

been modified from 1986-87 to the extent that for industrial ventures the limit of loan has been raised from Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 35,000 for business ventures the limit has been reduced to Rs. 15,000 while for service venture it remain at Rs. 25,000. Under the scheme, the activities allied to agriculture such as dairy, piggery and poultry, etc., are being treated as business activity, thereby restricting the financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 15,000. However, on the contrary, under the Central Investment subsidy Scheme, such type of activities are registered as 'Industry'. I therefore, urge upon the Government to treat dairy, piggery and poultry as 'industry' and increase the limit of advance accordingly.

12.37. hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS 1988-89—
CONTD.

Ministry of Home Affairs—Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up further discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the Control of the Ministry of Home Affairs. I want to inform the hon. Members that today we want to finish the Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Therefore, I request all the Members to cooperate with me and try to be very belief;;

DR. D.N.REDDY (Cuddapa) : It is an important Ministry, Sir..

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We are taking up the allotted time. The Business Advisory Committee decided to allot six hours and we are going to avail of it fully. There is no doubt about it. But within the allotted time, you have to speak. That is all.

Mr. Syed Shahabuddin.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I take up this Annual Report of the Home Ministry and its Demand for Grants, I speak with a heavy heart, more in sorrow than in anger and with fears and forebodings about the future of our Republic. Because Home Affairs is not an ordinary portfolio; it is an index of the political health of the nation; it is a mirror of our collective psyche. The Indian State is in a state of sickness. We all hope that the sickness does not prove to be fatal. The Indian State was once said to be soft. Today it seems to have turned hard with a vengeance, with repressive laws after laws; authoritarianism is steadily marching forward; we have a Government which is insensitive, sometimes brutal, and which has an insatiable hunger for power or for use of force. We know, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that power is not wisdom; nor does it always generate wisdom. And that is why we are where we are today.

The system is being eroded; our institutions are being subjected to indignity. We know what was said the other day by the former president and we also recall what the Prime Minister's instructions were to the Home Minister. The Home Ministry Seems to have taken that in its stride. We do not know what progress has been made in the inquiry that was ordered into the allegations which have brought down the prestige of the presidency as an institution. We have a Council a Ministers whose Committees or Groups do not seem to function; they are charged with urgent problems, but they do not have even the time to meet and ponder over the problems of the nation. There are Ministers who have been turned into forgive me to say, errand-boys. Parliament has been taken for granted. We have hardly any discussion. Its dignity and prestige are at a low ebb. The Governors have been turned into agents of the Central Government and instrument of destabilisation of opposition Governments. We have Chief Ministers who

[Sh. Syed Shahabuddin] are appointed like *Subedars*. The Constitution is amended on very very important aspects without any national consensus and sometimes against the national consensus. We have reports which are prepared with great diligence which affect the very future of our country like the Report of the Sarkaria Commission which are simply treated with disdain amounting to contempt. They are not even looked up. The Election Commission appears to have surrendered its authority to the executive or its role has been deliberately wittled down and by-elections remain due for months and months without any reason. We have been hearing about electoral reforms for the last seven years. It was assigned to a Cabinet Committee for consideration. The Election commission recently told me; we have nothing more to add. Our recommendations are already before the Government and we know nothing about them.

There is odour of corruption not just in the state apparatus but even in the institutions which are hold to be sacred. It has reached the sanctums of the public service commissions and even judiciary. People losing faith in the democratic process, in the system as an instrument of peaceful transformation of our society. Were are we going, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir?

Violence has become our daily diet and as a nation, our sensibilities have been brutalised and inter-group social tensions have reached unprecedented heights. Fascism is not very far away. One can hear its foot-fall across the tunnel of time. The culprits of Hashimpura and Maliana remain unpunished, one year after such killings took place and the victims of 1984 riots who have identified their culprits remain still un-rehabilitated.

The violence against the weaker sections of our society, whether they are minori-

ties, or whether they are harijans or whether they are tribals, have reached a point where the cup of patience is full and it has been assumed new forms, new dimensions. You may call it an inter-group conflict. Many a time, it is not. It is the use of state apparatus and the state power against the weaker sections.

Atrocities against women, crimes against womanhood despite all the culture that we talk of has become the order of the day. Tortures and deaths in police custody are galore and the Home Minister even refuses to count them or keep track of them. Il treatment of under trails of detenues in prison is the order of the day and the Home Minister informs me that it is not his business to keep track of such sordid happenings. massive violation of human rights for the first time has attracted international attention. That is a measure of the fall that we had.

In Punjab, we are facing a very grave situation. That is perhaps an under-statement. What worries me is there are so many shifts and turns sometimes 'U' turns-which leave us cold and at least the common citizen who is not in the know of things, is absolutely baffled and sometimes shocked. While the macabre dance of death goes on, our values seem to have mixed up. For some people terrorists have turned into heros, the guilty have become innocent. Who are the guilty and who are the innocent? It is very difficult to lay down the line. One does not even know who the so-called terrorists are. That is why, there is wide spread feeling that some of these terrorists are inspired and are encouraged by people within our own ranks. Terrorisation is Government's accepted practice. But Terrorisation can never be an answer to Terrorism.

In the meantime, the rule of law has become a casualty in Punjab. Killing by police in fake encounters despite the denial by the Home Minister is widely alleged and

the Home Minister has not replied to the charge as to why is it that the dead bodies of such people have never been returned to their next of kin. Arbitrary arrests go on. Almost everybody belonging to a particular community in Punjab feels insecure.

I would like to know from the Hon. Minister the latest date about the number of people in jail, what are the charges against them, how many of them are proclaimed offenders and how many of such persons have lost their lives after being taken into custody by the police. Why cannot we have a tribunal which would look into all such allegations?

The Home Minister has one answer now. All that is happening in Punjab is attributed to an external factor. I know the games that nations play. But I think it is facile on the part of the Government to attribute it all to what our neighbour is doing. I think it takes our minds off, it diverts our attention from the real responsibility for what is happening in Punjab. This alibi is wearing thin. I think the Government would do well to let the House know what it has done to arrest the hand of Pakistan if at all Pakistan is playing such a substantial role in Punjab.

I plead that in order to bring the Punjab situation to some level of normalcy and if the Government, as it says, is prepared to take a calculated risk, let it release the rest of the Jodhpur detenus, let it punish the guilty of the 1984 atrocities and disturbances; let it release those who have not been charged with any specific crime despite months under incarceration; let it establish a permanent commission inquiry to go into all allegations of fake encounters and let it make some progress on the implementation of the Punjab Accord.

Finally, I would suggest on the Punjab issue that you may call a meeting of all Sikh leaders who matter. I think their hearts are

not devoid of patriotism. They know where the situation of Punjab is taking the country and I am sure they would respond with reason if we make a gesture towards them. Since it is a national issue, let the Government constantly take the national parties and all the political parties and the House into confidence and consult them in order to evolve a national line on Punjab.

On Assam, we recently had a fairly substantial debate. All I would like to say for record is that the recent amendment of the Tribunals Act, has added to the sense of insecurity of minorities in Assam. It depends of course upon the way the law is administered. But unfortunately the Government has turned a deaf ear to the suggestion I made that since citizenship is a central subject and since safeguarding the national borders is the responsibility of the Central Government, let the responsibility for implementing the Foreigners Act and the Tribunals Act be solely in the hands of the Central Government through a special machinery devised for the purpose.

The recent amendment will not add to the efficiency of the process, I am sure. It only has a tremendous harassment potential which shall be exploited if not by the Government, at least by the administration and lower people in the administrative echelon.

On Gorkhaland I must say that an impression has been created that violence pays. A very sordid political game is being played. I don't know who is encouraging whom and who is relying on whom. But the fact is that I don't like the spectacle of a person who organises violence being received by the Home Minister at his beck and call. I think it is a dangerous precedent. If you say that it is a State problem all right then let the State Government have a free hand to deal with it. What is possible for the Central Government to do must be done and that you are not doing. You can, to some extent,

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satisfy the Gorkha people, the Nepali speaking people, by putting Nepali into the 8th Schedule, by giving it an equal status. I don't know why it cannot be done, why that gesture cannot be made. You can do something by allocating special development resources for the hilly regions of Darjeeling.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): The State Government has also supported that.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: You can do that; but you are not doing. Therefore, I would suggest, please don't please don't handle the Gorkhaland agitation in a manner that will set another part of the country on fire. The intra-group tension and communal tension has created a sense of insecurity, frustration, disappointment and disenchantment in the minds of the religious minorities who today have nothing but broken promises unfulfilled demands and demolished hopes to rest on. This cannot continue. This Government seems to have no power to put a ban on provocative speeches. This Government seems to have no authority to control publication of offensive material. This government does not control irresponsible and insulting slogans. This government does not have any say against the distribution of inflammatory leaflets and posters. They are all protected. Nothing is done against them. Militant organisations, extremist organisations, Senas and Dals have full freedom of the land. They can do what they like. They operate anywhere with nothing to bar them. We have this National Integration Council whose resolutions and recommendations are nothing but a fodder for the dust bin. Nothing has been acted upon. They give so many recommendations and yet the government seems to be totally helpless. The home Minister read out the recommendations of the Haksar Committee report in this House six months back. I would like to know what progress has been made in

implementing the recommendations of the Haksar Committee report of the National Integration Council.

Central government issues guidelines after guidelines. It seems as if their job is done after they have issued guidelines. They seem to think it is not their responsibility to see to it that the implementation of these guidelines is fully, authoritatively and regularly monitored. Why should it not be done? If there are State Governments which are delinquent in this respect let them be placed before the bar of the nation. Let the grave yard be protected. Let the places of worship be protected. Let there be no discrimination in the use of public address system between one community and the other. Let there be regulation of processions as has been suggested on the floor of the House. Let the statistics be published. Let the truth be known. Why can't the government do all that to control this demon of communal violence. The Government said that they would create an anti-riot force. That was the recommendation of the National Integration Council. They said that they would re-structure the entire para-military organisations and the armed constabularies. I would like to know what progress has been made in this direction so many years after those recommendations were adopted?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I must confess to you that I have a suspicion. This is not just madness. There is method behind this madness.

I must refer to the raging controversy in Ayodhya. The Ayodhya episode has destroyed the faith of the Muslim community in the constitutional safeguards and in the principle of religious freedom. It has affected their faith in the system. The title suit remains unresolved after 37-38 years. The only demand today is that let this title suit be referred to a special bench consisting of three High Court judges preferably in south

India but that is not insisted upon. The Government says that is a fine suggestion. Many political parties say it is a fine suggestion yet nothing is done, months after this suggestion has come before the bar of the public opinion, And there is an overall national consensus that if this matter cannot be resolved through dialogue, negotiation or mediation through political consultations or through parliamentary debate then let this matter be decided by law. Why can't we do that? Everybody has also accepted that there should be a law to maintain the status of all places of worship as it existed on the day of our freedom, namely 15th August, 1947. The Home Minister told me that it was a beautiful suggestion that it should be acted upon for the future health of the nation. Why this has been done? There is tribal unrest, There is naxalite activity. These are social-economic phenomenon. You cannot deal with them as law and order problem. The time when you could purchased leaders is gone. Leadership will be destroyed. New cadres will emerge and they will take to the streets. Then where shall we be as a State? This is what pains me, Mr. Chairman.

Sir, I want to understand the Government's strategy is in dealing with this social situation. It seems to me that they are not really concerned with solutions. They seem to be concerned more with keeping the fires raging. I am making that statement with a sense of responsibility and a full heart. There seems to be no political will that these issues, these non-issues, which do arise in plural society, must be resolved. There seems to be deliberated desire to keep the fires burning. Why? In whose interest? For what purpose? Why don't you take the initiative? Why don't to do a thing which are so obvious? But you want to keep your options open. You want not to do a thing in order that your options remain open for the sake of political gain or political loss.

We are responsible to the nation. If we

have love, feeling and affection for the country, I speak with anguish to the Treasury Benches and to the Ministers, please do something before it is too late. Use the State power that we have vested in you. Do resolve these outstanding questions. Do resolve these problems through negotiations, discussions by using all the authority that we have vested in you. Take a fresh look at the social map and ensure that disparities are discriminations are the order of the past, that there is no distortion in implementing the policies that were laid down by the founding fathers of the Constitution, that there is structural reorganisation, wherever it is necessary, so that we have a country in which all social groups will be satisfied, all regions feel happy, everybody's honour is protected, everybody's dignity is taken care of and everybody feels that it is his country.

If I measure by this yardstick, the Home Minister has failed in his duty. But that is not a failure of the Home Minister alone. It is a failure of the Government. Unfortunately it also reflects the failure of the system to which all of us belong and to which all of us are a party. Therefore, through you, I request the Government, the nation, the country, please do something before it is too late.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Home Ministry have to perform a difficult responsibility of maintaining law and order, communal amity and centre-state relations throughout the country. Our Government under the leadership of the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi have solved serious problems in the country during the last 3-4 years, whether it be the Assam problem, the Nagaland problem or the Punjab problem. Such types of problems which were pending since long, have been solved. As far as the law and order problem

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is concerned, everybody knows that the Central Government can only give directions to the State Governments and deploy central forces there on their demand and nothing beyond that. I therefore, would like to urge upon the hon. Minister of State that sometimes such a situation arises when a State Government encourages agitations and violence in the State. So the Government should equip itself with such powers as may be necessary to maintain law and order in that particular State. Recently, there was a call by the opposition for a 'bandh'. You as well as the House would be pained to know that the officers of some State Governments including West Bengal and Kerala who were responsible for maintaining law and order were themselves instigating the people to throw stones and thereby making the mockery of the law and order.

13.00 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

Sir, there should be a discussion on the report submitted by the Sarkaria Commission. The Hon. members belonging to the opposition parties allege every now and then that the Central Government is concentrating all the powers in its own hands. I want to make it clear that whenever any question of responsibility and liability arises, our colleagues in the opposition blame the Government but whenever the question of taking action and exercising power, comes up, they say that the Central Government is deviating from the policy of decentralization. I want to make it clear that such a policy of double standard cannot be tolerated. If we want to protect the integrity of the country, then there is no place for these things. You can see that now-a-days extremism is raising its head in West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and in the areas adjacent to them. If we want to crush this extremism then we cannot wholly depend upon the State Government.

The Central Government will have to come forward to control those forces which are creating obstacles in the way of forging national integration. In the present state of affairs the Central Government should not become a silent spectator by saying that the law and order is a State subject. I think that these problems could arise only due to the inactiveness on the part of the Central Government because instead of taking any step against extremism it has always termed it as a State subject.

So far as the aspect of the National integration is concerned, we will have to pay our attention towards it. The Government will have to review their policy towards the economically backward regions of the country, where the people have no work, and take special measures for their development to check the wide spread resentment among the people there. We will have to raise the standard of people in such areas. This is not only a matter of law and order but the economic problem is also linked with it. The extremism is raising its head in those areas which are poverty stricken such as Andhra Pradesh, tribal areas of Bihar, Jharkhand and some parts of West Bengal. The conception is that the people who are facing a lot of difficulties in their life, have turned to extremism. I, therefore, want to say to the hon. Minister that if he wants to establish peace in the country and wants to make the country strong, then in order to bring about improvement in the economic position of the people and bring them back into the mainstream the Government will have to provide adequate resources to the people and crush those elements who support extremism.

Our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi had once said that those Governments will not be tolerated which are unable to maintain law and order; which are not properly maintaining the pace of development and which are making efforts to separate some persons from the national mainstream. You

may recall that this statement of the Prime Minister had fluttered all the State Governments ruled by opposition. We want to remind them that when the Janata Party came into power at the Centre then, its Home Minister had dismissed nine democratically elected State Governments with a single stroke of pen. But when their turn came, they tried to create an uproar in the whole country in the name of democracy saying, that Shri Rajiv Gandhi wanted to dismiss the democratically elected State Governments. But they should not forget their own actions. The opposition parties are arguing for the sake of argument. Today the opposition has no standard. They do not know what type of relations we should have between the Centre and the States and how the extremist and such other elements should be crushed. They want to grind their own axe in every field. If the law and order is to be maintained then the accords which have been concluded at the national level should be implemented at all costs. Whether it be the Darjeeling issue in West Bengal; whether it be the issue of the Agency Area or whether it be the Tamil Nadu issue. The State Governments before accusing the Central Government about the law and order machinery should first think about their duties also.

It is a matter of pleasure that the incidents of communal riots have come down in the country except in two or three places in U.P. and Bihar. There is a need to remove the basic causes of communal riots. Our late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi had formulated a 15 point programme. I want to make it clear that not only the opposition Governments in the States but also some of the Congress Governments have not implemented this programme honestly and wholeheartedly. In order to check the communal riots, it is essential to implement and monitor this programme not only by the State Governments but by the Central Government also. The Central Government should enquire all the State Governments about the

action they are taking in this regard. The State Governments — whether they belong to the ruling party or to the opposition — which hesitate to implement this programme should be dealt with in a democratic but a firm manner because not the Government but the unity and integrity of the nation is important. The number of incidents has, no doubt, come down but at the same time I want to emphasise that the purpose would not be achieved by simply giving directions. What is required is the implementation of those steps which can prevent such incidents.

I have been hearing since long that recruitments in the Central forces and the Provincial Forces would be made in proportion to the population of various castes and communities. It has also been heard that Muslims would be recruited in the P.A.C. and in other forces but nothing has been done till now. The share must be given to minorities and this work would not be accomplished by issuing instructions only. Speaking in the morning, Shri Charles has said, that India is the only country of this world, where the minorities can live safely and the Congress is the only party in India which can take along with it the 70-80 crore population of India. India is being praised by the whole world. It is a matter of pleasure but I want to say that there are some parties in India which have been formed either on the basis of a region, caste, community or a language. This is the requirement of the present time that cutting across our party lines, we must demand that no party should be allowed to function which owes its existence to casteism, regionalism or fundamentalism. The various State Governments have been constituted either in the name of caste, region or else on the basis of sentiments. As a result thereof they are now indulging in corrupt practices. Whether it be the Karnataka Government, Telugu Desam government or the Haryana Government, it is all a fun. The opposition parties of our country are in a complete mess. We will

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surely have to fight Pakistan but beside that we will also have to fight corrupt forces within the country in order to save it from corruption and malpractices. We will also have to strictly deal with the Governments in our country that instigate communalism. Unless this is done we cannot function smoothly and therefore I request this House and to the masses of the country to suppress those elements from the very beginning, which create hurdles in the way of national integration.

I would also like to submit to the hon. Minister regarding the administrative services. It is an important thing. You are surely controlling the central services like I.F.S., I.P.S., etc. and the honesty with which recruitment is made in these services, in my view, makes the people of our nation feel proud. But you must widen the circle of these services. If you want that the feeling of national integration and unity is promoted in the services then you should not limit yourself to the services like I.A.S., I.F.S. and I.P.S. You will have to integrate the Engineering as well as Development services also so that all the officers may get a similar training.

Shri Rajiv Gandhi is contacting the I.A.S. officials by visiting every State and corner of the country by calling conferences of the administrative officers. Although the members of opposition have been opposing this, yet it has surely brought good results. The members of opposition parties do not want that the officials working in the administrative services become familiar with the conditions prevailing in the country. Just as the people in I.A.S., I.F.S., I.P.S. and Indian Forest Service are concerned about the conditions of the country, similarly you should widen the circle of the other services too.

I would also like to submit that now the services must have members of the Sched-

uled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. You should do justice to them. You surely frame good laws but the conscience of the officials is not clear in implementing them and they do not implement them properly. I am glad that the Minister of State, Shri Chidambaram is doing excellent work and is a strong hand in this field. I am sure that the feeling of national integration will increase in our sensitive administrative machinery and it will engross itself in this task more rigorously.

With these words I conclude.

SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA (Jammu):

• Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are no two opinions that the situation of law and order in the country has improved ever since Shri Rajiv Gandhi has taken charge of the country. On the whole the communal situation and the situation of communal rights have improved a great deal. The incidents of violence, students' agitations, etc. have also been considerably controlled.

But the problem of Punjab continues to be serious and about extremist and secessionist activities which are being indulged into by certain elements, there I can only say that it is a world-wide phenomenon.

We have to think about our country. My personal opinion is that two types of powers are responsible for this. Imperialist powers do not like the progress being made in our country under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Whether it is America or China, it wants to hamper the progress of our nation by using Pakistan as an instrument and is always active in destroying the unit, integrity and peace of our nation. These are the people who make arms and ammunition available to the extremists and train them. Whatever arms have been captured, they were manufactured either in America or China. There is no denying the fact that training in disruptive activities is imparted to our people in Pakistan. similarly, some of our

friends who were deprived of power and could not get the support of the masses, find it difficult to tolerate such a majority of the Congress and they do not want that it should continue to function so smoothly. Therefore they indulge in activities like calling *Bandhas* and creating one of the other problems at different places. It is necessary to keep a watch on them.

I would like to narrate a recent incident which happened in Jammu and Kashmir, to Shri Chidambaram. I raised it in the zero hour also. Shri Bukhari visited Srinagar, made a provocative speech and aroused the emotions of the people, there as a consequence of which riots are still continuing there. I am unable to understand as to why such people are allowed to go scot free by the Government. Like U.P., Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat, Kashmir too is an integral part of India and therefore, such people indulging in these activities there should be thrown into the prison. These people are always busy in instigating riots sometimes in Meerut, Delhi or Gujarat and sometimes in U.P. Such politicians, whether they are *maulavis* and *pandits* should never be allowed to go scot free.

