out of order very soon. It shows that the work is done dishonestly.

I would also like to submit that lot of water flows away without being used. This aspect should be paid attention to specially. I have been elected from Phulpur constituency in Uttar Pradesh. There is an important matter which relates to that area. There is seepage in the canal constructed under Sharda Sahayak Project. Due to this seepage the crops of the farmers are damaged. Irrigation charges are recovered from the farmers, whereas instead of recovering dues they should have been compensated for this and as the farmers are a very simple community and they do not have any organisation or union, they continue to suffer. It is the responsibility of the Government to see that the seepage is stopped, because that is damaging their crops and production is being affected adversely thereby. As a result of this, situation is becoming grave in my area and the farmers are suffering. I request the hon. Minister that due to the loss being suffered by the farmers, no revenue should be recovered from them and they should be suitably compensated.

Along with the problem of irrigation, I want to draw your attention to the drinking water problem also. In the areas where there are canals, the water of the wells due to seepage has become undrinkable as it has become so much dirty that it cannot be used for drinking. The Government intends to instal handpumps in the areas where the poor, Harijans, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes live, but what does actually happen? The rich and affluent people in the villages get those handpumps installed in their areas with the result that the poor are deprived of drinking water facility. I would request that in the matter of installing handpumps, priority should be given to the poor. An amount of about Rs. 20,000 is spent on each handpump and these handpump go out of order very soon. For this well though out steps should be taken so that the handpumps do not go out of order and the drinking water supply to the poor

[Shri Ram Pujan Patel]

is ensured. The purpose for which allocation is made by the Government is not served. It is the poor who has to suffer always. The amount allocated for the welfare of the poor is actually not spent for their benefits and ultimately it goes to the big contractors and middlemen. The poor are always the losers. In the rural areas, wells are more durable than the handpumps which go out of order within two or three years only. There should be some permanent arrangement of drinking water for the people, so that they may be benefited. Nation is above all. Until or unless we adopt some permanent measures and complete such programmes, we cannot stabilise our country's progress.

During the last session, I had made a request for checking of pollution in the Ganga. Our hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi deserves appreciation as he had initiated this work at Allahabad which fulfilled the people's aspiration and it is really a sacred work.

In the end, I would like to draw your attention towards some main problems, in my constituency. When I was a Minister in Uttar Pradesh, I had proposed the construction of a dam from Mubarkpur to Sitakund in Kaudihar Development Block of District Allahabad. Survey work was also undertaken, but it is not known as to why work on it was stopped. There are about 35 villages and about 30,000 or 35,000 acres of land is submerged by the floods every year. Had this dam been constructed, the villages would have been protected from the floods and flood-affected land could be used for agriculture. Nilapur is a village in Phulpur area which was about to be washed away in 1973-74 floods. At that time our Finance Minister was a Member of Parliament from that constituency and the Minister too. He got a dam constructed and an embankment was raised there to save the village. As a result, the village was saved, otherwise it would have been submerged. But this dam has not completely solved the problem. There is still scope for improving the situation. I think the area should be surveyed and some permanent arrangement should be made so that the people may be benefited.

With these words I support the Demands for Grants and request you to issue directions to your officers and staff to utilise the allocation properly. If they utilise it properly, our country will make more progress rapidly.

SHRI D. P. YADAVA (Monghyr) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have been discussing and are discussing the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Irrigation, now known as Ministry of Water Resources. I have been observing since 1971 that what we used to say in 1971, even today we are repeating the same thing. The things have not changed a bit. Every year we develop some potentiality and increase the area for irrigation, but with developing potentiality we generally overlook the depletion in the area of irrigation.

I would like to tell my friend Shri Shankaranand about the real condition of our villagers. We talk about irrigation facilities for them, but have we ever asked them about their real condition. I made an experiment in my constituency. There are 11 blocks consisting of 1100 villages. I conducted a survey to know their views about irrigation programmes. I sent a questionnaire to the villagers. The people living in 1100 villages sent their written replies to me. My question was: 'What are the irrigation facilities which are available in your village area? What benefits you are deriving from minor irrigation schemes, major irrigation schemes, tubewells or private pumping sets? Are you facing any difficulty in getting the irrigation facilities? If so, what are those difficulties and what are your suggestions to solve them?' These were my questions and in their replies, the villagers expressed their own feelings and experience. If I read out all the replies of the people of 1100 villages, it will take entire time of the House. So, I think it is not proper for me to read them out here. I feel that their difficulties and problems are not reaching you. Your statistics or the statistics of your Planning Commission are only an eye wash. In reality the land being irrigated is less than 40 per cent as shown in the statistics. You are in the Ministry and issue orders. The Secretary, Additional Secretary, Joint Secretary, Central Water Commission and so many other agencies are there which