It is right that the Government is quite serious about the situation prevailing in Punjab and the Home Minister Shri Buta Singh and Shri Chidambaram are taking keen interest in it. The situation has also been improved by Governor's rule but even more stringent steps are required to be taken there. I would like to give some suggestions in this regard. Our border touching Pakistan out of which 300 kilometers area falls in my constituency, should be sealed and fencing should be put up there. Patrolling too should be made quite strict and the intelligence agencies should function very actively to find out as to what is happening there. Besides the involvement of the masses should be ensured by constituting committees. For this help of the masses must be sought.

Apart from this, our diplomats in America, China, Pakistan and other countries should be told that the extremists in our country are getting foreign aid and training. A world wide propaganda should be made against such countries as to how they interference and want to harm the unity and integrity of our country. There can be no two opinions that our hon. Prime Minister who tried to improve the situation in the country by signing the Assam and Nagaland Accords, have been successful in this direction. I would like to refer to a few issues of my State about which the Home Ministry is concerned. At the time of partition in 1947, many refugees from the Pak-held area crossed into this side of Jammu and Kashmir. Their claims have not yet been settled. The State Government and the Central Government held talks in this regard and it was decided that these refugees should be given *ad hoc* grants and some help should be provided to them in order to meet their deficiency. This is a humanitarian issue and I feel that the hon. Home Minister should take up this matter with the Government of Jammu and Kashmir which is ready to give them whatever land and other facilities are required to be provided. I want that talks should be held either with the Chief Secretary or the officer concerned. This does not even involve any funds. Another issue is regarding the refugees who had come from West Pakistan. Last year also I had raised this issue and the hon. Home Minister had said that it would be taken up with the State Government. Some improvement has surely been seen in this field. The Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir has announced in the Assembly that this issue will be solved by constituting a committee of some of the Assembly members. But my submission is that our Central Government especially the Home Ministry should take personal interest in it. Those people have staged a dharna at Suchetgarh on the border with Pakistan, in Jammu and even here. I want that this issue should be solved at the earliest. There is

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another issue which is directly or indirectly related to the Home Ministry. The Supreme Court has been functioning in our country for the past 38 years. Till now just one person from Jammu and Kashmir has been appointed to this court. Being a sensitive State with no dearth of talent, Jammu and Kashmir certainly deserves more attention. Judges from the Jammu and Kashmir High Court or suitable persons from outside should be appointed to the Supreme Court. I hope the situation in Punjab and other States will become normal soon. The hon. Home Minister, especially our hon. Prime Minister is taking a keen interest in the Punjab situation. Hopefully their efforts will bear fruit and the extremist activities will come to an end. With these words I support the Demands of the Home Ministry and conclude.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati): Mr. Chairman, we are discussing the Demands for Grant of the Ministry of Home Affairs at a time when the situation in Punjab is creating great deal of concern to all people of this country. I will not like to take much time on Punjab because this House has indepth and in detail discussed Punjab only about a fortnight back. I feel that one sees a lack of policy in Punjab. It appears that the government is groping in the dark. Measures have been taken then abandoned. Measures have been taken in spite of very strong and determined opposition from the opposition parties.

A resolution was passed under Art. 249 of the Constitution. That was a drastic resolution in the sense that a number of subjects which were in the domain of the State Legislature virtually came to the Concurrent List. When a resolution under Art. 249 was passed, I strongly opposed that resolution because I was of the views that this affected the sovereignty of the States and upset the

very characteristics of our Constitution. But this resolution was allowed to lapse; and in the reply of the hon. Home Minister, Mr. Buta Singh, last time told us that this resolution was allowed to lapse because the Barnala Government did not agree to a security belt. I think that reply is not correct because we were told in a meeting, if I am not wrong, by the Prime Minister, that subsequently it was found that though at one point of time, though the idea was conceived of a security belt within 5 miles radius in a State like Punjab where near the border areas agriculturists have their land, it was impossible to uproot them from those areas. And if that would have been done it would have created more problems that the Government were trying to solve. The resolution was passed on 13th August, 1986 and Punjab was brought under President's Rule on 11th May, 1987, and therefore, the resolution lapsed on 13th August, 1987. In fact, if the Home Ministry was very much concerned for the security belt and wanted to have it, they could have the security belt after the Punjab was brought under President's Rule. The ground of Barnalas' objection was only an after thought.

Only a few days back we had passed the 59th Constitution Amendment by which power to proclaim emergency on the ground of internal disturbances has been introduced in spite of a very strong and determined opposition by the opposition parties. By this a national consensus arrived at in 1977 has been broken. Now, the Home Minister, in his reply, has said that it may be that the proclamation may not be issued in Punjab at all. What I fail to understand is that, in an important measure like this where a constitutional amendment of far-reaching character is made by which power is taken over by the Central Government to declare emergency on the ground of internal disturbances, the government, in the first place, ought to have very seriously considered whether proclamation is a must for a solution or easing up

of the situation in Punjab. If that would have been the assessment I would have understood that; though I would have strongly differed with the assessment. But if the government would have come to a conclusion that to ease the situation in Punjab a proclamation of emergency is a must and by proclamation of emergency, to some extent, the problem of Punjab can be solved and thereafter the power would have been taken, I could have understood that there is some bonafides in this. But the government did not come to a conclusion whether the proclamation should at all be issued or not; whether emergency should be imposed in Punjab, but have taken the power upon itself. This gives an impression that the government is groping in the dark, so far as Punjab is concerned.

At one point of time, the government was thinking in terms of some sort of a political solution when the Jodhpur detenus were released. The Head Priests were released in spite of a section of the people and also a section of the members of the opposition strongly objected. But my views all along have been that even if we feel that by talking to the extremists we can bring the extremists to the main stream of our national life, I will have no hesitation in advocating that the Government should talk with the extremists. We have talked to a man like Laldeng. I think one of the great achievements of the Mizoram Accord, as I feel, is that the Mizoram National Front started its political campaign by saying that they would not accept the Indian Constitution, but, ultimately, they had to accept it. Now, this gives me an impression that so far as Punjab is concerned, the government is still groping in the dark and that is not a very healthy and happy sign for us.

Obviously, I shall have to come to Assam Accord, from Punjab. Now we have passed the IMDT Act, the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunal) Act Amendment

Act. But subsequently the Prime Minister at Guwahati issued a statement while addressing the Congress workers that the Central Government has done everything that has to be done under the Assam Accord. I do not know whether he was reported correctly or mis-reported in the Press, but if that were the statement I think that it was a very important statement. Because, the Central Government has still a lot to do with regard to the Assam Accord.

I will only just point out some of the provisions, because if I am to discuss the Assam Accord it will take me one hour and I will not like to do so. But let me point out that, for example, one of the very salient provisions of the Assam Accord is this sealing of the border by construction of a border road and also by fencing. We are talking in terms of sealing the Northern border in the Jammu and Kashmir area, but I feel that it should be a national policy for sealing the borders in the sensitive regions. Because, what we are facing today in the Northern border in Punjab may be faced in an equal measure in Assam, West Bengal and Tripura in a few years to come, because the problem has similar dimensions. Now, the survey was to be conducted by the Assam Government and so far as my information goes, the survey was completed, whatever further is to be done is construction of the roads, because the construction of road is a responsibility of the Government of India and up till now nothing has been mentioned in the Parliament or outside, and we do not know anything, what has been happening to the question of fencing. Therefore, on this point at least the Central Government and I hope Mr. Chidambaram will agree with me—has got a lot to do. We could go on quarrelling, we may say that the Central Government is not fulfilling its part, the Central Government may say that we are not fulfilling our part, but I am not in favour—as I said it—of crossing swords on this. What I feel is that the Assam Accord should be implemented and by mutual coop-

[Sh. Dinesh Goswami]
eration on both sides.

Now, in the Home Ministry's report for 1987-88 when the question of the Assam Accord has been dealt with, I do not find even the mention of one single sentence on the question of border roads and fencing. This gives me some amount of doubt whether the Government of India has virtually given up the whole idea of construction of border roads or fencing or that great, very important national commitment of sealing the border.

Equally, there was a proposal for refinery. The proposal is still in the final stage of scrutiny. But at least there has been no decision up till now that the refinery is going to be set up and if it is to be set up, where it is going to be set up. And, till this decision is finalised the Central government cannot say that it has fulfilled its part of the Accord.

Equally, there is a provision for the Ashoka paper mill. And the economic development of Assam is one of the commitments under the Assam Accord. In fact, I happened to have chaired the Task Force about the economic problems of Assam, and we found that Assam has suffered economic deceleration for the last 40 years.

I will give some figures for the consideration of the Home Minister. In 1960-61 the per capita income of Punjab was 120 and in 1980-81 this has risen to 178. In Haryana it has risen from 107 to 150, in Maharashtra from 137 to 145. In Jammu and Kashmir it has risen from 88 to 96 while in Andhra Pradesh from 90 it has come down to 84. There is some deceleration so far as Andhra Pradesh is concerned. But in Assam, I find that the per capita income in 1961-62 was 103 which has come down to 78, which is the steepest deceleration that we find in all the States.

On States' domestic products, equally

in Punjab the percentage rise is 64.1; Jammu and Kashmir 59 and in Andhra it is 59, more happily placed than we are. The all India figure is 41.7. Assam figures is only 34.1 which means that if the regional imbalance of the north-eastern region is to be removed, then there must be a different type of concentration and planning for the North-Eastern region which has been taken note of in the Assam Accord itself. If it is about the allocation of funds, the allocation of funds for the Seventh Five Year Plan was done before the Accord was finalised. And after the Assam Accord, so far as the economic development is concerned, it has to be given a thrust, there should be a re-allocation of the funds and the Chief Minister of Assam has urged upon the Government of India and the Prime Minister for some special allotment and I hope that the Home Minister will give due consideration to it. His report indicates about the Northern-Eastern Council. But, even in the North Eastern Council, I find that in some of the measures which are very essential for to the development, the allocation is very meagre. Therefore, I would like the hon. Home Minister to deal with, in his reply, particularly on the question of construction of border roads and fencing of the border, in his and reply. Whether the survey has been completed by the Government of Assam and if not, how long it will take to complete it; and how much is yet to be surveyed; and what are the further steps that are going to be taken so far as this question is concerned. After all, the responsibility is the responsibility of the nation. The responsibility is the responsibility of the Government of India and equally the State Government; and let us not go on accusing each other or let us not take up a position that we have done whatever can be done and it is for the State Government that it is left to be done. I hope on this, I will get some reply from the hon. Home Minister.

Now, You have rung the bell. Therefore, I will not take much of your time. The

other issues have been dealt with by others. The only one thing I would like to point out is regarding the Sarkaria Commission. So far as the Sarkaria Commission is concerned, what is the position of the Government of India.

I think, the Sarkaria Commission has taken about five years to submit the report. Now, we cannot allow the discussion of this report to last for another six seven years, so that ultimately the report finds its place in the graveyard of the archives of the Government of India. Immediate steps should be taken to see that this Commission's Report is given some final shape.

I would not like to say anything on the Gorkhaland issue but I have found one thing. I have come across in a journal 'Indian Defence Review' Vol-I by Lt. Gen. Mathew Thomas, PVSM, AVSM, VSM, which has taken note of the different problems which are in relation with Defence and it has described different movements as Secessionist and Non-secessionist movements; and in the Secessionist Movement, I found that the Gorkhaland movement has been included, whereas in the Non-Secessionist Movement, the Jharkhand Movement has been included. I would like to know, is it the view point of the Government of India that the Gorkhaland Movement is a Secessionist Movement and if it is not the view point of the Government of India, then how in such a prestigious journal, edited by Lt. Gen. Mathew Thomas, this movement has been described as a Secessionist Movement. Now, this journal 'Indian Defence Review', which is a prestigious review not only goes to the people here, for reading who are interested in Defence, but it goes to a lot of other countries also. This totally wrong impression should not be given to a particular movement, because the Government of India, in spite of the fact that my CPM friends wanted this Movement to be described as a Separatist movement, has taken up a posi-

tion that it is a Non-secessionist Movement. There is a lack of direction in some of these matters. I hope the hon. Home Minister, if his attention has not been drawn to it, will take note of this and see that the corrective measures are taken so that on this sensitive issue, we do not project different kinds of pictures both here and abroad.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri): Mr. Chairman Sir, at the outset I bow my head to the Police Personnel and the Army Personnel, who have sacrificed their lives, combating against terrorism, and combating against the forces who are working and conspiring against the integrity of the country and secular commitment of India.

Sir, I would also say that the nation will never forget the Home Minister, who has sacrificed his near and dear ones, standing behind the great cause of unity of India and secularism of India.

I support the Demands, but I want that the Home Ministry should be quite frank enough to discuss and place matters before the nation. I see one thing that must have been referred to in the Report is it the crisis which the developed last year in the Rashtrapathi Bhavan. You may say, it may be a conspiracy and it may be a manipulation. But the fact remains that it was an attempt to disrupt the Constitution of India. It was an attempt to destabilise the Government. I can assure the hon. Minister that the nation will never forget it, the posterity will never forget it and the history will never forget it. So, we should not try to hush it up or brush it off. It must be publicly debated and the people of India must be educated what is right and what is wrong. The conventions that we have built during the last 40 years were going to be disrupted and distorted So, this thing must have been mentioned in the Report.

About the Emergency, some friends in

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the Opposition are very very sensitive about it because they say, right to life and right to liberty have been trampled by this Constitution Amendment. May I submit to them and appeal to them that let them reconsider the matter in the light of new development. The new development is that the left over weaponry from Pakistan which was in the possession of Afghan rebels is passing now into the hands of terrorists in Punjab. We should not forget that they have rockets and missiles. You must have seen, they are having fire cover. The Prime Minister very eloquently mentioned that they are receiving weaponry through smuggling from Pakistan to India as they are having the fire cover. This is the Prime Minister's statement. Now imagine, missiles are coming to them. Rockets are coming. They are getting fire power. And all the left over weapons are being smuggled into the hands of terrorists in India. So, what is the difference between internal disturbance and armed rebellion. Even before the 59th Amendment, the Constitution provides for emergency in the event of armed rebellion. So, in the light of the new development in Punjab, is there any difference here between armed rebellion and internal disturbance? Who can give the right to life and right to liberty? The society alone can give that right. If the society itself is threatened, if it does not survive, who will guarantee that right?

My submission would be, as my CPM friends opposed the Anti-terrorist Act, now, this very Act is being applied in Gorkhaland. It is not a question of party issue. It is a question of survival of the nation. A conspiracy is going on in the Western border. This matter has been agitated during the Zero Hour. The terrorists have now reached an agreement with the Government of Pakistan that Khalistan will not include any part of Pakistan. Previously, Lahore was the capital of Ranjit Singh. Now they have reached an agreement with Pakistan. That is the

report. There are complications here. Pakistan is reluctant to negotiate at Secretary level on Saichin issue. What is happening in the Western border? In that background, we must consider the issue.

So far as the law and order problem is concerned, it cannot be separated from the developments in neighbouring countries. It is linked with other situations. You cannot imagine that there will be no tension in India when a number of Hindu Scheduled Caste women will be converted forcibly and married to Muslim young men. If this happens, will it not affect law and order? Is it not that Bangladesh is going to be converted into an Islamic State? What will be the impact on India? Are not new problems going to be created apart from the Chakma refugee issue. Buddhist people are going to be more alienated in Bangladesh after the process of Islamisation starts.

Now, I shall come to the weakest section of society and how they are being dealt with. The causes of atrocities on Scheduled castes are mainly social and economic in nature. The land despites, refusal to pay minimum wages, the indignities including rape of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe women, the practice of usury, are the root causes of atrocities. This is the correct assessment. I entirely agree with the government. But what has been done to eliminate these atrocities? If somebody goes through the report of the Ministry of Home Affairs after ten years, he cannot construe the history of India, You are the real custodian of the conscience of the nation. If you go through the report, nothing will be found of what you are doing. About women, rape cases have gone up. In 1971, according to the Interpol information, the rape cases reported were 2,487. In 1985, it is 6,356. The rape cases have gone up. If you say that I should put the question to the Ministry of Home Affairs, then I would also remind the hon. Members of the House that it is not only

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an administrative problem. The problem of women is not only an administrative problem. It is a social problem and so naturally the approach must be social and so if you ask the question, the Minister of Home Affairs says "We have done amendments to the statutes. Sentences have been made rigid. It is now non-bailable." But that is not the answer. The answer is we must build up a social structure, social opinion, you can imagine, a number of very senior responsible office-holders have married two ladies. No problem. You never bothered about it. The Ministry of Home Affairs might have a little bit of information. The people in responsible positions have got two or sometimes three wives. That is the problem. I am not going into that. I would request the Minister of Home Affairs to consider some suggestions given by the former Justice Krishna Iyer. He said that the Supreme Court and the High Court must submit a report annually on rape cases. He said:

"From the lowest to the highest, there must be the inculcation of sympathy for women cases amongst the judges and the judiciary."

That apparently shows that the judiciary is not sympathetic. They are not sympathetically adjudicating the cases involving women. Something should be done about it. He says that the Supreme Court and the High Court must give annual reports of cases of atrocities on women.

Regarding the depiction of the image of women in the media, some women's condition is described like this: the husband drives out the wife. Then he goes away and again the husband comes to the wife and the wife again bows down to the husband. But the husband did not accept her and the husband leaves. Then the wife goes and touches the place where her husband put his feet and takes the earth. The proper image

of women has not been built up in the media. That is the problem. In Hindu society women are considered as sudras. They are not permitted to go along with husbands and they should not share food with husbands. These are the customs which must be eliminated and forsaken. The Minister for Home Affairs must consider it.

The Shahi Imam is appealing to the people that we must fight for referendum in Jammu & Kashmir either to be independent or to remain in India. Where does this question come? I expected that there must have been some reaction against this statement from some of the Members who have spoken before me. I expected that the nation should have reacted against this. Unfortunately, the leaders of that minority community do not reflect anything about this; they do not react to it. There is the case of one former Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir. Sir, do you know what he said? He said that secularism has no place in India. This statement was made by a former Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir. So, I would draw the attention of the hon. House Minister to this matter.

Sir, there is another thing. People who are against the secular cult of India, people who are against the unity and integrity of India and those who are playing to the tunes of the foreign powers, should they have any place in this country? Should such people be treated as citizens of this country? Should they have citizenship right in this country? Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister that this problem must be handled strictly.

So far as the political party system is concerned, many troubles start because of the weakness of the party-system in this country. Sir, you know, there are some political parties which have blind anti-Congressism. What is that blind anti-Congressism? Whatever may happen, anybody who

[Sh. Brajamohan Mohanty] is a thief, a robber, a corrupt-man, a corrupt Chief Minister, if he is anti-Congress, then he is their friend. You know, that whole things disturbs the system—whosoever he may be. They are bargaining.

Sir, there is another thing. There are some people who are talking political morality. In Karnataka, what has happened? How the electoral roll has been managed, manipulated, mis managed? How one man, a man of integrity, who could resign from a political party in order to fight against Indira Gandhi and fight in favour of the persons who have murdered Indira Gandhi, how that man has been rehabilitated by manipulating the electoral rolls? Therefore, the hon. Home Minister should look into the election process. That is why I invite his attention to that aspect.

Another thing I would like to submit before you and that is about the Chakma refugees. My submission would be that this matter should be handled politically. I would like to mention here that even our secularism is at stake. It is not only the forces inside India which are disrupting it, but there are some forces from outside also. I do not say every force. But there are some forces which are creating difficulties for us. My submission is that it must be properly handled and the hon. Minister should know and should identify as to who is the enemy of India and who is the friend of India. Now, Bangladesh goes theocratic; Pakistan goes theocratic and the victory of the religious and fundamentalist forces is celebrated in Iran. This has made the entire South-East region to encourage fundamentalist forces. These are the problems. I would, therefore, appeal to the hon. Minister to handle it in that background.

Once again, I congratulate the hon. Home Minister because he has faced the problem quite boldly.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Demands for Grants of the Home Ministry. The Ministry of Home Affairs is entrusted with the responsibility of one of the most sensitive areas of administration and the performance of the Home Ministry during the last one year has to be evaluated in the background of the number of problems that the nation has been facing during the last one decade. It is a painful fact that the nation is today passing through a period of crisis. It is also a sad irony of fact that the country which has been a great messenger of peace and which has been practising non-violence for centuries, has suddenly been subjected to the onslaught of violence and terrorism, owing to the concerted efforts of the destabilisation forces both within and outside the country.

In the Report of the Home Ministry for 1987-88 it is stated that the communal situation in the country remained comparatively peaceful except for the riots in U.P., Gujarat and Delhi during April-June 1987. While it is true to a large extent, I must bring to the notice of the hon. Minister and the Ministry some of the areas where I feel that more effective and timely action should have been taken while the problem were faced by the country. Since the time is very short, I am only mentioning the areas and the instances where I think our immediate attention is necessary.

Under the 15-point programme of the Prime Minister, there are certain items which require constant monitoring by the Home Ministry, especially giving representation to the minorities and reorientation of the police force; I wish that the Home Minister should monitor this in consultation with the State Government and see that those very valuable suggestions are properly implemented.

I have been listening to some of the speeches of my hon. friends on the other

side. I am sorry to say that the speech of Shri Syed Shahabuddin has been very negative, and I am not surprised because that is his usual style; he made no concrete suggestions to solve some of the vital problems. His whole speech gives an impression that the position of the minorities is not very safe here. I belong to a minority community and I want to express my strong views that this is the only country where the rights and privileges of the minorities are protected and the hopes and aspirations of the minorities are well taken care of. In this connection it will not be out of place if I mention my experience last year when I visited West Germany. While I was attending a meeting organized by the State of Baden Uttenberg, I was asked to convey the greetings of this country. I said that, unfortunately, this nation was being misunderstood by the outside world; one of the Super Powers was arming Pakistan like anything saying that they belong to a weaker and minority community. I said, "They conveniently forget that in our country we have more Muslims than Bangladesh and Pakistan put together; the Muslims are safe here and they are in the mainstream of the country." I pointed out that in the last 40 years of our independence two persons from that community had occupied the highest office of this country and I asked whether they could point out a single nation where the minorities had been so much taken care of. I also pointed out the position of the Sikhs in this country; the Sikh community constitutes less than 2 1/2 per cent of the population of this country and they contributed so much to the freedom-struggle and to the building up of the nation, though there were certain misguided youth used by the foreign Sikhs who had no roots in this country; I pointed out that the highest office, that of Rashtrapati, was at that time being held by a person belonging to the Sikh community and I said that I was very happy over it. I also said that I had been elected from the Capital of a State which has the highest literacy percentage and where the Hindus are in majority; I had

been elected from that Constituency because of the great democracy here and the protection given to the minorities. I said, "This is the only country where so much protection is given to the minorities." I plead with Members like Mr. Syed Shahabuddin to see the brighter side of things, the realities and contribute to the building up of the nation with an open heart.

AN HON. MEMBER: He is not here.

SHRI A. CHARLES: That is another style. He talks and leaves; he does not care to listen to what the others have to say. He mentioned about Ram-Janma Bhumi and Ayodhya. He said that it should be left to the decision of the judiciary. I do not want to talk much on that. I wish the community he represents will be happy over it and I want to ask if the verdict of the court is acceptable to both the communities.

14.00 hrs.

My concern is that if we leave that matter to the judiciary the situation will be solved. I would plead with the Home Ministry to look into this and come to an understanding where some alternative will be available like making that a national museum so that the whole nation will come and get the rich heritage of the two great traditions.

Regarding Gorkhaland, again Mr. Shahabuddin suggested that Nepali language should be included in the Eighth Schedule. I would like to ask him whether that will solve the problem. I would bring to the notice of this august House—I have nothing against the Nepali language being included in the Eighth Schedule—that that will again open a big Pandora's box. There are hundreds of languages and there is struggle going on that those languages be included in the Eighth Schedule. I would suggest that immediate attention should be given to Gorkhaland problem and political

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solution should be arrived at.

Regarding Jharkhand, the struggle is only in the beginning stage. I feel that section of the community has some fear and misgivings about the whole matter. I again suggest to the Hon. Minister and the Home Ministry to spend some time at the right time so that things may not go out of our hand. Now the situation is under our control. A dialogue or some discussion or some assurance that their problems will be taken care of, may solve the problem. As the saying goes: "a stitch in time saves nine" I would request that these problems may be attended to as early as possible.

Mr. Goswami spoke about the Assam Accord. We have passed a legislation. I have some concern about that piece of legislation. I fear the Government which he represents, may misuse it because some of the provisions of that Act, especially the provision which gives much discretionary powers to the police officer of the status of a Superintendent of Police is possible of being misused and minorities being harassed and especially the tea plantation workers who have migrated to Assam from Bihar, Orissa about a decade back and whose descendants are still not having full citizenship there. And the AGP may use it as a political movement to see that they are being harassed.

Before concluding, I must point out two more things. One is the latest happening of Sati. That is a very very unfortunate chapter in the history of the country. The reported statement of the Shankaracharya of Puri to challenge the Anti Sati Act and the Temple Entry Act and to launch an agitation through a Hindu Political Party must shake all those who have the country's interest at heart. This is adding fuel to fire in the already tense situation that we are facing. Such a threat is

nothing short of kindling anti-national feeling and could not have come at a more crucial time when both on the national and international plane, the nation is beset with problems. Government have a big responsibility to expose fundamentalism which is eating away the body polity of the country.

Finally, the Punjab situation. I do not want to speak at length on that because we have discussed it at length. We know that that is the most serious problem that the country is now facing. The statement by the all powerful Panthic Committee a few days back from the Golden Temple that it would not settle for anything less than 'Khalistan' shows the very explosive situation that we are facing and the crisis we are facing. Can this country allow the Golden Temple or for that matter any other place of worship to be converted into armories to wage an undeclared war against the motherland? It is only the other day the police seized a huge quantity of ammunition from a bunker following a raid on the 15th of this month. I would plead with the Hon. Minister to take effective steps to curtail these forces and to see that the places of worship are not misused.

My friend Mr. Mohanty has said that the Rashtrapathi Bhawan had become a place of some conspiracy. It is yet another very sad story in the history of this nation. I would request the Minister to take serious note of it and to bring in a constitutional amendment to see that no person shall be eligible for re-election in that great office in future for a second time.

With these words I conclude and support the demands for grants.

[Translation]

*SHRI GOKUL SAIKAIA (Lakhimpur):
Mr Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for

giving me an opportunity to take part in the discussion of demands for grants pertaining to the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Ministry of Home Affairs has prepared its annual report for the year 1987-88. In this report there is very little reference to Assam. It has been stated in this report that the Central Govt. has done everything in connection with the implementation of Assam accord. Mr Chairman, Sir a few days back our Prime Minister visited Guwahati, where he made a statement that the Central Govt. will give all assistance to Assam. I think that the statement of the Prime Minister is misleading. The Prime Minister signed the Assam accord and without implementing all the provisions of the accord such misleading statements are given by our Prime Minister. This is a matter of great regret. If such statement are issued, there will be no other way out for the people of Assam to resort to the path of agitation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, so far as the law and order situation of Assam is concerned it is stated that it is quite peaceful. During the last three years there has not been significant progress in the implementation of the Assam accord. That is why the people of Assam as a whole are dissatisfied and there were many agitations launched by the all Assam students union. In my humble opinion the law and order situation in Assam is not satisfactory. It is a matter of utter shame that a few days back at least ten girls and worker in the village Bhomka, district of Kokrajhar were raped by police. The Home Minister of Assam made a statement on the floor of the Assembly that there was no such incident. After the statement of the Home Minister the people of Assam were very much agitated and various social organisations issued statements in the press describing the fact of the matter. Consequently the police Superintendent of Kokrajhar admitted that then women were raped. The Guwahati High Court issued an order that these ten unfortunate women should be given finan-

cial assistance for their rehabilitation.

It has been stated in the report that various equipment and facilities have been given to the police so that they can function efficiently. It is horrifying to see the dilapidated conditions of the buildings of the police stations. For example the Chandmari police station building in Guwahati has no roof over it. The police station looks like a cow-shed. This is the state of affairs in Guwahati itself. You can very well imagine the plight of other police stations in small towns and villages. There are so many police stations where there is no electricity. These police stations are functioning with out dated kerosene lamps.

It has been stated that there is no tension in the border areas of Assam. As you are aware of the ghastly incident at Mera-pani, I do not want to go into the details of that incident. When there was road blockede movement in Assam, our Prime Minister assured the people of Nagaland that if need be, essential commodities will be supplied to Nagaland by helicopter. In this way the Central Govt. wanted to help the people of Nagaland at the time of State Assembly election so that they can come to power. But such steps are not taken on other occasions. As a result of this Congress-I could come to power in Nagaland.

So far as the freedom fighters of our country are concerned, many hon. Members have referred to them. My humble submission is that all freedom fighters should get pension so that they can lead a honourable life. There are hundreds of freedom fighters in Assam and other parts of the country who are still deprived of the legitimate pensions. I hope that the Government will consider their cases sympathetically. There are some very old freedom fighters. It is difficult for them to complete all the formalities to get a pension. They are running from the pillar to post; but in vain. There are some very old records

[Sh. Gokul Saikia] which are not available. Therefore, there should be lenient view about the freedom fighters so that they can easily get their pensions.

Police personnel are given encouragement for their meritorious work. In Assam one police officer was honoured with Sahitya Academy award for his meritorious literary work. It is a matter of great regret that so many police personnel lost their lives during foreigners movement in Assam while performing their duties. Compensation has not been given to their families. It is a serious matter. The Govt should look into it ...***... There are some police officers who committed atrocities on the people of Assam during the foreigners movement in Assam. One among them is presently a big officer in Punjab. Another IPS officer, who committed atrocities on the people of Lakhimpur has now changed his cadre and now posted in Orissa. Unfortunately one Assamese officer who was dismissed from service during those days and he has not yet been reinstated.

Finally, I beg to submit that our Prime Minister signed an accord with Sri Lanka. To safeguard the interest of the Sri Lankan Tamilians our Prime Minister sent the Indian Peace Keeping Force. Our Prime Minister is very much concerned with the problems of Sri Lanka. But he is not in a position to solve our internal problems. Punjab is burning. Assam accord is not implemented in toto. Even then our Prime Minister made statements that Central Govt and done everything to implement the Assam accord. With these few words I conclude my speech.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghasipur): Respected Mr. Chairman Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Home Ministry.

Mr. Chairman Sir, this Ministry is tackling many of the challenging situations arising in the country. Never has this country faced challenges of such magnitude in the 40 years after Independence. The problem is one of misunderstanding, of hatred and of distrust in one another. This problem is not confined to Punjab alone but can be found in Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Assam and the Southern States also. The people are at logger heads with each other in the name of religion language or region. I am happy that our Home Ministry has the ability to meet these challenges within legal and constitutional requirements. Selfish interests even go to the extent of making personal remarks against the hon. Home Minister Shri Buta Singh. Remaining undeterred by these distractions, he has shown an exemplary sense of honesty, patriotism, personal sacrifice and devotion to duty in meeting these challenges. I take this opportunity to express my appreciation of all that he has done.

Mr. Chairman Sir, it would surely be injustice if I did not use this opportunity to praise the work done by the quiet and dedicated hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs Shri Chintamani Panigrahi. Shri Panigrahi works hard even while remaining away from the public eye. There never been an example of this kind in the past. In particular I mention the case of freedom fighters whose requests had been pending for long. Shri Panigrahi came to the rescue of the harried freedom fighters most of whom were in the twilight of their life. He disposed of a substantial number of applications and sanctioned pension to them. I personally took up the matter of many freedom fighters of my constituency with the Home Ministry. Having met disappointment time and again I was pleased with Mr. Panigrahi's efforts in clearing the applications. I thank him on behalf of the freedom

fighters and everyone else in the country.

Similarly I want to praise Shri Chidambaram for so efficiently executing the tasks entrusted to him.

Mr. Chairman Sir, the Punjab problem is the greatest challenge facing the nation today. The Punjab tangle has become so complex that we are at a loss to understand as to what should be done. The Government's intended course of action is quite unclear. The Punjab Accord was signed with the hope of bringing peace of Punjab. But, the death of Sant Longowal frustrated the implementation of the Punjab Accord. Terrorists have clearly indicated that they are not in favour of any Accord. And the fate of all future Accords will be the same as that of Sant Longowal. Today even those people in Punjab, who want to go in for an accord, are hesitating to come forward for having an accord. Their behaviour stems from a fear, a strong belief that no accord can ever be successful in Punjab. That it will die out the way the earlier one did. Today terrorist activity is on the increase. The poor and innocent are being killed to spread terror among the people. The Central Government is trying to suppress this wave of terrorism. Mr. Chairman Sir, through your good offices I want to emphasize that the law and order situation in Punjab cannot be improved unless and until the Government takes stricter and more effective action. The Government will do well to stop hoping for an accord. There cannot be any accord with the terrorists in Punjab. The Government should clarify its position once and for all. The entire process seems to be divided into instalments. On one occasion the jodhpur detenus are released, on another the Head Priests are encouraged. This is not the way to deal with the Punjab problem. The Government must remember that the terrorists in Punjab enjoy the support of Pakistan. The Opposition parties call this as a mere propaganda. The psychological make-up of Paki-

stan should be kept in mind. The Pakistan Army was badly defeated in the Bangladesh war. This led to their ouster from power in Pakistan. Later, democracy was restored in Pakistan and Bhutto became the Prime Minister. But once again the Army took over. So long as martial law remains, the military rulers of Pakistan will look for ways to create fear and hatred against India in the minds of Pakistanis. This feeling in the Pakistani mind fuels the existence of martial law in Pakistan. If this feeling goes, so does the military rule. Whenever any movement for the restoration of democracy gains momentum in Pakistan, the military rulers drag India into the picture. They divert the public mind saying that India is the more important issue rather than clamouring for democracy. We are not taking full precautions while dealing with Pakistan on one side Pakistan trains Punjab terrorists and supplies arms to them and on the other it interferes in India's internal affairs. Keeping in mind our relationship with the people of Pakistan, India hesitates to extend moral support to those forces which are struggling against army rule for the restoration of democracy. We cannot even extend moral support, what to talk of any other support. India again remains unmoved when several persons who have gone there from this side are killed in riots in Karachi. Whenever there are riots in India, Pakistan makes political capital out of them and makes a lot of noise at world forums. The Government does not see any wrong in persons of Indian origin getting killed in Pakistan. More persons have been killed in the Karachi riots than in all riots in India put together. But India chooses to remain silent. On one side there is need to deal strictly with Punjab terrorists and on the other to declare our friendly intentions to the people of Pakistan. Real friendship with Pakistan is possible only when democracy returns to that country. Experience shows that India's relations with Pakistan have been good when democratic forces were in power and not good when military rule prevailed there. The

[Sh. Zainul Basher]
Government should seriously look into this matter.

Now I want to draw your attention towards the Central police forces, specially the Border Security Force and the Central Reserve Police Force. I appreciate the role played by these forces. Today, both of these paramilitary forces have to function in very trying circumstances. Jawans and officers of these forces work without fear or favour wherever they are needed. The Government must attend to their problems. So far as increasing salaries, extending facilities and providing promotional avenues to these forces are concerned, we are not doing as much as we should have done. The Ministry of Home Affairs should look into these matters. Both these forces are one of their kind. Their job is to deal with riots and disturbances and both perform their roles effectively. They have their own style of working. The Government appoints I.A.S. and I.P.S. officers as D.G. and I.G. in these forces. These who do administrative and policing work, cannot lead these specialised forces effectively. Why not make promotion prospects brighter for jawans of these forces who are battling it out in the jungles of Tripura, countering terrorism in Punjab and providing stiff resistance to the Gorkhaland Movement? Posts of D.I.G., I.G., D.G., etc. should be filled in by personnel of these forces alone because with them they bring valuable experience. The function of these forces is not much different to that of the Army. If police officials are appointed as Lieutenant General or Chiefs of Staff in the Army, can they effectively perform the roles assigned to them? For leadership to be effective it is essential that personnel should be drawn up from within these forces. A system of internal promotions should be followed for filling up of vacant posts.

Today the Government service has become a matter of prestige in our country.

It is a matter of regret that all classes do not find adequate representation in Government jobs. Evidently a select few of society, be they from the upper classes or belonging to a particular religion, are monopolising Government jobs while the other classes lack adequate representation. The Government claims that selections are made on merit, but merit should be not the only basis because aspirations of the people now-a-days get fulfilled if they get Government jobs and thus the feeling of participation in the Government gets realised. Therefore, all sections of the society should get proper representation in the Government services. In this context I would like to dwell upon report of the Mandal Commission recommending reservation for backward classes. With regret I say that neither the Government nor the Opposition is serious about the report of the Mandal Commission. In the last Lok Sabha the report of the Mandal Commission had been discussed many times, but in the present Lok Sabha whose only one and a half year term is left the report has not been discussed even once. Nor the Government has informed what action has been taken upon the report of the Mandal Commission. Many State Governments have made reservations for backward classes in the Government jobs. When the State Governments have made reservations for backward classes then there is no reason why the Central Government should not make such provisions. Reservation is necessary to enable the people to feel that they are participating in the administration and they get equal opportunities for going up in the bureaucratic hierarchy. Through you, I would like to request the hon. Minister to make provisions for giving equitable representation to all sections, viz. backward classes, weaker sections and minorities in the Government jobs and also evolve some formula to settle the issue.

In the end, I would like to say something about freedom fighters. There are no two

opinions that the amount of pension given to the freedom fighters has been considerably increased. Now-a-days Rs.500 are given as pension which to my mind is inadequate. So this should be increased further. The Government of Uttar Pradesh gives Rs.400 as pension to the freedom fighters though the Central Government gives Rs.500 as pension. So there is a difference of Rs.100. I am happy to note that Shri Panigrahi is looking into the pension cases of the freedom-fighters sympathetically and this year pension has been given to a record number of freedom-fighters which is even more than that settled in the previous years. This has already been praised by me in the beginning but I would, however, like to request the Central Government to reconsider the basis of having undergone imprisonment for 6 or more months on which pension is granted to the freedom-fighters. The sacrifice of the person who jumped into the freedom struggle should be given importance over the period of imprisonment. Because the period of imprisonment is decided by the Magistrate, so we should give more importance to his sacrifice and sentiments and not to the period of his imprisonment. Therefore, through you, I would like to request the hon. Minister to grant pension to all the freedom-fighters receiving pension from the State Governments, irrespective of their period of imprisonment.

I would also like to state that this Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs has become totally a technical one and takes a scientific view point while looking into the cases of freedom-fighters. Recently, I visited a village in my constituency where I met a freedom-fighter, who technically does not fall under the category of freedom-fighters because he never went to jail. Though the person never went to jail yet all the villagers in one voice informed me that when the Baluch Regiment invaded the area in 1942, to crush the freedom movement, it was he who ran here and there and while doing so

lost one of his eyes when he was hit by a bullet. Should not the pension be given to such a person? There is no such reference in the record.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): You may refer that case to us.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: I will refer it to you.

[Translation]

Similarly, there were many others working underground to organise the freedom movement. Nobody knows whether warrants were issued against them or not or whether the police was after them or not, but the people of the area know that he had been taking part in the movement by hiding and sleeping in the sugarcane fields and the people used to supply food to him there. That person exhorted other to join the freedom movement but he himself remained underground. Is not such a person eligible for getting Central pension? Should he not get such a pension only because he never went to any jail or the records have been destroyed as to show whether there was a warrant against him or his name was there in the C.I. D. Report. At the time of departure the Britishers destroyed all the old records. Will the Government recognise him as a freedom fighters.

The hon.Minister has on his own awarded pension to a few freedom-fighters, which is a very commendable step. Cannot the Government on its own, find out and award pension to those freedom fighters who remained in jails for 3 to 6 years, but consider it disgracing to apply for the pension. If the Government on its own awards samman pension to such people then they

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will accept it happily but will never apply for the pension. Some freedom fighters, I personally know, are living in great distress and poverty. Whenever, I ask them to apply for the pension, their reply is, we never took part in the freedom struggle for monetary gains.

[English]

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI:

Those cases you can refer to us.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: I will refer to you. Thank you very much

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we should provide more and more facilities to the few surviving freedom fighters.

With these words, I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs and thank you for giving me extra time.

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK(Sonepat): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs. All the hon. Members, who spoke before me threw light on the problems of terrorism, extremism and lawlessness, but the moot point is what are the causes of these problems? Why do the problems relating to the terrorism, extremism and law and order arise? In this connection, I think the Government must go into the root cause of these problems.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, to my mind the main causes of these problems are (i) illiteracy, (ii) unemployment, (iii) language issue, (iv) regionalism and (v) fundamentalism. The foreign powers are inciting the sentiments of our people. We all know how Pakistan, China and America are covertly helping these forces to disturb our internal situation

and destabilise the Central Government. Foreign powers are able to make use of these forces in the country.

I want to discuss how illiteracy is acting as a conduit in perpetuating terrorism and extremism in the country. In this connection, I want to stress that less educated can easily be misguided and exploited. Due to illiteracy, they can be misdirected and exploited to work against the nation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, second cause is the problem of unemployment. Unless our economic policies aim at providing food, clothing and shelter to the people, the foreign powers would continue to exploit them and force them to indulge in antinational activities. In my opinion, the problem of unemployment is related to the problem of terrorism. The Government should formulate a comprehensive law to combat this problem. Unless at least one member in each family is provided employment, this problem cannot be solved. We will have to do something to ensure one job for every family. We will have to formulate some law under which every member of a family could feel that he will not have to face any food problem. If it is done then in my opinion, those people who are forced by economic circumstances to get involved in terrorism and extremism will automatically stop indulging in such activities.

Thirdly, language is another major factor behind terrorism and extremism. We have been saying from the very beginning that Hindi is our official language. But even to-day there are certain States, which do not recognise Hindi as a first language. In a country, where instead of one language there are different languages in the States, the sentiments of the people speaking a different language can be exploited in the name of language by some people. There are a number of such States. I do not want to point out specifically. But all the Members

are aware that language has become a major weapon to destroy the unity and integrity of the nation. I would like Hindi to be declared as a National language to be recognised as such by all State in order to unite various States.

Many local and regional parties are formed which concern themselves not with national issues but only with regional ones. They exploit the sentiments of innocent people. Most of the Members are of the view that the problem of regionalism cannot be solved unless the country is divided into various zones. If issues of a particular region are tackled in a regional manner, then the regional leaders will go on promoting regionalism in the country to serve their own political interests. So I would suggest to divide the whole country into various zones for achieving economic development and for smooth running of the administration.