issue orders while sitting in their Chambers, but they do not take care to look into the real problems of the farmers. "The land of our village is irrigated from Mourbey dam and Qual Dahini. We feel much inconvenience and face difficulties in getting water from Bhuyika village channel. That should be repaired and expended". It is said in the report of the Central Water Commission that 400 acres of land is being irrigated by Mourbey dam, but the farmers are of the view that the channel is not clear. And due to heavy rainfall, the channel was broken and as a result of it Kharif crops could not be irrigated. I would like to request the hon. Minister to visit the villages for two-three days along with his officers during the inter-session period in July-August and enquire from the villagers about irrigation schemes. Then only he will come to know the reality. You may or may not visit Karnataka, but my State is a backward one and if you once visit it, you will come to know about the real problems of our country and you will be able to find out their solution.

I want to say that it is an era of computers, satellites and of space discoveries and photo interpretation. There are about seven lakh villages in our country. Will our Ministry of Water Resources prepare a village level states map and computerise it? If it is done, I think it would be a revolutionary achievement. You must say something about it in your reply. I would be very grateful to you if you reply to it. All the documents which we have received show the same condition that we have developed potentiality, but have not estimated the tail end correctly. That is why your figures are proving to be wrong and we are not getting as much benefits as we had expected. I want to say about my State that according to you, we have potentiality of irrigation facilities in 113 million hectares of land, 50 million hectares under major and medium schemes and 55 million hectares under minor irrigation system. We have already achieved 68 million hectares and 45 million hectares we have yet to achieve.

I find that there is provision for minor irrigation tubewells, surface wells and small diameter tubewells for 45 million hectares

of land. But your Ministry is silent regarding pumping system and Lift system for water management and resources management. The small farmers need a pump set for irrigation of one or two acres of land. I would like to remind you that if you don't provide a pump set of 5 to 10 H.P. to the farmers of this country for Rs. 2000 or Rs. 2500, you cannot achieve this target. There is a Water Resources Development Centre in I.A.R.I. It has done a commendable job by designing various types of pumps. Under the IRDP scheme, the farmers are being supplied these sets at a cost of Rs. 6600. Pumps should be made available to the farmers at the manufacturing cost. The farmers should not be asked to pay more than this. Actually what happens is that the manufacturing cost of a pump set comes to Rs. 2000, now a brand name is put on it, then it goes to the broker, whole saler distributor and retailer and after that B.D.O., A.D.M. and D.M. also come into the picture and finally its cost comes to Rs. 6600. The innocent farmer buys it by paying an extra amount of Rs. 4600. He does not know that he is also liable to pay interest on it. After three or four years when the interest burden comes to him, he cries for help. Therefore, instead of deriving benefit, he is put to loss. You should not ignore these minor points. The farmer innocent. But we, sitting in Delhi, ignore these minor issues and spend money lavishly on other big things. You must stop this. If you want to know the real condition, then you should go and have a look at the irrigation arrangements in the rainy season. There is a place called Deara, which has water re-chargable capability, but irrigation has been neglected in that area. You can have the maximum utilization there. You should at least implement the recommendations of the National Flood Control Commission. Mr. Rao from Andhra Pradesh has talked about Sprinkler System and Drip System. This is an advance system for which a subsidy should be raised from 25 to 50 per cent. The distinction between big farmers and small farmers should be done away with are country needs production. Therefore, you should work practically and not theoretically. The science and technology are advancing day by day. But the technology relating to

[Shri D.P. Yadava]

construction of dams and completion of irrigation projects is going backward after every five years. Twenty years ago if it took four years to construct a dam, it should be constructed now in one and a half years' time. But instead, it takes 15 to 20 years now. This is because of mischievous human skill, selfish people, corrupt people and dealers. They should be eliminated. It is the duty of the Minister incharge of the Ministry of Water Resources to take action against those people who deliberately put hurdles in the creation of irrigation potential. State Governments should also be asked to bring to book those people who harass the people in this manner.

Our technology is making advancement, whereas our irrigation scheme is lagging behind. When you can construct a super thermal power station in the Central Sector, there is no harm in formulating some Central scheme for Super Irrigation Scheme.