According to our Constitution, undoubtedly India is a secular country. But it is only a written thing. All the religious leaders exploit the innocent people in the name of religion. The common people are so much intoxicated by the name of religion that they object and criticize everything concerned with other religions and thus endangers the integrity of the nation. So instead of using the word secular in the Constitution some alternative should be found out to integrate the whole country. Religion has become a sign of danger today. Religion is exclusively responsible for the problem of Muslims in Meerut and Punjab. Common masses are misguided by saying that the Government is against a particular religion and the people of that religion are not fully free. It becomes quite dangerous for the unity of the nation.

I also want to assert that education system should be formulated in such a way that it should not create unemployment. It should

be job-oriented so that exploitation of innocent people may be stopped.

When we make a reference about any massacre or mutual fight, then it is said in this August House that it is a state subject. But the problems of Punjab and Assam have been taken up as Central problems. Similarly, certain other States are facing certain problems which can technically be termed as state subjects, but in reality the problem of terrorism and extremism is arising there also. If it is ignored terming them as a State subject, then the terrorist problem of terrorism and extremism is arising there also. If it is ignored terming them as a State subject, then the terrorist problem will become more difficult to solve. You can see everything with your own eyes in Haryana. In the Congress ruled States, there is no problem of extremism or of law and order. Why? Such problems arise only in non-congress ruled States. Because the leaders there play politics in the name of religion and the parties there are based on religions, who instigate the people to spread violence there. These parties spoil law and order situation for the sake of sticking to the power. I want to tell you something about Haryana. The Home Minister should bear one thing in mind that after sometime Haryana would also go the Punjab way. These anti-social elements are indirectly helped by the Government there, while the innocent people are tortured and even murdered, they cannot seek any help. Even the MLAs of Lok Dal, which is the ruling party there, are involved in these murders. 4-5 months ago, Shri Krishan Khandewala of Congress party, was elected as a member of the Municipal Committee in Hansi. When he along with his majority went there for election of the President, the local M.L.A. ** along with 5 to 10 *goondas* asked him to hand over such and such member of the Municipal Committee to him. When he refused to do so, he was fired at and killed on the spot.

**Not recorded.

[Sh. Dharampal Singh Mal]

Recently, Shri Roop Ram Rathi was also killed with sticks by Lok Dal people in the constituency of our Chief Minister. It is quite surprising that the man gave the name of the person who had murdered him, before his death. In this way the alleged murderer was arrested and later on released under pressure from above when procession were organised. It was then said that he was not involved in the case.

I also want to point out that a case under 302 was registered against a former Minister ** in Sonapat and an attempt was made to arrest all the members of his family. Such conditions are prevailing there. It has become very difficult for an innocent person to live there. In the circumstances, if the Central Government does not intervene in these matters, the situation will become worst and it will become difficult for the innocent people to live there.

Some terrorists attacked a Communist Party leader in Shahabad a few days ago. His two relatives were killed and he himself was shot at. Similarly, 23-24 innocent bus passengers were shot dead in Dariapur 5 to 6 months ago. The Government there supported the terrorists.

All the M.L. As are provided with a Havildar and four security guards. Besides, two other guards remain in their houses throughout 24 hours. In this way seven guards are provided to each MLA of Lok Dal and not to those of the Congress. Congress MLAs are also the citizens of the same State and they have got the right to live. I urge you to intervene in the matter. On being told about the worst conditions prevailing in that State, the hon. Minister expressed his inability to do anything in this regard saying that it was a state subject and that the CBI enquiry could be ordered only on the request of that

State Government. Certain measures should be taken so that the people could live there peacefully. With these words, I support these demands.

[English]

14.50 hrs.

SHRI ASHUTOSH LAW (Dum Dum): I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Home Ministry. I was going through the speeches made by the Opposition. I find Shri Madhav Reddi has said that the Home Ministry should concentrate more on the problems relating to internal security only. This is of course, an agreeable proposition, but I do not want to support and I do not agree with Shri Reddi's suggestions whole heartedly. There are other departments functioning, within the four corners of the Home Ministry, and they are very important, which cannot be called insignificant. Internal security, I agree, is one of the most important departments of the Home Ministry, but that does not mean that one can ignore Department of Official Language, Census Department, the Departments dealing with Hindi Teaching, Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Welfare of Scheduled Tribes, Freedom Fighters' Relief and Rehabilitation; these are the other departments which are within the fold of the Home Ministry and are very important, and therefore, I cannot agree with Mr. Reddi's proposition that the only internal security is the only function of the Home Ministry.

Now I take Police. I appreciate that our Police is doing remarkable job everywhere in India and rendering good service to the country; particularly I am mentioning the para military forces. For the last few years these para military forces are rendering a great service to the nation I request and I recommend to the hon. Home Minister to

look after their welfare properly. Only one thing regarding our paramilitary forces I would like to submit before the hon. Minister, that they are fighting the terrorists in Punjab, they are also fighting against terrorism in the Darjeeling area of West Bengal and various other fronts in India and Unless they are provided with sophisticated arms it will be very difficult and it will be an injustice to them, because they will not be in a position to fight the terrorists in Punjab.

Regarding Punjab, I appreciate the steps taken by the Home Ministry. Again I request that vigilance should be very strict, and the border should be sealed and/or cordoned. The para military forces which are employed in Punjab should be provided with more sophisticated weapons so that they can fight with the terrorists who are having modern weapons like rockets, etc.

The other department of the Home Ministry which I request the Home Minister to look into is the 'drug problem'. In our country it has become rampant and drug traffic is increasing. In order to save our coming generations from the evil of the drugs, I request the Home Ministry to take Vigorous action so that drug traffic can be reduced and drug joints, particularly which are located in the vicinity of schools and colleges, can be checked. I request the Home Minister to keep a strict vigil on this aspect.

"Apart from Sati, there are various other social evils still existing in the country. People are being sacrificed in the rural areas even in 1988. Out of the many instances, I can mention at least two incidents. There are many incidents, which I do not want to mention now. What is the position today? We cannot possibly ignore the existence of such evils even in 1988, standing at the threshold of the twenty-first century. A poor child is being sacrificed by its father, under the misapprehension that something good would come to him.

Sir, a forty five year old man hacked his three daughters to death and seriously injured his wife and his young son, in a bid to sacrifice his family to Goddess Chamundeswari in a village in Karnataka, in Feb.1988. I would like to mention another incident. A case of human sacrifice was reported in Adivasi dominated village in Maharashtra, where a fifteen years old innocent boy had been killed. When we are fighting Sati and trying to keep the prestige of our women folk, we should also fight this evil, and the Home Ministry should discharge its duty by stopping such evils.

Very recently, we have read reports in the papers about the various incidents of atrocities caused to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people. I request that the Home Ministry should keep strict vigilance so that such incidents cannot be repeated, and should increase the police patrolling around those places if necessary, particularly in Bihar and U.P. Where the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people are not being treated properly and are being harassed by the upper class people.

I must congratulate the Home Ministry for taking strong precautionary measures to prevent any further eruption of communal activities in India. I request the hon. Home Minister that this sort of strict vigilance and precautions should continue, and the evil forces, who are trying to divide India, to destabilise India and to create confusions in our country in order to stop development and the advancement of our country, should be treated properly and they should be put to task.

Shri Saifuddin Chowdhary, in his speech, has said one thing, with which I cannot agree, and I cannot resist myself to mention this. He said that the ruling party is not following the code of ethics, which was adopted or drafted in the National Integra-

[Sh. Ashutosh Law]

tion Council in 1980, which I deny and dispute very strongly. On the contrary, I would say that it is not the Central Government which is not adopting the code of ethics, which was adopted by the National Integration Council in 1980, and it is the Non-congress I State Governments, which are not following those ethics. He has mentioned two things the relation between politics and religion and the relation between politics and educational institutions. In our State-West Bengal the educational system has been polluted by the State Government, and they are not taking any steps; and even in the last Higher Secondary Examination, all questions were totally politically motivated. So, it does not sound nice, in their mouths, to say that the Central Government is not following the code of ethics or the ruling party is taking the help of the minority....(Interruptions)

SHRI PIYUSH TIRAKY (Alipurduars): We are not discussing about the State Government here and we are discussing about the Demands of the Home Ministry. So, the name of West Bengal should not come here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Wind up. Your time is over.

15.00 hrs.

SHRI ASHUTOSH LAW: In the end I want to emphasise on two aspects. One is about the freedom fighters and the other is rehabilitation of refugees.

About freedom fighters, it is true that the things are being looked after very well. But I am very sorry to say and I am making this statement with great humility, that a large number of freedom fighters, those who are aged, are still going from pillar to post for getting pension. They have not yet got their due. May I tell the Home Minister who is present here, that hundreds of freedom

fighters in West Bengal are not getting justice and their cases have been held up on technical grounds only. These freedom fighters are very old and they have hardly any time to receive their pension.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: For West Bengal, we have formed a committee and this committee is going into the cases of freedom fighter of West Bengal. Once the recommendation of this committee comes, then we will do something.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW: Now about refugee rehabilitation, it is not out of frustration or out of anguish that I am making this statement, it is only out of humanitarian grounds. Since 1947 the refugees, those who came from the then Pakistan, are living in a miserable condition in our State. There is no Rehabilitation Department at the Centre. But their affairs are being dealt with by the Home Ministry. If I get an opportunity I will take the hon. Minister to the colonies to show him in what wretched conditions they are living. After 40 years of Independence, they are still not rehabilitated properly let them not think that they are out of the mainstream. At least improve their living conditions and refugee colonies around Calcutta should be developed. They should be given at least minimum amenities which are a required for human being.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: We give enough funds to the State Government.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW: In that event, the State Government should be asked to look after their needs.

In July, 1986 when we demanded that free hold right should be given to those refugees and that their problems should not be kept pending for long, it was very nice of our beloved Prime Minister to declare that free hold right should be given. But up till now these poor refugees have not received

free hold rights. Sir, when the Minister says that a large amount of money has been paid towards the development of the said colonies and to uplift their living conditions, I am making this statement and I am sure, my learned friends, those who are sitting in the opposition, will agree with me that their living conditions are far from satisfactory. With the request to the Government that something should be done for those refugees, I wholeheartedly support the Demands of the Home Ministry.

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY (Nominated Anglo-Indian): I have almost forgotten the time 1948-52 when I used to be asked to initiate the debate on behalf of the opposition.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): The time has really changed.

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY: But I felt that my two cut motions deserve some attention from the house. If I may read them, I believe they comprehend the preservation of the secular concept, cut motion 14 reads: "Failure of the Government to discharge the duty imposed on it by article 46 of the Constitution to promote the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections". Cut motion 15 reads: "Need to check backwardisation of the Nation."

15.05 hrs.

[SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM *in the Chair*]

These are my respectful submissions and in their own way, symbolise the basic concept of secular democracy. As an elected Member of the Constituent Assembly, I was among those who supported the special reservations for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. So, I won't say anything which may be considered critical of this continuing provision.

What I am going to say next may be regarded in an unfriendly way by certain sections. But I am gravely concerned about the mindless extension of the so-called reservations for the so-called Backward Classes. This is a matter which I have studied for many reasons, being an accredited leader of a small community that has been critically and badly affected. There was a Mandal Commission. I think it was appointed by the Karnataka Government. The Mandal Commission, I think, had calculated that over seventy per cent of the population of India should be classified as Backward. But they said that they would be satisfied if fifty per cent reservations were made for these seventy per cent. Already we have approximately fifteen per cent reservation for the Scheduled Castes and about Seven per cent for the Scheduled Tribes. So, about fifty per cent will go to over seventy per cent. I say with all respect and without qualification that every party, including the ruling party, is today engaged in rank vote catching. All the vote banks are being swept under the so-called Backward classes umbrella.

Karnataka, very recently, had a commission I think it was the Venkataswamy Commission that went into the question of who should be listed as a Backward Class, and they recommended that the Vokkaligas should be delisted. As you know, Sir, the Vokkaligas and the Lingayats are, numerically, politically and even economically, among the most powerful sections in Karnataka. There were about three Vokkaliga Ministers and they immediately resigned. So, to reciprocate, the Chief Minister probably the first Brahmin to be a Chief Minister in Karnataka; I think the Vokkaligas used to capture most of the Chief Ministerships and many of them have been personal friends of mine the Chief Minister in intimidation. brought the Vokkaligas back into the Backward Classes list. Not only that, in order to get more votes, he has done some-

[Sh. Frank Anthony]
 thing which perhaps has never been done in any other State. he started giving quotas. He gave quotas to the Brahmins, to the Muslims. I refused to have any community degraded as a Backward Class I will come to that because I regard the word ' Backward ' as an expression of degradation. Now, what has happened? I lead a small community. Every community has its weaker section and so do I, among the Anglo Indians. I am the Chairman of several all-India educational boards. One of my life's contributions is that I have set down an educational institution that gives lakhs of rupees in scholarships from the nursery to the stage of higher education. We have brilliant boys and girls. They get eighty per cent, ninety per cent marks, but they cannot get into an engineering or mechanical college because I have refused to allow my community to be classified as Backward. the Hanavur Commission asked me to allow my community to be classified as a Backward Class, but I said no. It is an expression of degradation . No whole community should be branded as a Backward Class. So, the backward students walk the streets. Backward Classes getting 30 to 35 per cent get into engineering and mechanical colleges. I have a lot of backward students. They come out of the Frank Anthony school....(Interruptions)

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: I would like to know whether in your school, the teachers' salary is at par with the Government teachers or not.

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY: They get more than the commensurate salary. That is why I was able to attract the best teachers in the country. I was able to make the Frank Anthony School the premier schools in the country.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The tuition fees are very high there.

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY: My tuition fees relatively are extremely low, much lower than those institutions which have not got comparable reputations. Let me say that.

Now, as I said those parents who can afford it, send their children abroad. This is one of the main reasons why most brilliant boys and girls, pupils from my schools, belonging to other communities, are sent abroad. Their parents are sending them abroad because they can't get into engineering and medical colleges in this country. This is one of the main reasons for the brain drain. May I also say this that some States have gone mad in this man-made extension of backwardness; some of them have made reservations of 70%. One State Made it 78%. What happens to the brilliant boys and girls? Reservations are made primarily on a caste basis and is an absolute negation of the secular concept.

Now, I am probably one of the senior most members and the senior advocates. I know what the Supreme Court has said? They have said that if a state makes a reservations over 50%, it is unconstitutional. The Supreme Court analysed Article 16 of the Constitution. They have said that Article 16(1) is a mandatory provision that there shall be equality of opportunity in the matter of State appointments irrespective of community or caste. Then there must be no discrimination under Article 16(2) on grounds of caste, religion etc. Some States use Article 16(4), whereas there is a provision that if the State considers that certain sections of the backward classes are not getting sufficient representation, they may give them quota. But the Supreme Court also said that in Article 16(4) this is a discretionary power. Article 16(1) and 16(2) are mandatory provisions. Article 16(4) is a discretionary provision which is being abused to the detriment of the country.

Sir, I have never been a Member of the Congress Party. But I did have the opportunity of defending, successfully, Shrimati Gandhi. Prime Minister Indiraji happened to preside over the Centenary function of the All India Anglo-Indian Association which celebrated its centenary in October 1976, and of which I am the elected office bearer. Among other things, Indiraji paid a tremendous tribute to my community that it has made a contribution out of proportion to its size to the development and progress of the country. She paid me the tribute of having refused to allow my community to be branded as a backward class. Some people wanted my community branded as backward class. I said "I will not have the whole community branded as backward class". That is why I ask that Article 46 to be implemented. Use the word "weaker section" Shrimati Indira Gandhi said if she had way she would remove the word 'backward' from our social vocabulary. That is what I am asking for. Some people take glory in being branded as backward class. Grandsons of a former Prime Minister are getting all kinds of concessions the grandsons of one of the leading Scheduled Caste personality are getting all kinds of concessions. I used to lead a group of about 24 at one time in this House. There was a tribal. He was earning money in thousands as a Minister. His sons were getting all kinds of concessions as tribals. What has happened? Because of this completely artificial, retrograde distinctions between the backward and the so called forward classes, there has been civil war. Gujarat saw civil war, U.P. saw civil war and Bihar saw civil war. This is and what is happening? Mr. Chatterjee might remind me he is my personal friend, So was his father in this House. But what is happening? There is a precipitated decline in all the public services because of the Backwardisation of the nation. In the public services, the states are glorifying 35% or 45% of the people. there is a tremendous decline, precipitate decline, also in professional standards. And

now some people are demanding a comparable reservation of 70 per cent in the Armed Forces for the backward classes. That will be the last straw. Then, living up to their Backward reputation they will move backward before any enemy that attacks this country. Rajiv Gandhi, for whom I have a great deal of respect...

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA (Ahmedabad): I am afraid, the trend of his speech will inspire a civil war. If backward classes hear this or come to know that there is a serious effort to jeopardise their interests which the Constitution asks the State to protect, what would be their reaction? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: He says that your speech will result in civil war. That is what he says.

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY: Why should it result in civil war? It has already happened....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Probably Mr. Mehta is saying, you want special favour for your community only, not for others. That is what he is objecting.

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY: He does not even know what happened.....

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You tell Mr. Mehta.

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY: Let me tell Mr. Mehta that because of certain special circumstances, I was on the Steering Committee, I had the privilege of being in the Constituent Assembly, I was the Deputy Chairman of the Constituent Assembly, I got special provisions for the Anglo Indian community, but I got them only for 10 years. There were reservations because of certain historical circumstances. My community had built certain National assets. That is

[Sh. Frank Anthony]

what Indira Gandhi said. The Railways, the Telegraphs, the Customs these had been built by the Anglo-Indians. Because 50 per cent of my community was employed in these services I got special quotas, I got some special guarantees.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:
Special reservations. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY: These only extended up to 10 years.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:
Because of the reduction in the number of members in the community.

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY: Not reduction, not that way. It extended up to 10 years. But do think for God's sake that I am trying to prevent the states from precipitating more and more civil war between the forward and so-called backward classes.

As I said, I agree with Rajiv Gandhi that the effort should be made for India to enter the 21st century. But what does entering the 21st century postulate? It postulates primarily a competitive society; you can't enter the 21st century without having a competitive society, mindless extension of Backwardness is a negation of the competitive society. We are pushing the country backwards going into the bullock cart age, into the 18th or 19th century. All that I wanted to say is....

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You say something about the Muslim Women's Bill, whether it is going forward or going backward. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY: We keep on saying that we are committed passionately to the secular concept: that concept, I know postulates only an economic yardstick. Whether you are a Brahmin, whether you are a Scheduled Caste, whether you are a

backward class, whether you are a Muslim or whether you are an Anglo-Indian let there be only an economic yardstick because every community, whether they are brahmins or Anglo-Indian they have their weaker sections. Let Government set an economic yardstick, make it Rs. 500/- a month or Rs. 700, but let there be only an economic yardstick for the weaker sections of every community so that they know and very well find economic and educational facilities.

[*Translation*]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE
(Jadavpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Demands for grants relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs. I rise to support the Demand for Grants.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Ministry of Home Affairs is performing its responsibility of maintaining law and order, peace and communal harmony in the country quite effectively. I am here not to deliver any lecture but just to draw the attention of the hon Minister towards some important issues.

First of all, I want to congratulate the hon. Minister of Home Affairs for restoring peace in Tripura. We have witnessed killing of hundred persons within three days before the elections in the State. The steps taken by the Central Government not only improved the situation but also led to forming of Congress Government in the state. Now activities of T.N.V. are completely under check because the Government of Tripura has controlled the situation firmly. As a result, the people of Tripura are also very happy. I congratulate the Government for it. Very few Members have spoken on the Punjab problem. The only thing on which I want to emphasise is that religion and politics must be separated from each other. Some days ago Shri Buta Singh had stated in the House that gurudwaras are there even in small

villages of Punjab where not only religious but songs of Khalistan are also chanted. Gurudwaras, temples, mosques and churches co-exist in our country. It is our duty to live and make progress in cohesion. But I do not support the conversion of any temple church or Gurudwara into a centre for pro-Khalistan activities. The concept of creating Khalistan at gun point can create grave situation. Therefore, the Government must pay due attention to it. Gurudwara is a place chanting religious verses like 'Wahe Guruji ka khalsa, wahe guruji ki fateh, and not for creating Khalistan by collecting arms. Operation Bluestar in Golden Temple was a very daring and strong decision taken by Indiraji. Now the Government should also think in this direction. If you do not control it strongly and keep constant vigil in the Golden Temple, stockpiling of arms will continue which could create grave situation. There were repercussions in Jammu and Kashmir to the bomb explosion which occurred two days ago in Islamabad. through a message sent to our bretheren across the border, our Prime Minister had expressed grief on the incident. But in Jammu and Kashmir, slogans of 'Hindustan Murdabad, Pakistan Zindabad' were raised. People living in India must develop feelings of love for the nation. You would remember the anti-India slogans published in Pakistani Newspapers during the Cricket Match. It was not an exceptional case but a usual happening. The Government must pay special attention to it. It would not be in the interest of the nation to allow such anti-national activities in Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab or Assam to take place. The Opposition should offer better suggestions instead of merely criticising the Government, so that it could function smoothly. Shri Dinesh Goswami was speaking on the efforts made by Central Government for the implementation of Assam accord.....(Interruptions) I also want to speak something on Assam. The Central Government is doing its best to implement the Accord. Recently Illegal Migration Act

was passed. The Act should not be misused in minority dominated areas because I have come to know that the minorities are being torchtured and discriminated in the minority dominated areas of Silchar and Karimganj. The Government should pay attention towards it also. The Accord should be implemented but I do not agree with the notion of A.G.P. that minorities should be expelled from the State. There should be no differentiation between minorities and majorities. The co-existence of the two is the special feature of our democracy. The Government should ensure that the Act is not misused. A large number of Bengalis are iiving in Meghalaya and excesses are being committed against them in that State also. Although the State Chief Minister Shri Sangma has a tight grip over the situation, yet the Bengalis in the State are in grief. One Bengali has complained with grief that they do not demand any-thing from the Government but they are not allowed even to perform funeral sacrament of their dead. There should be no such discrimination. It is our duty to protect the interests of minorities and we should do it with our best efforts. The movement launched by the G.N.L.F. is creating grave problem in our State. Both the Central as well as the State Government are trying to evolve a political solution to the problem. I want to congratulate the State and the Central Government for working towards evolving a political solution to the problem. You might have gone through the statement of Shri Gheising published three or four days ago in the newspapers. He was invited to Delhi by S. Buta Singh for talks. He said that he would go only on the invitation of the Prime Minister. In this way, he is aspiring to emerge as a hero. I urge upon you not to let such a person become hero who is intriguing and launching movement to bifurcate Bengal and is saying that he would go to the table only if the prime Minister invited him and not S. Buta Singh. The G.N.L.F. problem is not nearing solution even after such a long time. Owing to the movement, people are not

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]
getting supply of drinking water. Common citizens are pining for food. Education institutions have been closed down. This movement has already claimed several lives. The Government has no account as to the casualties during the movement. You should promptly evolve a solution to the problem in cooperation with the State Government. Otherwise the agitation could take the turn on the lines of Khalistan agitation and that would add a black chapter to the history of our nation. I hope the Chief Minister of the State will pay more attention to it.

Now I want to speak about the Bharat Bandh. You know even the Undertakings of the Central Government were closed in the States of West Bengal and Kerala. Tell me whether any State Government has got a right to close them. Is it not a violation of the Constitution? No Chief Minister of any State has got such a right. But the Chief Minister of our State-West Bengal closed even the Government offices. The T.V. Centre campus of Calcutta police ransacked. The director of the centre had to demand police protection against sabotage. How can things run smoothly if you do not pay attention even to the incident of ransacking in an office of the Central Government? Just see what happened in the whole country. The example of N.T.P.C. and T.V. centre are before you. I would like to request you to take stern action against the person ransacking Government property. Further, I would request you to provide C.I.S.F. in the Central Government offices in West Bengal. You should not believe others, otherwise your all officers will be closed. I am saying so because we have ourselves seen the condition there.

Whenever we raise the question of democratic rights for the people of our state, we are told that nothing can be done in this regard as the law and Order is a State subject, we are helpless. The State Government is not ready to listen to us. Now the

problem is where to raise these matters. Today, in the morning an hon. Member Shri Ajay Biswas raised the question of misbehaviour on the part of security personal. Here I agree with him that the security personal should not misbehave with any body and we also condemn it, but the Government should not forget or ignore that incident of West Bengal which occurred there during the course of Panchayat Elections. I have reported that incident at the Police Station and I have also noted down its diary number. Not only me, but the Union Minister, Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munshi was also not allowed to enter our respective constituencies by the people of C.P.M. cadre. The security people gheraoed them and also misbehaved with him. Our M.L.A.s are tortured and beaten up by them even inside the Assembly. Our four thousand people were not allowed to file their nominations in Panchayat Elections. Now the victory or defeat in elections depends on the electorate, but as a citizen, every person should have the right to take part in every election. The democratic rights should be ensured to all. But in West Bengal the democratic rights are not ensured to anybody, neither to M.L.A.s nor to the Ministers. Whenever we try to raise this issue in the House, it is ignored in the name of law and Order situation. But we know how during the course of Panchayat Election, three Ministers in the State refused to heed to the instructions of their leader. Leave us apart, the Ministers campaigned against one another. Did not the Constitutional crisis arise in West Bengal when the very Ministers are speaking against the Chief Minister?

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Is this West Bengal Assembly? I record my formal protest. Otherwise, she will go on talking like this.

[Translation]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: We do not want to take here any undue advantage, but this is a very important question and it cannot be ignored like this. When the matter is raised before the House, a serious thinking on the part of the Government is also expected. I want to ask the hon. Minister whether he has given the Police Association of West Bengal the trade Union rights? In our State, a Non-Gazetted Police Staff Association has been formed by the police employees. These police men call the people to police station and ask them to support C.P.M. if they want justice to be done to them. If a person is arrested in a murder case, he is asked to bring certificate from the local committee to the effect that he is a C.P.M. worker, in which case he will be given a soft treatment. I want to know whether such Non-Gazetted police Employees Associations are given trade union rights by the Central Government? In no State, Administration and politics or police and politics can go together. If both these things combine together, the people will be deprived of their democratic rights which cannot be snatched away from anybody in the country. If the centre has given trade union rights to that Association, it does not mean that the Association should take part in politics in the State. As this is a very important question having far-reaching consequences, therefore, it should be taken seriously by the Government.

I want to congratulate the Central Government for fulfilling its promises made to the public before elections. The Government has also fulfilled the promises made to the refugees of East Pakistan. The Government made a commitment to provide Free-hold rights to E.P.D.Ps and it has lived upto it. Here I want to submit that when the discussions to provide Free-hold rights to the refugees were going on in the House, the hon. Minister had promised the formation of an

Advisory Committee for this purpose.

Sir, at the time of providing Free-hold rights to the refugees, the Home Minister Shri Buta Singh had declared that there should not be any discrimination in the matter. All should be equally given these Free-hold rights. Taking of bribe by the C.P.M. men from the person who are provided with these rights should be stopped. Since no Advisory committee has so far been formed, I request the hon. Minister to appoint the same as per the assurance given by him.

With regard to the recruitment of innumerators for preparing Voters List, you have given instructions that all innumerators would be from their party. In this connection, I want to tell you that if all innumerators are recruited from their party, we shall not find our names in the voters list. Previously when Shri Ashok Sen was the Minister of law, his name was also not included in voters list because the innumerators were from their party. I, therefore request you to recruit innumerators from both the parties so that a just voters list could be prepared.

I want to submit one more point Shri Devi Lal, the Chief Minister of Haryana accompanied by his policemen went to U.P. to address a meeting. I raised this matter in parliament some days ago. Something should be done in this regard, otherwise the Chief Minister of Bengal would go to Assam with his police force and would force an Assam *Bandh*. I would like to know whether he has been given any such constitutional right? When the Chief Minister of a State does not know whether or not his police force can be sent to the other state, how will he be able to administer a state. Some decision should be taken in this regard.

We deliver speeches in the House and speak a lot but the hon. Minister speaks nothing about the points raised when he replies to the debate. He just sticks to the

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee] written reply and then leaves the House. I request you to give a just and proper reply. If the hon. Minister does not give a proper reply, who else will? In that case what will be the use of our speaking here? Therefore, I want to say that the reply should cover all the points that have been raised.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to intervene briefly in this debate to deal with just two aspects which were mentioned during the course of the debate. The first is about the construction of border roads and fences on the Assam border to which Mr. Dinesh Goswami made a reference. The decision was to construct 2010 kms. of new jeapable roads and improve 650 kms. of the existing roads all along the Indo-Bangladesh border to facilitate intensive mobile patrolling by the Border Security Force. It was decided to construct a barbed wire fence at vulnerable sectors like Assam and Meghalaya immediately following the construction of the road. The entire project is estimated to cost Rs. 317.76 crores and the estimated time of completion is ten years. The Assam Public Works Department have been entrusted with the work in the Assam sector as desired by the State Government. They have informed us that they have almost completed the survey work in the Assam sector of the border and they have started the work in the Dubri area. The CPWD are doing the survey work in the West Bengal sector and the work in Meghalaya and Tripura sectors has been entrusted to the Border Roads Organisation. An amount of Rs. 10 crores has been provided in the current year's Budget for survey and construction work, while in the next year, it is proposed to provide Rs. 26.44 crores as

per requirements given by various construction agencies.

If there has been a slowing down of the work in the Assam sector, I would submit most humbly that the responsibility lies with the Assam PWD and the Assam Government. In respect of the work undertaken by the CPWD and Border Roads Organisation, that is on the West Bengal sector and Meghalaya and Tripura sector, we are carefully monitoring the progress of the work. It would therefore, not be correct to say that the Central Government has not fulfilled its obligations regarding construction of border roads and the fence in accordance with the Assam Accord.

The other aspect which I wish to deal with very briefly is the circumstances under which army was deployed in Tripura in the month of January. As the House is aware, the law and order situation in Tripura began to deteriorate from 1984 onwards due to the stepping up of the violent activities by the TNV. The Centre was closely watching the situation. The question of declaring more areas of Tripura as 'disturbed' areas has been engaging the attention of the Centre. However, we could not take any decision to declare more areas as 'disturbed' areas in view of the stout opposition put forward by the then Chief Minister Shri Nripen Chakravarty. From time to time, the Government of India pressed the State Government to take strong steps to check the rising violence by the TNV extremists. The Central Government also impressed upon the State Government the need to declare more areas affected by the violence of TNV as 'disturbed'. However, the State Government did not agree to any of the suggestions of the Central Government. The process of consultation with the State Government which led to the declaration of the whole of Tripura as 'disturbed' started as far back as December 1986. When I visited Tripura to review the measures undertaken to deal with the situation, I held detailed discussions with the

then Chief Minister. As a follow up, the Chief Minister, Tripura, visited Delhi and discussed the matter with the Home Minister on the 6th January, 1987. It was suggested to the Chief Minister to declare the whole of Tripura as 'disturbed' area. But after a great deal of persuasion, he agreed reluctantly to declare only certain border areas as "disturbed' areas". Consequently, two small pockets of five kilometre depth on the Eastern and Northern borders were declared as "disturbed areas" on the 24th January, 1987 by the State Government. The TNV was declared as an unlawful association with effect from the 4th of February, 1987 as a result of the discussions held between the Home Minister and the then Chief Minister. I again visited Tripura on the 7th November, 1987 and discussed the situation with the Chief Minister. The State Government did not act upon my advice to take recourse to all available laws such as NSA, TADA etc. Instead, during the discussions with me, the then Chief Minister cited doctrinaire considerations for not taking action under these laws. It was obvious that the State Government and the then Chief Minister lacked the political will to take action against the TNV. This resulted in the release of important TNV collaborators from custody which demoralised the security forces engaged in combating violence unleashed by TNV. While the TNV indulged in violence with impunity, the number of TNV extremists arrested was negligible. Having regard to the gravity of the situation arising out of the continued activity of the TNV, the Home Minister wrote to the then Chief Minister on 31st December, 1987 suggesting that the whole of Tripura may be declared as "disturbed area". The Home Minister visited Agartala on the 4th January, 1988. During this visit the Home Minister once again suggested to the Chief Minister that the whole of Tripura be declared as a disturbed area. However, even after extensive discussions the Chief Minis-

ter did not favour this step.

Sir, several options were examined by the Central Government. One option was a moderate response of declaring a 15 km. belt along the Chittagong-Tripura hill tract as disturbed. Another option was the drastic step of declaring the entire State as a disturbed area when circumstances warranted. During this period these two options were kept in mind and they were discussed extensively with the State Government. As a result of discussions between the Chief Minister and the Home Minister on the 4th of January 88' an agreement was reached on some aspects. This agreement was reduced to writing. Following this, there were discussions at the official level. It was agreed that there should be a task force to counter the extremist activities.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:
Commando Task Force, *Jai Santoshi Ma*;

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: When I get into areas which are difficult, he would like to distract the attention of the House. (*Interruptions*)...Listen to the facts, don't get distracted.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We have heard all this. This is for the coming election in one constituency. We have heard this so many times.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Yes, you have to hear the truth. Sir, it was agreed that there should be a task force to counter the extremist activities and that BSF should cover not only the border posts but also 15 Kilometres. Inside the state on the Chittagong hill track Tripura border for counter insurgency as this border was very sensitive.

Army was inducted towards the middle of January. I wish to emphasize this because of the campaign of disinformation that the Army was inducted without the knowl-

[Sh. P. Chidambaram]

edge of the State Government only a few days before the elections. The Army was inducted towards the middle of January 88 into the areas which were already declared as disturbed. The State Government had agreed to the induction of Army in these areas.

I visited Agartala on the 23rd and 24th January 88. I desired to call on the Chief Minister. I was told by the Chief Secretary that the Chief Minister was indisposed and therefore it would not be possible for me to call on him. Hence the situation was reviewed with the officers of the Government of Tripura, including the Chief Secretary and the DGP, and officers belonging to the Army, BSF and Assam Rifles.

In particular, the deployment of the Army was discussed and certain decisions arrived at with the full concurrence of the Chief Secretary and the DGP of Tripura. All the options that were available to the Central Government and the State Government were discussed. Following these discussions and taking into consideration the growing incidence of violence by TNV and to check the main ingress and egress routes of TNV, the Central Government declared on the 26 January 88 a 15 km. belt along the Tripura Chittagong hill tract border as "disturbed area."

In the month of January 88 the TNV attacks spread over to a wider area of the State which took a toll of 95 lives. Even after the 15 km. belt along the Tripura Chittagong hill tract border was declared as a disturbed area, the violence did not abate. The stepping up of violence by TNV in all the districts of Tripura showed that the extremists were deeply entrenched in the whole of Tripura. On January 29th and 30th there was an alarming increase in the daily killings which compelled the Centre to declare the whole of Tripura as disturbed area on the

29th January 88.

Sir, the Home Minister spoke to the Chief Minister over the telephone and informed him of the necessity and the urgency of declaring the entire State as a disturbed area.

Sir, the facts that I have narrated just now will conclusively establish that the Centre took the extreme step in the best interests of the people of the State and not for deriving any political benefit. The Army was deployed in order to instil a sense of security and confidence in the minds of the people so that they might take part in the process of elections.

In fact, the elections were held most peacefully. The Army true to its traditions scrupulously kept away from the election process. I dare say not a single complaint was voiced in this regard even by the CPI(M) party in the days immediately before and for two days after the date of polling. There was a large turn-out of voters in Tripura. My information is 75 per cent of the electorate voted in the polls in spite of the threats of TNV. This vindicated the stand of the Central Government in declaring whole of Tripura as disturbed area.

My colleague, Shri Chintamani Panigrahi, who was in the State ensured that there was complete coordination between the State Government and other agencies in the deployment of the State police and paramilitary forces for election process. The Election Commission was kept informed of the security arrangements and, in fact, the State Chief Electoral Officer was closely involved in the discussions leading to the deployment of the security forces.

A campaign of disinformation has been launched by certain political parties about the induction of Army in Tripura. This is not the first time when elections were held after

induction of the Army. For example, in September 1982 a 20 KM belt on the Tripura Mizoram border was declared as a disturbed area and elections were held in Tripura on 5th January, 1983. This time looking into the gravity of the situation the Central Government took the decision to declare the whole of Tripura as disturbed area. It was a right decision. It was a wise decision. It was a decision made in the face of doctrinaire opposition. It was a decision made in the interest of the people of Tripura. 75 per cent of the people of Tripura came out and voted out a party and a government which did not have their interests at heart. The vote of the people of Tripura, the ringing vote of the people of Tripura, is sufficient vindication of the correctness and wisdom of the decision taken by the Central Government.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore): Sir, Just now I have heard with rapt attention what the hon. Minister of State, Mr. Chidambaram has spoken. Anyhow he has said that the Left front government is voted out. Yes, it has been voted out but the great general sitting over there knows what number of votes we have secured. Of course, even today let there be a break between TUJS and the Congress party and they will see what is what. It is only by combining with TUJS, the friends of TNV, that they have come to power. (*Interruptions*).

Secondly, I would like to submit that I support my dear MP and sister Mamata Banerjee of what she stated about GNLF but the way a rumour and a music is being played in West Bengal that next to Tripura we are going to induct Army in West Bengal because there is no law and order in West Bengal. So, oh Messiahs of Delhi, why do you wail: You kindly relieve us from the clutches of the CPM by inducting army as we have done in Tripura.

This is the music. Some refrain of that music is being heard in the speech of Kumari

Banerjee. (*Interruptions*) I simply protest against it. I say that if you are to try that way, then please try and test what will come out. At first, I wanted to make my protest. These are my two observations. Then, I want to go forward.

Regarding GNLF, I want to add, yes, the Government of India and the Government of West Bengal are moving unitedly. Even then, Mr. Subhas Ghising is changing his position from time to time. Sometimes he says that he will meet the Prime Minister. Sometimes he says that he will meet the Home Minister. Sometimes he will say that he will meet nobody. So, a probe should be made to find out which are the agencies working behind him. This problem has to be solved anyhow. The West Bengal Government has done its best with the advice of the Central Government to solve the problem. But Mr. Subhas Ghising and his colleagues are not going to solve the problem. It should be looked into.

Regarding Punjab, whenever I talk to Shri Buta Singh, our Prime Minister, he says: Punjab problem is going to be solved

[*Translation*]

Let us see, what will happen in two days.

[*English*]

Twenty days have passed. Hundred days have passed. Punjab problem is not nearing any solution. (*Interruptions*) I don't know what is the solution. Even the security forces are terrorised. I suggest you do call a meeting of all the political parties in the Punjab and consult them. You have stopped even consulting the Opposition parties on this issue. The Government of India should come forward. As you are dealing with them in the security arena, so also deal with them

[Sh. Narayan Choubey]
in the political arena. That should be done by you.

About Sarkaria Commission, we have to speak something. Even after this Commission, they are to take military in Tripura without any consultation. (*Interruptions*) In the year 1983, there was an election in Tripura despite induction of military in 15 Kilometre border area. That was done with the concurrence of the Government of Tripura at that time. If the Government of Tripura, at that time, wanted an election to be held even after induction of military in 15 kilometre border area, you have done that. But this time after inducting military throughout Tripura, you simply inform the Government of Tripura over the telephone that we have this and this in the interest of the people of Tripura. (*Interruptions*) Is it the way of the *burrah sahibs* of London to inform the Governor of Calcutta, Governor of U.P. to do like that? This is not the proper way. This thing has been done.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Why Minister of State for Defence is so much interested about Tripura?

SHRI NARAYAN CHAUBEY: Because there is another election to be held. He knows it. (*Interruptions*) I am very sorry to say that the communal violence is there throughout the country. The Government has taken a very easy stand.

[*Translation*]

The violence is not much yet

[*English*]

But is it the way? Communal troubles are brewing as yet. The great trouble making issue of the Babri Masjid and Ram Janambhoomi still remains. Still U.P., Bihar and the remaining Hindi-speaking belt are hot-

beds. They are not able to solve it. It will be solved tomorrow. It will be solved day-after tomorrow. The Communist Party of India, the Communist Party of India (Marxists) even the Congressmen have approached the Prime Minister: Give a solution; give a solution. The Prime Minister hears everybody. But he gives reply to nobody. The problem is kept alive. The communal tensions go on there.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY:
After the Ramayana on TV, it will be solved.

SHRI NARAYAN CHAUBEY: Between 1981 and June 1987, 3,223 riots have taken place. 1822 Muslims were killed and also 753 Hindus were killed injuring 8657 Muslims and 10,536 Hindus. The property looted comes to more than Rs.25 crores. What is going on? It is increasing day by day. This is throughout India. And the Government is silent.

Budham sharanam gachhami
Dharmam sharanam gachhami
Shanghum sharanam gachhami

You are sitting idle. You should take political steps in this regard. Problems are growing regarding tribal belts. In every tribal belt, we have been seeing problems. In Chhota Nagpur area and in Nasik, you find this problem. This is also in adivasi area. The main problem is the land problem. You don't solve the land problem. During the days of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and during the days of the period of Smt. Indira Gandhi, we have been speaking about the land reforms. But now land reforms have been a given a good bye. The poor adivasis will be evicted from the land and you will construct huge dams and factories there. You will be giving employment to non-tribal people and the tribal people will be sent back and if they go and press for compensation and employment, they will be killed ruthlessly and you will be saying that they are demanding this

and that. If you do not solve the land problem and the basic needs of the tribal people and the Scheduled Castes people, you have to face troubles. There is no doubt about it and the Government must be ready for that.

The next point is about the security people. you have no control about the security people. What has happened today? Shri Ajoy Biswas was coming into the House and he was stopped. For nothing they have stopped and there is no remedy for this. I will draw the attention of the hon. Minister for Home to today's Times of India. Two letters have been printed in it how a poor rickshaw-puller was picked up, how he has been taken to the police station, how he was assaulted, how he was implicated in a false case, how he approached and nothing could be done. Even the case could not be taken up without the sanction of the Lt. Governor. The letter has come out. They are behaving with the big people arrogantly. One retired military man has given a letter. I hope that you can see to it and do something in this matter

Only recently, big political troubles have come up due to the bad behaviour of the Assam Rifles in Aizawl. What would have happened there on that day? If the Government of India and the Government of Mizoram would not have intervened they would not have given the sticks to assault the SP of Aizawl and the beating for which the entire Aizawl people came out and then you had to withdraw some forces. The people who are meant to maintain the law and order in the country, the Central Government forces, do not abide by the law and order. They drink alcohol and they do whatever they like. Such a thing must come to an end in this country.