Then, we have many construction companies and agencies, such as National Building Construction Corporation and Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation, which are working under the Government and a good expertize is available with them. Some State Governments are of the view that these are untouchables and are not allowed to enter the States, because with the entry of these corporations, some people would not be able to work according to their wishes. I would like to submit that whenever any irrigation scheme is sanctioned whether it is for Karnataka or Bihar, you should also specify some construction agency for this purpose. For that, you should also make available steel, coal, cement etc. in advance.

The Government started Command Area Development Agency with a great fanfare and we thought that the Centre would provide money for the scheme. When CADA scheme was operated, we thought that it might flourish automatically and irrigation potential might be developed. But here it has become a farmer-killing agency which is plundering and looting them. You must wind it up immediately.

Finally, I want to speak about Ganga Flood Commission which has its headquarter at Patna. Although it has a big name and have also prepared big maps but we fail to understand its functions. Sometimes they visit Uttar Pradesh, sometimes Bihar but their executive powers are not clear. If they do not have any executive powers, then you should merge it with the Central Water Commission. There the engineers have done a lot of work. You should call the Chief engineers who are sitting in Patna and Lucknow to Delhi as they are feeling inconvenience there. It will also give relief to the people. Actually I do not believe in proliferation of institution, but if Ganga Flood Control Commission is not functioning properly, then you should delegate it some executive powers or merge it with the Central Water Commission so that they could work smoothly in R K. Puram, Delhi. Those engineers will draw up big plans here because they are very good engineers.

In the end, I must say one thing, whether it rains in Madhya Pradesh or in the upper regions of Uttar Pradesh, it adversely affects the lower regions of Bihar the most. It rains somewhere else and it causes damage somewhere else. Thus damage is caused to our area. Therefore, you should make a provision for giving compensation to those people who are affected by natural calamities like excessive rains or floods. I do not say that it is a Central subject or State subject, but it is a subject of the Nature. The Commission and Backward Area Development Committee, which were formed for natural calamities, also said that in order to compensate the natural calamity affected areas, the Central Government should provide some relief. With these words, I would like to submit that I have full faith in your dynamism. I request you to take appropriate action on these issues. I would also like to request the Minister incharge of this Ministry to visit Patna and Monghyr in the rainy Season. I also pray for the progress of your Ministry under your leadership. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I also thank you for giving me time.

SHRI BHISHMA DEO DUBE (Banda) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, the House adjourns at 7 P.M. and I have been given time at 1855 hours. I hope that I shall be allowed to speak even after 7 P.M.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am here to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Water Resources. Our country is an agriculture depends on irrigation. If we provide resources for irrigation, then it will help us in agriculture as well as in getting finance later on. There are very good schemes for irrigation, but nobody bothers about them.

Sir, when we talk about the backward States, U.P. also figures in them and when we talk about the backward areas of U.P., Bundelkhand is also one of them. Banda, which is my constituency, is a backward area of Bundelkhand. A scheme was formulated for Banda and some other areas under United Nations Development Programme which had been approved by the Governing Body of U.N.D.P. in 1979. After scrutiny of that scheme, the State Government had submitted the same to the Central Government and it has been pending with the Central Government since 1st December 1981. Sir, this scheme was to be included in Sixth Five Year Plan which is already over and now this has not been included even in Seventh Plan. This act of the Government has made this backward area even more backward and it has even been pushed back by ten years.

19 00 hrs.

Sir, this project of UNDP includes five districts of Bundelkhand i. e., Banda, Lalitpur, Jhansi, Jalaun and Hamirpur and three districts of Allahabad, Banaras and

Mirzapur, which is a portion of Deccan Plateau of Satpura Range in the hilly area. Thus, the scheme has been formulated for the above-mentioned eight districts, which have been surveyed cursorily. This area has Plenty of underground water. You should explore and exploit this water for irrigation through water channels, artisan well and Persian wheel.

I would like to tell you about my region. We have irrigation facilities for one third of the total agricultural land, the remaining three-fourth of the area is unirrigated. Drought, heavy rains and other calamities are a regular feature in this area. The people of this area do not have any source of income other than agriculture and even then the situation is that big schemes and projects remain neglected because you do not pay your kind attention to them.

I wrote about it last year also.....

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may continue tomorrow.

19.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, April 9, 1986/ Chaitra 19, 1908 (Saka)