Another point is about the freedom fighters. Actually that has not been done these days. Previously, many people who are not freedom fighters, had secured the freedom fighters pension but these days

many genuine freedom fighters are not getting the freedom fighters pensions and the great office in Delhi is not at all functioning. I do not speak in anger. I know that from my State, be he a Congress MP, CPI MP or a CPI (M) MP or everyday has the same complaint that the office of the freedom fighters is not at all functioning. They do not even know where Midnapore is. So, I appeal to our hon. Minister to see to this problem.

Regarding the Government of West Bengal, I am told that you have organised a new Advisory Committee. Our friend, the hon. Minister, Shri Panigrahi, was telling that our respected "leader Shri Ganesh Ghosh has been appointed as its Chairman. But we have not received any circular to this effect. We should be given copies of that circular. If you have made Shri Ganesh Gohsh as Chairman, it is a very good and the most suitable thing. Who has suffered more in jails than Shri Ganesh Ghosh.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: All the Presses have been closed and there is nothing to print. he knows that. You are closing the Press and nothing is being printed.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: My last point is regarding the torture on women. The more laws are passed, the more women are tortured. Some 15 or 20 days back a Press Report said that in India Delhi is a place having the largest number of rapes and the largest cases of tortures on women are reported here. It is not ruled by NTR. It is not ruled by great Jyoti Basu. It is not ruled by Shri Hegde. It is ruled by Baba Buta Singh, our Minister for Home Affairs. So, kindly have a look into it. In Delhi the number of dowry deaths during the year 1986 was 64 and in 1987 it was 79. But no conviction has taken place. Why nobody is convicted? What is the connivance between the Police Department and the people who perpetrate

[Sh. Narayan Choubey]

these things? Not a single person is convicted. I think, the Government will take a note of this thing. We should be ashamed of it.

The cases of rape have increased. Throughout the India, in 1985 the number was 6356. The Kidnapping cases were reported to be 8440 and the number of bride burning cases were 887. In the first month of 1986 only 85 cases of bride burning were reported. So, in the first month of 1986 it has passed all the previous records. The more laws we are passing, the more propaganda is made in the Press, the more we are trying to involve the people the more torture is taking place on women. The Government agency is trying to hide out. As you have failed to give an answer as to why you have failed to convict a single person in this regard. These are the things and these are the records of the Home Department. I hope that it will take a note of all these things.

As far as Punjab is concerned, as I told earlier, the entire country is sitting on a volcano. your Department needs more assistance. Your Department needs more intervention. Your Department needs more purification. But you are silent on all these matters. For the security of one person in India, you are always moving and that is Shri Rajiv Gandhi, for whom even an M.P. cannot walk on the streets of Delhi. This is how you have brought up your Home Department.

So, with these words I beg to submit, Sir that the Home Department is not performing well. It is not doing its duty. The Home Department must come forward to do its duty and it must not think, must not even imagine that Govt. will be able to induct army on the advice of the Home Department, as they did in Tripura or West Bengal and do nefarious things. With these words I simply protest and say that either you rectify yourself or do not take any money and go back home.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL (Erandol): Mr. Chairman, Sir I rise to support the Demands of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Sir, the Ministry is having the Official Language as one of its Departments. The Official Language Committee was appointed many years ago under the Official Language Act of 1965. It was expected that the final report will be submitted by this Committee in 1980-81. But I think that the Report has not yet been submitted and the findings are not before the Home Ministry. That is why whatever is being implemented for introducing Hindi language gradually all over the country, is not being done properly.

Mr. Chairman Sir, as far as the freedom fighters are concerned, many of my friends have congratulated the Minister of State for Home Affairs for doing a good job by sanctioning more cases this year. But still there are some persons whose cases are not yet sanctioned. I would like to cite one example. There is a freedom fighter Shri V.T. Randhir. He is from my own district and he was involved in looting the treasury of the Britishers worth five lakhs of rupees in 1943-44. He was imprisoned for several years. But still, he is not granted freedom fighters' pension from the Central Government. When this fact was brought to the notice of the Minister, the Department has written back to the Government of Maharashtra as to why there was a delay in submitting the case to the Government of India. Although there is a delay in submitting the case to the Government of India, the Government of India should now at least take an immediate decision in this regard. If such freedom fighters who had done a great service to the nation even risking their lives during the freedom struggle, do not get recognition and freedom fighters' pension, it will create a bad impression among other people also.

Mr. Chairman, we still have certain border disputes between some States. I would like to mention about the Maharash-

tra-Karnataka border dispute. Efforts are being made by our Chief Minister to find a solution. Meetings are held between the Chief Ministers of Maharashtra and Karnataka and our hon. Home Minister Shri Buta Singh also tried to intervene and tried to find out some solution. But there seems to be no end to the dispute. I would like to urge the Home Minister, the Government of India and our hon. Prime Minister to see that a solution to this border dispute is obtained in the very near future. This is a very long standing dispute and we hope that greater attention will be paid and the dispute be resolved.

Mr. Chairman, whenever crime increases in certain areas, we decide to recruit more and more police forces, more companies of police or security guards or the Central Reserve Police Force and soon. But we are not paying sufficient attention to the civil defence forces such as the Home Guards. The emoluments that the Home Guards get for doing honorary service are not sufficient, although the States are paying some emoluments to these Home guards from different cadres and different walks of life. I would like to submit that the strength of these Home Guards should be increased and they should be paid better emoluments whenever they are on duty. Home guard Units in the rural areas should also be developed. I feel that we are concentrating more upon the Home Guard units in big towns and cities only. But much attention is not being paid to the Home Guard units in rural areas. More attention should be paid to this aspect.

Mr. Chairman, Delhi is also under the jurisdiction of the Home Minister. With more and more Union Territories attaining Statehood, the responsibility of the Home Ministry is being reduced and hence there should be more concentration on the Union Territories which are left with the Home Minister.

As far as Delhi is concerned, I would like to state that for common people of Delhi who

want to construct houses in Delhi, the cost of the land is going to be increased by about four or five times as compared to the cost existing in 1983 or 1984. When the land was allotted to the Cooperative Group Housing Societies, the cost of the land at that time was about Rs.135 per square metre. Now, there is a talk of increasing this cost of Rs.430 or Rs. 440 per square metre. About 400 to 500 societies which are going to get the lands after the release of notification, next month as I understand it, by that time the cost will go up by four times than what was prevalent in 1983. It will be an injustice on those people who got themselves registered as Members of the Societies as early as in 1983-84. It is not their fault. They have registered their names approximately four years ago. Now they have to pay for the lands, which is far higher than what was prevalent four years ago. We have acquired about 8000 acres of land for various purposes in Delhi, recently. Therefore, I would like to urge upon the Home Minister to intervene in this matter and to see that the cost of the land is reduced.

As far as rehabilitation of various displaced persons and various refugees are concerned, the Government of India is doing a commendable job. But every year some new responsibility is imposed upon the Government of India. From Independence, till today, we have spent about Rs.1600 crores on the resettlement of refugees, for feeding them or for helping them to go back to their respective countries. But there is one new problem, which is on our heads and that is the Sri lankan refugees. We congratulate the Prime Minister for signing the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord. We hope that very soon the remaining people, who wish to go back to Sri Lanka their home country from India will achieve their objectives. Otherwise, it would become a more burdensome affair.

Mr. Dinesh Goswami was criticising the Central Government for not implementing

[Sh. Vijay N. Patil]

the Assam Accord properly. But he ignored the fact that the Central Government had taken very good steps in implementing the Assam Accord. For those who were killed during the agitation, the amount of compensation had been increased from Rs. 5000 to Rs. 20,000. The Government of India had also decided to take up the Oil Refinery in Assam and also the IIT. And many new measures are being undertaken by the Government. But still we find that there is a tendency among the people for having a separate statehood. They are still agitating for a separate State. It is because of this reason, new problems are cropping up, like the GNLFF Punjab problem, etc. Because of the continuance of Punjab Problem, we have to amend the Constitution. This problem has been continuing for the last several years. After the amendment of the constitution, still today, we have not yet imposed emergency. We are trying to find a solution through other means, by adopting strict measures to control the terrorists activities. One of those measures is sealing of the borders. I do not understand why Pakistan is silent over our repeated statements regarding the supply of arms to the terrorists by them. If Pakistan responds properly, then only we will be able to solve the Punjab problem quickly. By doing this our relationship will improve. Of course, irrespective of this agitation and turmoil in Punjab, the Government of India and specially the Home Ministry is making all its best efforts to solve this problem. We are trying to establish industries in Punjab and also giving jobs to the people, who otherwise will fall into the traps of the extremists.

Mr. Chairman, Sir I wholeheartedly support the Demands for the Ministry of Home Affairs and expect that, we will be successful at the hand of our Prime Minister and Buta Singh ji in solving the Punjab Problem. With these few words, I support the demands.

[Translation]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, when you allow me only 5 minutes to speak, it appears that the Home Ministry is only meant for the Punjab and the Gorkhas. But apart from these issues, there are some other issues also. Since you are in the Chair, first of all, I shall start from my own State. As you are aware, it is the duty of the Ministry of Home Affairs also to pay attention towards the issues relating to linguistic minorities. Telugu has been made the official language in Andhra Pradesh. But there are minority communities also in the state whose languages is Urdu. When official language Act was formulated in 1966, the Government of Andhra Pradesh vide their G.O.No.427 had declared that Urdu would be given its due place. The above G.O.further said that in a State where 15 per cent Urdu speaking people lived, official correspondences in that State would be made in Urdu also. But now the Government of Andhra Pradesh vide their order says that all official correspondence will be made in Telugu only. Now the question that arises is where will the Urdu-speaking people go? What will be their future? The Government servants have been asked to pass a test in Telugu, failing which their services will be terminated. However, the said G.O.also made it obligatory for the Government servants to pass a test in Urdu also alongwith Telugu. But justice has not been done in this regard. All the schools having Urdu medium have been closed. In the Municipal Corporation of Hyderabad, 75 per cent people know Urdu. But the Government order directs that all the work in the Municipal Corporation will be done in Telugu. Violence is bad. I also say and want that there should be no terrorism. But where the people will go when such policies are adopted and they are pushed back? What should they do? Do we have any right or not? Finally, how long shall we bear the atrocities and for how long will the

Home Ministry watch the fun? All avenues of employment have been closed for us. It means that we are not the citizens of Andhra Pradesh. If this situation prevails, we shall ask for a separate state and separate language. Then the Government will say it to be a bad thing. Who creates these evils? This situation needs to be set right. When we open any institution, it is closed down and we are being entangled in litigation. When we open a medical institute or take up any other constructive work, the Government should encourage us. Instead, every effort is made to close them and scrap them. I would like to call upon Shri Buta Singh that we had come to him with a representation to provide teaching facilities to our children, at least in the C.R.P.F. hospital. I request him to consider our request. When all the doors of development are closed for us, what is the avenue open for us to march forward. I would like to cite an example. The State of Andhra Pradesh is experiencing shortage of power. But when Telugu films are shown, power supply becomes regular. This is the month of Ramzan. We sound sirens in the mosques. But at the time of sounding sirens, power supply is switched off. Why this discrimination? When we fight against it, we are called communalist, but nothing is being said to those who snatch away our rights. I fail to understand how to differentiate between nationalists and opportunists. Why this kind of treatment is being meted out only to us. I request the Government to intervene in the matter and solve it immediately. In addition to this, we find that the Muslims in Assam are very much in trouble. The Government should find a solution to the complications arising out of the recent Bill and ensure that no wrong is done to these people. Besides, we are the people who suffered a lot during the Meerut riots and we are the people who were arrested and put behind the bars. I appeal to the Government, at least, to release those people during the Ramzan month who have been detained under the National Security Act.

Today some people from Meerut had come to me and they were complaining that they were not being allowed to sound the siren. This is the Ramzan Month and, at least, this facility should be extended to them. This is a common feature in the whole of India. When the siren is sounded, it causes no harm to anybody. Let anybody check it by seeing his watch that the loud speakers fixed at the mosques are played for not more than two minutes, during the time the siren are sounded. Similarly, in order to check the recurrence of such riots, it was decided that Muslims in sufficient numbers would be inducted in C.R.P.F. and other police forces. I find in a number of issue that the Government takes action only when the matter goes out of control. Had steps been taken well in time, a number of issue would have been solved. I advise the Government to transfer the Babri Masjid. issue to the court. It will be the look out of the court to take a decision on this issue. It will be no way better if the issue is unnecessarily held up and tension created. Court's decision will be acceptable to all. All other issues should also be solved in this manner. I request Shri Buta Singh to pay attention towards the linguistic issue of Andhra Pradesh. If the Government calls for reports from Andhra Pradesh, it will come to know that camps for holding hunger strikes have been set up at various places. In the event of any disturbance taking place, there will be no use if the Government intervenes later. It is not a right course if a problem is solved after the people have suffered. It will be for better if the problem is solved before that you are ringing the bell again and again which is indication of the fact that I am speaking on Andhra Pradesh and you also belong to that State.

Hon. Minister of Home Affairs, you can well imagine from the following couplet of Iqbal.

“YAH DASTURE JAWAW BAND I HAI
TERI MEHFIL MEIN,
YAHAN TO BAAT KARINE KO

[Sh. Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi]

TARASATI HAI JUBAN MERI,
LEKIN MERI BAAT KO TUM KYA
SAMAJH SAKOGE,
TUMHARI JUBAN JUDA HAI."

Anyhow, Urdu is well understood in North India. I request you to pay attention towards this problem.

I shall conclude my speech within a minute after drawing your attention towards one more very important issue. A large number of people from our country have gone to Saudi Arabia. A person from Madras has started an enterprises called "Almijan Enterprises" there. He collected about Rs. 3 crores from the Indians living there and pocketed the whole amount. He swindled the money of the people from Hyderabad among whom there are poor people and widows. That man has so far duped the people to the tune of Rs. 27 crores all over the country and, thus, committed a fraud. I have received letters from several persons through our embassy there and I am sure that the hon. Minister of Home Affairs also must have received such letters. Almijan is a leather factory. I request the Government to hold a C.B.I. enquiry against the person who duped the Indians living in Saudi Arabia of Rs. 2.5 crores and people of Hyderabad and people from other parts of India of Rs. 27 crores. The said person looted the life long savings of the widows and committed a fraud to the tune of Rs. 27 crores. I request you to hold an immediate enquiry into this matter. With these words I express my thanks to you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

* SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Sir, I rise to support the demands of Ministry of Home Affairs. I take this opportunity to congratulate the hon. Minister Shri Buta Singh and his colleagues for run-

ning the affairs of the Home Ministry in a very efficient and competent manner. Shri Buta Singh is valiantly fighting the anti-national forces even at great risk to his life. I am sure all patriotic forces in the country will support him in this endeavour.

Sir, it is the duty of a Govt to provide safety to the life and property of the citizens. Although maintenance of law is a State subject the Centre will have to take action in certain respects. What should the Centre do when the State Govts are not discharging their responsibilities? I say this because I have in mind the goings-on in the State ruled by the Opposition parties. My friend sitting in the opposition here never tire of speaking about press freedom. Quite often they criticize the Govt in the name of press freedom. But let us see what is happening in States ruled by them. The attack on the press done by these people in Kerala on the day of Bharat Band had come up for discussion in this House. The Marxist goons attacked the managing editor of the prominent Malayalam daily, the Malayala Manorama, a paper which has completed a century of its existence. This was done because that paper exposes the misdeeds of the Marxists Govt in Kerala. So much for their love for press freedom. Similarly, the correspondence of other prominent daily the Matar Bhoomi were attacked at Kayankulam and Ettumanoor.

Not only that van carrying bundles of these papers was burnt completely at a place called Kunnankulam by the Marxist workers. This also shows their attitude towards press freedom. Only the other day when Calicut airport was being inaugurated the correspondent of Deshvhimani a CPM organ was assaulted by police men and when they complained to the Chief Minister he shouted at them and turned them out. On the day of the band Doordarshan Officials

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Malayalam.

were beaten up. This large scale violence was unleashed in Kerala. It does not lie in their mouths to criticize the Central Govt in the name of law and order problem. After the LDF Govt in power in Kerala 407 murders have taken place. Out of which 24 are political murders. People who do not belong to the Marxist party have no security of life. Even the other constituents of LDF have no safety. Let alone the opposition parties. How many workers of the CPI have been attacked and how many their houses are burnt. Thus there is no security of life and property of the common man in Kerala.

Sir, protection of harijans, is the duty of the Central Govt. When the Janata party was in power at the Centre large scale violence was unleashed against the harijans with the blessings of a certain constituency of Janta party. Then the late Smt. Indira Gandhi used to rush to all those places where harijans were subjected to attack to console them and wipe their tears. That is the culture of the Congress party. It is a matter of concern that the same kind of violence is being unleashed against the harijans in some States. One peculiarity of this violence is that it is taking place in the opposition ruled States. In Andhra Pradesh the harijans were massacred. In Karnataka a harijan youth was tied to a tree and was made to eat human excreta. What is more even in a State like Kerala which is maintaining high levels of literacy and culture. A harijan youth was beaten up mercilessly and was made to eat human excreta. Do you know who has done it? The young men belonging to the CPM. What a reprehensible act it is. Not only that today the harijan women are not safe in the streets of Kerala. It is during the Marxists rule that the largest number of harijan women have been raped. Out of 174 rape cases 46 cases were of harijan women. This situation should not be allowed to continue. Protection of harijans is an article of faith, for the Congress party. When that party is in power at the Centre it

should not remain a passive spectator to all this. I therefore, request that a CBI Inquiry should be ordered into the attack on the harijan youth and all such incidents. I also request the Centre to take steps to ensure protection to the life of harijans and other weaker sections in Kerala.

When we evaluate the performance of the Home Ministry during the past one year we will find that this Ministry has taken effective steps to maintain peace in the country and to face the challenges facing the country. Many important steps have been taken to solve the Punjab problem. Punjab problem is basically a political one and therefore it has to be solved politically. At the same time all effective steps should be taken to check terrorists violence. Of course, the Govt has adopted such an approach towards this problem. On this occasion I congratulate the Govt for taking stern steps against the terrorists yesterday due to which 10 notorious terrorists were killed. It is a matter of great concern that the terrorists are getting stinger missiles which were supplied to Mujahidins in Afghanistan by America. These missiles are being transferred to the Punjab extremists by Pakistan. I urge upon the Govt to take effective steps to counter this threat. At the same time earnest efforts should be made to find a political solution to the Punjab problem.

Another point is about the Mandal Commission report Sir, the backward classes constitute a major segment of India's population. But their representation in Central services is very inadequate. The Mandal Commission has made valuable suggestions to remedy this situation. One of the suggestions is to provide reservations in Central services for the backward classes. The Central services even today are the monopoly of the upper castes. The reason is that the backward classes are not getting equal opportunities. In order that they get equal opportunities reservation and other

[Sh. V.S. Vijayaraghayan]

facilities should be provided to them. I request the Govt to accept the Mandal Commission's recommendations in principle. Details could be worked out later. I urge upon the Govt to announce at the earliest the Govt's decision accepting the recommendations of this commission.

Now, I come to the list of Scheduled Castes. People have been demanding that the list should be amended. There are complaints that many deserving communities have been left out of the list and many undeserving people have been included in it. That shows that there are many anomalies in this list. There is a demand from the Kudimbi and Peruvam communities in Kerala that they should be included in the list of Scheduled caste. These communities are suffering from serious social educational and economic disabilities. therefore, I request that these two communities should be included in the scheduled castes. I reiterate that the list should be amended as quickly as possible.

I want to say a word about the freedom fighters. The late Indiraji had introduced a pension scheme in honour of the freedom fighters which has proved very useful. This is so because a large number of freedom fighters were living in poverty. That situation has changed now. However, there are still a large number of freedom fighters who have not got pension so far. Many representations reach us in this connection. In Kerala a large number of freedom fighters are still to get pension. In many cases requests have been rejected merely on technical grounds. The Govt must reexamine this matter. The main point is that the freedom fighters who won us freedom should not be denied pension. Therefore, I strongly urge upon the Govt to take steps to provide pension to all those freedom fighters who have not got it yet. I once again support the demands and conclude my speech.

SHRI MOHD.MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN(Etah): Mr.Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving my turn to Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi of Andhra Pradesh. Anyway, I have no objection to your doing so, but Syed Saheb should bear it in mind that a Pathan takes care of a Syed. Whatever you did was right.

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: These very *Pathans* kill the *Syed* and build his grave in their House after showing hospitality .

SHRI MOHD.MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: I thank you for giving him time. A long debate has been going on or the Grants of the Home Ministry. Every morning, one reads in newspaper about the heavy toll of life being taken in Punjab. The situation in Punjab is indeed baffling. When we talk to a commoner in the street, he says that he is sorry but the Government is extremely coward and lacks courage. Even the illiterate people in the hotels and on the platform are ready to say this openly. There is no reason why the Government cannot set things right. But one is unable to understand the policy of the Government and the reason why the Punjab issue remains unsolved as yet. I feel that this issue can be solved if the Government so wishes. You should call the representatives of the Sikh community and the leaders of Punjab for talks. If a meeting is arranged between them and the opposition leaders with the Home Minister and the Prime Minister representing the Government side, then, perhaps, this issue can be solved.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFLOOR(Siwan):
With whom should we hold talks?

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Should we talk with the terrorists?

SHRI MOHD.MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN:
There is no question of terrorists. You should release the Jodhpur detenus. You are your-

self fanning the fire. The whole issue can be solved once you decide to release the detenus. Mr. Ghafoor, even the most complex issues can be resolved.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR: Would you like to solve it?

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: First let me take the charge of Government and then see as to how quickly we settle the Punjab issue.

There are various other problems too. It is always difficult to solve big issues but the issue of Babri Masjid is very small one. It is altogether different if we are following the "Divide and rule" — policy of the Britishers, which they left behind as their legacy. I am not concerned whether the leaders are fighting about it or else are making political capital out of it but this issue can certainly be solved. Whatever be the views of the people on this issue, leave this issue to the decided by the court. Whatever decision the court gives should be acceptable. I do not say as to whom does Babri Masjid and Ram Janam Bhoomi belong; you should leave it all to the court. The riots in this country take place only due to weakness of the Government. These riots can be avoided if the Government takes strict actions and views things in a just manner. Atrocities were committed even in Maliana and Hashimpura. Who was responsible for it? It was P.A.C. who did this. Had this not happened, the Hindu-Muslim riot in Meerut would have never taken place. It is the P.A.C. which indulged in loot. Would you kindly tell me as to how many people were punished there? When riots took place in Ahmedabad, Shri Chidambaram had said in the House that he would take to task the officials who indulged in excesses.

What should I say about Meerut where 200 people are still missing. The month of Ramzan has started today. It was last year during the month of Ramzan that these

people were detained under the National Security Act and they are still in detention. These people should be released. They should be seen with the eye of justice and justice should be meted out to minority community.

The issue of loudspeakers going on in Meerut should also be solved. These loud speakers are installed only for one to one-and-a-half month in order to make it convenient for the people to reach the place to offer namaaz. Provocative speeches on the loudspeakers which may hurt the sentiments of any religion should be avoided. Loud speaker is installed both in temples as well as mosques. So I would like to know as to why has the restriction should be imposed in the mosque of Meerut alone? This restriction should be imposed either on both the places of worship or else it should be removed from the mosques also because they are both places of worship. The people of Meerut are highly agitated over this issue.

Forty years have passed since India achieved its independence. A number of eminent persons sacrificed their lives in this pursuit. There is no one to pay heed to the voice of those freedom fighters who have not been able to get pension even today. The people of my constituency have complained to me against this. Those people who went till the gates of the prison, greased the palm of the jailer and managed to get a certificate to the effect that they had undergone jail term ranging from 2 to 3 months before independence are getting freedom fighters' pension. You will find hundreds of cases in which pension is drawn in this manner. But there is none to listen to those who had really shed their blood for the cause of independence but are now lying in a secluded corner.

Regarding the police, my submission is that you should open a school where they may learn refined language. Today the Sub-Inspectors and the S.H.Os talk very rough

[Sh. Mohd. Mahfooz Ali Khan] language and give a shabby treatment to the person who comes to file an F.I.R. I would like to narrate an incident here. A Sub-Inspector incharge of Police Station Sidpura in district Etah asked a Muslim to get out since he was a Muslim and a 'Katua' (circumcised). I complained against this to the S.S.P. but no action was taken. On the one hand, the 15 point programme of Shrimati Indira Gandhi aimed at the minority community is running and on the other hand, such a treatment is being given by the police to the minority community.

The bribe market is riding very high now-a-days and, therefore, the salary you pay to the policemen should be stopped because it is a sheer waste. They know that so and so person has committed a murder. Yet they let him go and instead book an innocent in the case. There are some shortcomings in our law as well as in the I.P.C. and C.P.P.C. If an I.O. frees an accused in any case, the S.S.P. understands that the former has taken bribe, but he never takes any action against him. In Delhi, the rape and other crimes are being committed only due to our own weakness and that of our Government. I would request you that you should follow the decision of the court whether it is the case of Babri Masjid or anything else related to the minority community. Shri Panigrahi is present here. I would request him that representatives should not be called for talks at all since they aim at gaining their own popularity and try to make political capital. So he should not listen to anyone whether it is Mr. Syed Shahabuddin or Shri Gilani and let the case be decided by the court.

On the other hand is the issue of Meerut in which the innocent are still facing prosecution the poor in Hashimpura have not yet been given compensation and 200 people are missing. I dare say that 5 persons were taken to Fatehgarh Jail, which falls in my

constituency, and were killed there. Under such conditions, you must understand that since the minority also lives here, the Government will face tough task as the elections are round the corner. Therefore, I request you to make efforts to find out a just solution to the issues facing the minority.

[English]

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA (Aahmedabad): Sir, I rise to support the Demands placed before this august House by the hon. Minister of Home Affairs. Sir, I am conscious that the Ministry of Home Affairs has been working round the clock and round the calendar under great stress and strain and we are particularly grateful to the Home Minister, Sardar Buta Singh ji, for working for the defence of the country and national unity even at the cost of his personal status in the content of religion and the lives of his own Kinsmen. I hope this spirit should be limbed by all of us.

Sir, as I said, we are working under great stress and strain especially because of the increased anti-national and criminal activities of the extremists under the patronage of foreign and the Indian de-stabilizing forces. Sir, the communal violence, and the increased efforts to create communal divide in the country, is also causing a great concern, the report of the Home Ministry notes that during the period under review, the communal situation in the country remained comparatively peaceful except for the riots in U.P., Gujarat and Delhi During April to June 1987. But I must alert the Government against any possible complacency on this front. There is no room for complacency so far as the communal situation in this country is concerned. Sir, we may not have seen many occurrences of active combat on communal basis as was so last year or years before. But nevertheless subterranean currents of communal hatred ought not to be overlooked. That can be overlooked only at the cost of our communal harmony. Only last

week, we noted what consternation was caused in Meerut on the issue of Loud-speaker. I am not here to analyse the validity of the action of the State Government on that issue. But the fact that it did create consternation and a near riot situation was seen near Delhi Gate, in Meerut, shows how the situation is still surcharged with communal passions.

In my State, Gujarat, the situation is of law and order and in particular communal front causes grave concern. Sir, on the communal situation, I may pointed out that from June 1986 to June 1987, communal riots took place at 50 places in Gujarat. This is not a small phenomenon. In Ahmedabad itself 12 times, Bharuch — 7 times, in Nadiad — 4 times, in Palampur — 3 times, in Lunawada, Anand, Himmatnagar, Dhansura, Gondal and Bhavnagar — 2 times each at these places, and at the remaining places totalling 40 places spread over various places of Gujarat once. The important thing is, the very perturbing development is, hitherto the rural areas of Gujarat were not involved in communal tensions except some unfortunate events in 1969. But in these series of communal riots even the rural areas are not spared. Sir, Khera district, Baroda district and other rural areas were also brought into the flame of communal tension and that is on account of Ramjanmabhoomi Mukti Vivad and other things. Sir, wherever the rath of Ramjanmabhoomi Mukti inspired by Vishwa Hindu Parishad and other Hindu communal forces, went, into rural areas of Gujarat. It was followed by violence. So the very perturbing development that is engulfing the rural areas in communal riots is the development in Gujarat which cannot be overlooked. Shri Panigrahi visited Gujarat after this and I have already drawn your attention to this. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the communal situation in India, whether at Meerut or Ahmedabad or at other places, shows that what is at danger is not not A religion or B religion but secularism.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGARHI): What we have said in the Report is that it is now normalised.

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA: Therefore, I am pointing out with great respect to you, Sir, that the sub-terranean currents are still there and therefore, many more things are required. What is at peril is not A religion or B religion in India At peril today is secularism. Sir, I shall feel grateful and the nation will feel obliged to the Home Ministry if more attempts are made and all efforts are concentrated at saving secularism which is going to be the first casualty if we do not take sufficient care on this front and that is because obscurantism and fundamentalism of various religious shades is on the ascendancy in India. We should not develop cold feel when it comes to fighting obscurantism. In the matter of Sati, for instance, undoubtedly vigilant steps were taken by the Rajasthan Government and the Central Government to curb the evil. However, when it comes to glorify Sati, when Sankaracharya comes and glorifies Sati, what action we have taken? But I was more shocked when an official organ of the Gujarat government published certain materials to glorify the practice of Sati. I have drawn the attention of the Central Government stating that in an issue of Gujarat magazine published by the Information Department of the Gujarat Government, they have published a picture of Sati—I will put it on the Table of the House. What is this, if not glorifying the practice of Sati? Several articles are published in Gujarat, in the same weekly, the same periodical of Gujarat, which have a tendency to create prejudice against minority Muslim community in the name of publication of novels, in the name of publication of history, and one report in the same magazine, that is, Gujarat government's Gujarat, says that Ramjanmabhoomi is as pious to Hindus in India as Kabha is to Muslims all over the

[Sh. Haroobhai Mehta]

world and should be handed over to Hindus. Should the Government magazine be a party to inflaming communal passions? I have already drawn the attention of the Home Ministry and the hon. Prime Minister, and I am sure necessary action must have been under contemplation. But what I am pointing out is—I am not using this platform to make a complaint against any Government, but what I am trying to point out is the total lack of awareness in certain quarters about the need to protect secularism, to fight obscurantism and to promote rational thought in India. We should indicate such feelings in all our established agencies and Government, whether it be ruled by A party or B party. All of us should rise together to protect secularism and fight obscurantism to the best of our capacity. That is why, writing to the Prime Minister I have stated that when a Government magazine publishes and becomes a party to it it is worse. I have told the Prime Minister:

Anyakshetra kritam papam teer-
thkshetre Vinashyati Teerth kshetre
kritam papam vajraeepo bhavishyati.

Sir, when the private communal organisations print something or private media print something which is capable of inflaming the feelings of one community against another causing prejudices, it is worse. But it is still worse and it can never be effected if the State agency also indulges in that. Therefore, Sir, more is required to be done on this front.

The savage system of Sati cannot be permitted to be glorified on the strength of any religious sect also. Sir, in this connection, what has been stated by Sartre is important. Jean Paul Sartre said: The greatest evil was to convert concert crimes into abstraction. There are crimes of forgiving and understanding, which are crimes also.

17.00 hrs.

Glorifying Sati in the name of abstraction forgetting that it is a most cruel form of murder, just by putting it on the plane of religious practices and traditions and then try to glorify it is the worst crime. I think, the Home Ministry must come forward with an amendment to Indian Penal Code where a husband kills wife, or any person kills any person who is in custody, under his fiduciary capacity, some person sacrificing children at the altar of religious belief, or obscurantist belief, and all these things should be viewed seriously and amendment should be brought to Section 302 that whenever a person kills somebody in his fiduciary capacity, capital punishment must be considered obligatory, in such cases. Otherwise, you will never be able to curb such obscurantist crimes by just applying penal code in a cool air-conditioned chamber, as the judiciary does today, as was pointed out rightly by somebody regarding the attitude of the judiciary.

One more thing I must point out is the law and order situation. The law and order situation in Gujarat has also to be viewed from some other angle. There are numerous incidents of dacoities. It was stated on the floor of the House of the Assembly that about 41 dacoities took place in Chhota Udaipur area, a state border taluka area which concerns the Central Government jurisdiction also. In one taluk only, 41 dacoities took place, comprising 40 villages where the dacoits come from Madhya Pradesh crossing the border. This was disclosed in the Gujarat Assembly. (*Interruptions.*)

Similarly, there is maltreatment of Harijans and adivasis. An adivasi lady was raped and murdered and the matter had to be investigated under orders of the Supreme Court. Similarly, there is maltreatment of Harijans. One very important aspect is untouchability which is still rampant in my

State. Only today, in a newsletter in *The Times of India*, it is published:

"A man stood at the cash counter in a bank wanting to encash a cheque. The Cashier handed his money but the man would not take it. He asked the cashier to put it on the counter, took out a bottle from his bag, sprinkled some water on the notes and then pocketed the money. The cashier happens to be of Scheduled Caste."

This is what happened in a nationalised bank in Gujarat. Gujarat is unfortunately one of the most caste-ridden societies and therefore these things happened. The Central Government should not overlook this. In order to protect the legitimate interests of Harijans and adivasis and minorities, the Central Government should kindly look into this with the promptitude with which it is always credited with.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: You know, we have a Chief Minister in Gujarat, who is belonging to Scheduled Tribes.

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA: An adivasi lady was murdered after being raped and the Supreme Court had to intervene. The mere fact that a person or a Government leader belongs to a particular community will not necessarily help that particular community. Social awareness is necessary, not merely belonging to a particular community.

Similarly, you see the application of Prevention of Terrorism Act in Gujarat. Between 1-1-1986 and 25-11-1987, 1843 people were arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. After Punjab, Gujarat has the highest incidence of application of Prevention of Terrorism Act. It is not because Gujarat is the second highest State affected by terrorism but because of the misapplication of Prevention of Terrorism Act. Out of the people arrested under the Prevention of

Terrorism Act 1200 people had to be released immediately, some of the people arrested happened to be workers of Reliance Industry who were engaged in trade union struggle against the management. They were arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

Many Rajkot citizens were arrested under Anti-Terrorism Act because they were engaged in a struggle against Government for transferring a Municipal Commissioner from Rajkot to Ahmedabad. Those innocent citizens were arrested under Anti-Terrorism Act. Is it not the responsibility of the Central Government to curb misuse of Anti-Terrorism Act in any State? I have already drawn the attention of the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to this.

Now I would like to refer to Bomb explosions.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Very good.

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA: I say something and you like to exploit it. But when I speak to the House, I cannot have anything up the sleeves. That is why I am speaking.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We admire your courage.

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA: Bomb explosions in Gujarat State are said to be the highest in India this year. This can be checked up. But as far as figures are concerned, 110 bomb explosions involving loss of 15 lives took place between June, 1986 and June, 1987. Those who are involved in the offence happen to belong to both the communities. Some communal organisations tried to attribute all the bomb explosions to a particular community. It is not so. In Gujarat, it is found that people belonging to different communities are involved in bomb explosions. Of course, it so happened

[Sh. Haroobhai Mohta]
 that sometimes the victims also belonged to the minority community and those arrested in that connection also belonged to the minorities. But that is different, Suppression of minorities is no way to solve communal riots. We have ultimately to educate people and we have to remember the voice of Shrimati Indira Gandhi who said while addressing the Fourth National Convention Against Communalism, New Delhi, December 12, 1970:—

" Communal hatred is a poisonous weed that takes no time to grow, once the seed is planted. It can sprout even amongst good people. As we found during the communal riots, there were large number of innocent people who lived on the best of terms with their neighbors and worked together. But once the poison was spread, they forgot all about their having been good neighbours and having helped one another and that their children had played together. They forgot all that. It is our duty to clean the places where the poison has spread; and where poison has not spread, to ensure that it will not spread. It is only if we do this that India can be strong and a beautiful place to live in."

We have to take preventive measures not merely in the States where communal riots take place but in all the States. Have we taken any preventive measures against communal propaganda or against creation of communal prejudice? Answers is disappointing no. Have we taken any special measures to prevent the propaganda of communal virus or communal hatred? No. We have not brought any special measure, legislative or otherwise, to curb communal propaganda. Communal propaganda must also be treated as a very heinous crime just as communal violence is treated.

Many more vigilant steps are required

to be taken to curb communal violence. Otherwise, we will have to lament together that secularism has died in this country. Before that moment comes, there is still time left and we should do all that is possible to curb communal propaganda and communal organisations so that communal harmony becomes the order of the day and communal violence can never take place in our country.

I have also drawn the attention of the State Government where certain magazines which are being edited by Hindu Viswa Parishad are spreading communal violence against Muslims. Unfortunately no action has been taken. But when certain intellectuals wrote in an academic magazine pointing out certain things relating to a Hindu act in a given historical period, prompt prosecutions were made against those intellectuals. National newspapers have criticised it. I only appeal that Central Government should impress on all Governments that we should be vigilant in taking action against all magazines or newspapers or publications which work to propagate communal hatred against any particular community whether it is A community or B community. All these things tell us that there is no room for complacency.

Even the Administration have to be made more committed to the cause of secularism. But, unfortunately, the Administration does not listen to the Government. The Government there i.e. the Government of Gujarat, had to issue two circulars and one of the circulars pointed out that Officers are bound to obey the orders of the Ministers. But they are not carrying out such orders. Therefore, the Chief Secretary to the Government of Gujarat had issued a circular pointing out that officers must obey the orders of the Ministers. Another circular had to be issued by the same Chief Secretary to point out that the Chief Minister is also a Minister. Therefore, whenever the Chief Minister and the Ministers visit the District Headquarters and other places, all the offi-

cers concerned must call on them so that on-the-spot decisions can be taken..... (Interruptions) Yes, this thing had to be pointed out by the Chief Secretary that the Chief Minister is also a Minister. I am particularly addressing the Personnel Wing of the Home Ministry that IAS Officers and Cadres must be asked to work in cooperation with the Government in order to implement the policies and programmes of the Government. Otherwise, if this bureaucracy is not controlled, then it will become a Frankenstein in which we will never be able to control.

With these words and with reiteration of words of appreciation for the work and herculean service rendered by our hon. Home Minister Sardar Buta Singh Ji, I support the Demands for Grants of the Home Ministry.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI:
Mr.Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you that I am given this opportunity to intervene in the debate.

17.12 hrs.

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

Mr.Deputy -Speaker, Sir, some hon.Members, in the course of the discussion, have raised the question of pension to our Freedom Fighters. So, I take this opportunity to put before this House what steps we have taken in this regard and how we have further liberalised the pension cases of Freedom Fighters during the last one-and-a-half years. Sir, till today, we have sanctioned pension to about 1,45,000 Freedom Fighters and now we are paying about Rs.60 crores on account of pension every year. To facilitate the Freedom Fighters, their cases are liberally considered. We have appointed Special Screening Committees. One such Screening Committee is called the Hyderabad Special Screening Committee. We have sanctioned 5,583 cases out of their recom-

mended cases; others are being processed. We have appointed another Committee to look into the cases of Freedom Fighters who were working under the Arya Samaj, which is called Arya Samaj Movement Committee. We have appointed a committee to scrutinize the cases. We have appointed another committee to scrutinize the cases of I.N.A. people. As some Members were suggesting, we have also appointed another Committee for West Bengal and the concurrence of the Committee Members is awaited. We are waiting for the approval and their acceptance to serve in the Committee. After that, they may also start functioning. So, by this process we have also asked the Accountant-Generals that whenever a freedom Fighter is dead, automatically if the widow gives the succession certificate, then they need not come to the Government and it will be cleared by the Accountant — General's office in the respective states. But even then, many of the widows have applied to the Central Government and the Home Ministry has cleared about 700 cases of Widows' pension till this time. The last date for sending applications for Freedom Fighters pension was 31st March 1982. But we found that there were some important Freedom Fighters, eminent Freedom Fighters who really did not apply. Then, we tried to find out if they are surviving so that we shall try to give them *suo motu* honour. Our Prime Minister has desired this thing with his direction, we have almost cleared the names of 97 eminent Freedom Fighters. That was placed before this House. I have also been repeatedly asking the hon. Members to give the names of such freedom fighters who were in jail for the cause of freedom for long years and preferred not to apply. Mr.Zainul Basher has pointed out that there are some freedom fighters who have undergone imprisonment for five or six years, but they have not applied. We are searching for those who are surviving. We are trying to make a second list, and if we can get such names, we will try, but formally they have to write....

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: I have sent a number of letters to you about freedom fighters. There are freedom fighters who are relations of officers and they have been sanctioned within four days, but there are cases which are going on for years together..... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHINTAMNI PANIGRAHI: For facilitating disposal of cases speedily I have already opened one file for each hon. Member. Whatever applications they are giving, I am calling the files and I am discussing the matters with them. Sometimes we discuss....

DR.D.N.REDDY (Cuddapah): We are not even getting acknowledgement for our letters. Personally I have delivered them.... (*Interruptions*)

MR.DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let the Minister have his say. Please sit down.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: I am daily writing about 50 acknowledgement letters in respect of freedom fighters. Suppose one acknowledgement letter has not been received. Please tell us. We will examine that point.

Therefore, the Scheme has been very much liberalised. 70,000 cases were rejected in 1986 — August 14, for speedy disposal of cases. Then, the non-official Advisory Committee requested the Government saying that there might have been rejections by mistake also and, therefore, the option for appeal be given. So, the option for appeal was given to the freedom fighters, and we have got only 9,000 applications for review. Out of those 9,000 applications, we have by now cleared about 5,000 applications including old and new genuine cases. Therefore, very speedily we are clearing genuine cases. If there is any doubt, we are calling them, we are meeting them; every file, we are discussing and if there is any

genuine case, there is no question of delaying; immediately we sanction it. But there are some cases. Some friends have written that they had undergone a jail period of three months. But we have fixed the guidelines; there must be a jail period of either six months or above. Mr. Zainul Basher suggested that the suffering should not be decided by the standard of six months. But that is the guideline which was fixed in 1972 when the non-official Advisory Committee consisted of most eminent freedom fighters like Pandit Kamalapati Tripathi and others.....

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: You are competent to change the guidelines.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: We have changed; three times, we have changed: once for Harijans, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. If it is a woman freedom fighter, we have reduced it to three months. IN the case of those who remained underground — they had represented — what we have done is, we have told them, "We must know that suffering was there; if a freedom fighter belonging to that district knows that you had undergone suffering, that certificate will be alright". In many cases as you have suggested, gun injuries were there; they were fired upon and some were incapacitated. There also, we are sanctioning. Maybe, some cases have not come to our notice. As you said, technical mistakes might be their, they might be finding out whether it is complete incapacitation or something like that...

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA: There are difficulties in the case of refugees who have come from Sind. There is no evidence available from Pakistan Jail. Freedom fighters are so much separated from one another that they do not have contact with persons who had remained with him in a jail together. There are such cases of Sindis in my constituency; I have pointed out certain cases. Some relaxation of evidence is required in

their cases.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: These cases came to our notice; freedom fighters who were in Pakistan jails could not submit their certificates because they were not available. In the case of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir, what we did was, we had a separate Committee, so that, if those who know their cases recommended, "Yes; we know they had undergone suffering", we could take it for granted, and we have sanctioned. In West Bengal also, many freedom fighters were in Chittagong jail or in Bangladesh jail. Therefore, we have appointed a Committee and we have included in the Committee those who are still living like Shri Ganesh Ghosh. If they know these people, it is alright; it is not necessary for those people to get the record from the jail in Bangladesh.

We liberalised all these things. Because of this, many of the eminent freedom fighters who could not get this opportunity of getting pension, many of these cases are being exonerated. You can go and ask any freedom fighter in any part of the country that how the consideration has been liberalised. Our Prime Minister has always shown his sympathy for the freedom fighters and therefore with his support and encouragement we are doing our best to help every genuine freedom fighter for getting pension. For Sind cases we have also appointed a special committee (*Interruptions.*)

PROF.SAIFUDDIN SOZ(Baramulla): Last time, you sanction *suo moto* pension to 97 freedom fighters. That is a laudable thing. But you dropped two very eminent persons from Jammu and Kashmir State. One is Late Sufi Mohammed Akbar, who would not accept it even if you had sanction it. That person said: "I would not sell my sacrifice." The other living freedom fighter is Maulana Mohammad Sayeed Masoodi who was a personal friend of Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru.

You have dropped these two from the list. There is a lacuna in it. Your office should keep you fully informed. I think, your office has not kept you informed (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: I think, we are not depending on this information (*Interruptions*)

PROF.SAIFUDDIN SOZ: There are very eminent people, freedom fighters.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Because we opened this chapter, you say that two men have been left out (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI (Srinagar): They are genuine freedom fighters from Jammu and Kashmir. Because we are the representative of the people, mostly people come to us. They tell us about their agonies. I say with confidence that most of the genuine freedom fighters have been ignored so far. And there are many so-called freedom fighters who have been given freedom fighters pension.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Regarding Jammu and Kashmir, I may tell you that we went all the way to appoint a separate Committee for screening the cases of freedom fighters. You know what happened? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: I am not satisfied ... (*Interruptions*) It should be all-party screening committee. I must tell you that even the National Conference, the ruling party in the J&K, has been ignored so far. (*Interruptions*)

PROF.SAIFUDDIN SOZ: That committee should be disbanded. How could Sufi Mohammad Akbar and Maulana Masoodi be ignored? May be Maulana Masoodi accepts the pension if you offer because he lives in financial difficulties (*Interruptions*.)

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: The Committee that was appointed went through all the applications and the Committee was divided over recommended these members. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: Kindly go through this because Kashmiris have given great sacrifices during the freedom struggle. Unfortunately, the genuine and real freedom fighters like Maulana Masoodi and Mohammad Akbar and scores of others have been ignored. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: What I am referring to you is that we went all the way out to see the genuine freedom fighters in J & K get pension. We know their sacrifices. They said: "You appoint this Committee." The Committee was appointed and all the freedom fighters were there and then the Committee recommended. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: Kindly take Members of Parliament into confidence.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Would you like to see the list?

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: Yes.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: You come to the office. *(Interruptions)*

MR.DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I do not want any discussion with the Members.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Therefore, what I was submitting was that we had been very liberal in the finalisation....

(Interruptions)

MR.DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr.Mohanty, please, I am not allowing. Please take your

seat. I allow the Minister to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR.DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr.Mohanty, please take your seat. Whatever Mr.Mohanty says, nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)***

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: So far as freedom fighters are concerned, they are actually.. *(Interruptions)*

MR.DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)***

MR.DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have not permitted you to put the question.

*(Interruptions)***

PROF.SAIFUDDIN SOZ: It is a controversial matter. That earlier committee should be disbanded.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: As I said, we appointed that Committee and if you don't accept that Committee, what can I do?

PROF.SAIFUDDIN SOZ: As for the suo-motto pension, you dropped the tallest of the freedom fighters — Shri Mohd.Akbar and Maulana Mohd. Sayeed Masoodi. Sufi Mohd.Akbar would not even accept the pension... *(Interruptions)...*

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: If you have got any names, you please send us the list. We will examine it. *(Interruptions)*

MR.DEPUTY SPEAKER: I cannot allow anything to go on record.

*(Interruptions)***

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: So far as facilities to freedom fighters are concerned, recently many freedom fighters wanted to go to Andaman and Nicobar to see the cellular jail. We have given them facilities to travel. They will be going there by ship. They will get all the facilities for staying in Andaman and Nicobar as well as the return journey.

About the railway passes, many freedom fighters have put up the case to us. When Indiraji was there, she said that at least for one year passes should be given so that they could see the whole of the country to see what has happened after independence. Again that period has been extended. The last date for filling of applications was 1982. When the review petitions came, we said all right we shall review those applications which were rejected. This is a continuous process of review. So far as medical facilities are concerned, almost all the freedom fighters will get the same facilities as a Class I officer in any Central Government hospital. We have extended that facility to the hospitals under public undertakings. We have also written to the State Government to extend the same facilities to freedom fighters as we are extending to them here.

Freedom fighters were getting state pension. That is what Mr. Mehta had pointed out. They have also increased the state pension. They were getting Rs. 100 or Rs. 200; now they have increased it to Rs. 400. Previously the state pension was being deducted from the central pension. What Indira ji did was that she said that the state pension was separate and the central pension was separate and therefore it was increased to Rs. 500. Now the freedom fighters get about Rs. 900 both from the State and the central pensions. We are not deducting anything.

So far as the appointment of freedom fighters' sons are concerned, the State

Government have been requested that they must give priority. At least they must reserve 1% or 2% so that freedom fighters' sons get jobs. In the case of widows and the unmarried daughters also we are giving pensions.

The Central Government is also extending help to those freedom fighters who are in great distress to get their daughters married. These are all the facilities that we have extended to the freedom fighters.

Now, many freedom fighters have represented that their pension should be increased to Rs. 750 p.m. and the facility of railway pass be extended by another year. This question is under consideration of the Government but we have seen that out of 1.45 lakh Central pension holders only 50,000 freedom fighters availed of this railway pass facility. Therefore, we have again advertised on the radio and the Press that those freedom fighters who did not avail of this opportunity can avail of this opportunity of one year pass. As regards the question of extending it by one more year and also increasing the pension by Rs. 250 this matter is under consideration of the Government. When the Cabinet approves of this then the hon. Members will come to know about it.

Sir, we are very very clear on these things. We have liberal views on this and wherever we find genuine freedom fighter has been left, as has been pointed out by Prof. Soz, we will look into that. We are preparing a second list. We shall do our best to see that no eminent freedom fighter is left out. The facilities we are extending to the freedom fighters do not mean such. It is only acknowledging their participation.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduars): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I should like to draw the attention of the Home Minister to the order issued under the Constitution of India. I draw the attention of the Minister to the scheduled areas part (b) State order 50 —

[Sh. Piyus Tiraky]
Constitution order No.26. I read:

" In exercise of the power conferred by said para 1 of paragraph 6 of the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India the President is pleased to make the following order, namely:

This order may be called the Scheduled Area part (b) State order 50".

There is a list of the scheduled areas in this order but you are not at all taking any head of this order. This is the Government of India declaration. Government is cheating these people by not giving them their rights which are already there in the Constitution. I should not like to go into the details. You can find here all the names and areas denoted in the Constitution itself.

In Article 3 it says: "Any reference in the preceding paragraph to a territorial division by whatever name indicated shall be construed either reference to the territorial division of that name existing in the type of this order."

Next I should like to draw the attention to the Constitutional order No 102. This speaks of scheduled areas Himachal Pradesh order 1975 which also speaks there is order there that certain areas which have been already constitutionally earmarked must have a self—government there. So in that Article the same thing is there: "Any reference to preceding paragraph of territorial division by whatever name indicated shall be construed as reference to the territorial division of that name existing in the commencement of this order."

Similarly, order No.109 — the Scheduled Areas of States of Bihar, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa, 1977.

The Government of India has already

pronounced so many rights which are written in the Constitution. The Government is trying to cheat these people of their political power just because of their ignorance. So, it is time that they should not be fooled any more. Whatever rights have been laid down in the constitution, they should be protected. Since I do not have much time at my disposal, I will not be able to cover all the points mentioned here. You please go around with your officers and see how the people have been cheated of their political rights. We have highlighted the problems of the people belonging to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes several times. They must be give political rights in case you want to uplift these people and want to bring them into the mainstream of the country.

A number of complaints are received from the areas like Chota Nagpur, Santal Parganas and other areas of Orissa and Madhya Pradesh. They want political rights like other people. You should not feel ashamed of your failures. I once again appeal to you to come forward with a Bill so that these people are given their political rights in their own interest, in the interest of unity and integrity of the country.

[Translation]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA(Sangrur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have already expressed my views on Punjab on two or three occasions. Today I want to raise a very important matter which was earlier raised by my colleague Shri Tripathi also. There are a number of such tribes and castes in India which have not yet been given the status of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe.

In this context I want to submit that such a situation is developing in the country that these tribes might think of creating a problem at any time out of jealousy and heart burning. I want to submit that it is on record that All

India Nomadic Tribe Welfare Society had submitted a memorandum with the request to include these nomads in the Schedule Tribes. The hon. Prime Minister has given them an assurance to this effect. Recently a committee of Ministers has been formed which too has been told That there are 127 synonyms and 17 sub-groups of the nomadic community which should be included in the list of Scheduled Tribes. A joint Parliamentary Committee was formed for this purpose but nothing has been done for them. I say it in forceful words that the nomadic community should be included in the list of Scheduled Tribes. Their city which is known by the name of Tanda....

PROF.N.G.RANGA(Guntur): Balmiki,

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Yes, the Balmikis should also be included.

Now that the hon.Deputy leader has ordered, something will be done. The condition of Tanda is such that the facilities of water, housing roads, schools, electricity are not yet available there. My submission is that arrangements should be made to this effect and loans should be given to them without insisting for a guarantee and the facility of *Panchayat* should be provided to them wherever their population exceeds 250.

Hon. Minister mentioned just now that Shrimati Gandhi used to say that the freedom fighters should tour the country. If they do so they will see the situation of the country and find that even today these people are wandering in the jungles. Thus, the nation will realize that nothing substantial is being done for them.

One more thing that I want to bring to the notice of the Government is that a memorandum from All India Tapriwas Vimukta Jateez Federation was given to the Government. This has been brought to me also. The four

Home Ministers, namely Giani Zail Singh, P.C.Sethi, Shri S.B.Chavan and Shri Buta Singh besides hon. Speaker Shri Balram Jakhar have during their respective tenures assured them that they would also be included in the Scheduled Tribes according to the demands of All India Tapriwas Vimukta Jateez Federation. It was given to understand that the Raisikh, Baijigar, Sikligar, Gadaria, Nayak, Changar, Banjara, Sapera, Jogi, Sansi, Bauria, Bangali, Bherkut, Nat, Gandhila etc. will also be included in it.

I appeal that these concessions should be made available to those people who are deprived of the facilities of Scheduled Tribes and who in spite of their large population are still living in the same conditions in which they lived 100-200 years back. When a case of Punjab High Court was brought to the notice of the Government seeking the inclusion of the Castes under All India Tapriwas vimukta Jateez Federation in the list of Scheduled Tribes, I was surprised to read that Government of India rejected it on the plea that they did not fulfil two conditions, and as such, they could not be included in the list of Scheduled Tribes. These conditions are:—

[English]

1. They do not live in a state of nature.
2. They do not live on flesh eating up of uncooked meat.

[Translation]

Then the Federation in a reply to the High Court asked whether 39 M.P.'s and 300 M.L.A.'s belonging to Scheduled Tribes in the country fulfil these conditions, viz:—

[English]

They live in a state of nature;

[Sh. Balwant Singh Ramoowalia]

They live on flesh eating uncooked meat, etc.?

[Translation]

I lay special stress on these two things only. In the end, I want to say one thing more. More than 20 lakh people speak punjabi language in Delhi, but punjabi has not been accorded the status of second language in Delhi. Punjabi should be accepted as second language. Many of my friends have presented their views about the Punjab problem facing the country. I would like to mention three things about it:

Firstly, Prime Minister should call a meeting of the journalists, writers and poets of Punjab and ask them about a possible solution.

Secondly, all political parties of the Sikh be called and asked to give their views about it.

Finally, a meeting should be held with all major national parties in parliament.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY (Gopalganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say a few things on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs which are under discussion at present. As long as communalism and casteism are not rooted out from the country, it will be very difficult to overcome crimes whatever radical changes we may effect in the system.

Communalism has been talked about in this House for quite some time now. All the hon. Member have mentioned about it today also. You will have to take some definite action to root out communalism. As is known to you, education is a sacred temple. I want

to know from you as to what was the necessity to accord recognition to the Aligarh Muslim University? Similarly what was the necessity of according recognition to the Kashi Hindu University? The result is that a Muslim child claims Aligarh University as his own and a Hindu child claims Kashi Hindu University as his own. Go to the villages and you will find that educational institutions are being accorded recognition on the basis of castes and community. At some places, there are Rajput Colleges and at other places, there are Brahman schools in the villages. As long as the sacred temples of education continue to be used as debiting centres for casteism and communalism, feelings of casteism and communalism will keep on growing in the hearts of the people. You may go through the ancient history. If we called Sita as 'Ma', we also called 'Vibhatma' as 'Amma'. If we studied, Gita, we also studied Kuran. Now here it is written that we should despise other castes or communities

We discuss Punjab problem day after day. The people of Punjab want peace to be restored in Punjab and terrorism to be overcome. People are fed up as they have already waited for three long years. When they read the news in the newspaper about the killings of many people daily, they stop reading detailed news and only glance through the headlines. As long as the people of India are not provided safety, all the bills brought forward will be in vain.

I want to tell a few things about the cruel treatment being meted out to the students from Bihar by the Vice Chancellor of Aligarh University. When the students from Bihar come to the Aligarh Muslim University to get themselves registered, it is displayed at the notice board that since there is mass copying in Bihar, admission will be granted only after deduction of 10 per cent marks from their mark-sheets. If some wrong practices are in vogue in Bihar, how those innocent

students are to be blamed for it? As a result, they keep wandering in the streets of Aligarh with degrees in their hands. As such, you must take some steps against the Vice-Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University so that students from Bihar could get justice.

Just now, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs mentioned about freedom fighters in his reply. I have to say with regret that eight persons are involved in one single case and out of those eight, 4 persons are receiving freedom fighters pension. I had sent two applications simultaneously to your department. Out of them one application has been accepted but the application of Inderjit Singh of village Bhit Bhairwa, district Gopalganj (Bihar) has not been accepted. He is at the verge of death now. I requested your Secretary Shri Sharma many times about it, but no action was taken. I want to reiterate that if an hon. Member takes up any case of freedom fighters pension with the hon. Minister, it should at least be replied to whether it has been accepted or not. If it is rejected the reasons for the same should be intimated. If it is done, the people will feel that action on the application which was forwarded through the hon. Member has been taken by the Central Government.

The problem of law and order is afflicting the entire country at present. You say that this problem is serious only in Punjab. We read in the newspaper yesterday that naxalite activities in Bihar have reached their extreme.

Things would not improve unless you strengthen the police bandobast, provide jeep to every Police Station and equip every constable with weapons. Can a constable with a stick in his hand control 8000 people?

With these words, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak, I had to wait for my turn for two long days.

[English]

PROF.P.J.KURIEN (Idukki): Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs. The year gone by saw a lot of conspiracies being hatched by destabilising forces, in the country. The biggest conspiracy in Independent India took place last year. I am speaking about the conspiracy that occurred in the Rashtrapati Bhavan. I am not going to cast aspersions on the previous occupant of the Rashtrapati Bhavan. Yet, everybody knew what was happening there. And credit goes to our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi who foiled that conspiracy and set the nation on the correct path.

I mentioned this because of the behaviour of some of our opposition parties. When the grand conspiracy was being hatched in the Rashtrapati Bhavan, some of our Opposition friends went along with the conspirators smacking their lips and hoping that some of the thirty coins would fall into their hands too. What a shameful behaviour on the part of the Opposition Parties, who are supposed to have faith in our Constitution.

SHRI D.N.REDDY (Cuddapah): Sir, kindly object to those allegations. (*Interruptions*)

PROF.P.J.KURIEN: What a shameful behaviour on the part of Opposition who say that they have faith in the constitutional procedures and set up and yet support a conspiracy to overthrow and dismiss a Prime Minister who enjoys a majority in the House of the People. Sir, dismissal of the Prime Minister who is enjoying a majority in the House of the People is a violation of the mandate given by the people and it is also a subversion of our Constitution. This is what was attempted to be done in the Rashtrapati Bhavan and some of the Opposition Parties were only willing accomplices to that act. I do not know what they were going to gain out of

[Prof. P. Kurian]

that. Maybe, they were hoping to get political power! But they did get political power in 1977. What happened then? It was like giving a garland to a monkey who does not know how to make use of the garland and how to enjoy the fragrance of the garland. And I would like to put it on record that the people of this country are wise enough not to give that garland again to the monkey.

Sir, what was the Opposition doing for the last one year? Was there anything constructive done by then? If you see the working of the Opposition, you find that they were on a spree of making allegations. They were filling the newspapers with allegation after allegation about Bofors, Fairfax and so on. But what was their attitude when it came to providing those allegations? Were they able to bring even a shred of evidence? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI C.MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad):
How can he speak like
that.....(*Interruption*)

SHRI P.J.KURIEN: Yes why not? I am talking about destabilisation. I am talking about the destabilising forces active in the country and now the Opposition also is colluding with the destabilising forces. I hope Shri Madhav Reddi can understand now... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA (Vishnupur):
I am on a point of order. There is no quorum in the House.

MR.DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let the quorum bell be rung. Now there is Quorum. Prof.Kurien, you may now continue your speech.

PROF.P.J.KURIEN: This also shows the Oppositions attitude. What were they doing last year? They were raising allegations after allegations. They wanted a Parlia-

mentary Committee to be set up for inquiring into Bofors' controversy. The Government agreed to that. When the Government agreed to their suggestion, they backed out. The Government also amended the Terms of Reference in order to accommodate their views. Still they backed out. Why did they back out? It is because they do not want the truth to come out. They want to keep the pot boiling so that they can take a political advantage out of it. This what was being done by the Opposition over the last few years. Therefore my charge is that the Opposition Parties also knowing or unknowingly colluding with the destabilising forces in the country.

PROF.K.K.TEWARY: Knowingly.

PROF.P.J.KURIEN: I fully agree with you. I thought I will give them some margin. Then Sir, coming to Punjab, much has been talked about Punjab. But I would like to say that the Punjab problem is created by the very same conspirators. We are getting alarming news from Punjab regarding killing of innocent people. A couple of days ago, we got a news that Punjab terrorists are being supplied with stinger missiles from U.S., which are coming through Afghan rebels.

We are also told that the terrorists are being trained and encouraged from across the border. This is all alarming news. The Punjab problem should be settled and Government is trying its best to settle the problem. But what is the attitude of the Opposition? The Opposition is only trying to find fault with the government. You wanted a political solution, and the Government tried a political solution and released some detainees but criticised it. Then the Government came forward with the fifty ninth Amendment to the constitution— you opposed it tooth and nail. Where is your sincerity in solving the Punjab problem? If you are sincere in solving the Punjab problem, you fully co-operate with the Government. While

talking about Punjab, I cannot but ask a question of my Akali friends. The Akali leadership is having a control over the Gurudwaras in Punjab. They are making religious as well as political speeches in Gurudwaras. These religious leaders in Punjab are also political leaders....

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: When did not the Opposition co-operate?

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: I would like to ask of my Akali friends, a question — why don't they use Gurudwaras for telling the people who are attending the Gurudwaras, that these terrorists are going to dismember our country and therefore, they should not be tolerated? Why are the Gurudwaras not being used to encourage the latent patriotism of the great Punjabi people? I fail to understand why such approach is not shown by the Akali leadership? The Akali leadership should come forward, and Gurudwaras should be used to instil patriotism. The people of Punjab are brave and patriotic. That latent patriotism should be made active by the Akali leadership.

18.00 hrs.

Much has been talked about the Centre-State relations. I will say only one sentence: Mr. Madhav Reddi criticized the Government for sending the Sarkaria Commission's report for the comments of the States. One who says that the States should be given more powers is criticizing the Government when the Commission's report is sent for the comments of the States. Does he mean to say that even without getting the opinion of the States, the report of the Sarkaria Commission should be implemented? That may be his view. But there may be other States having different views.

I have to say one thing: whether Sar-

karia Commission's recommendations are accepted or not, I want to say now that nothing should be done that will weaken the Centre. If the Centre is not strong, the States cannot be strong. Especially at this time when we see the centrifugal forces are coming up and trying to dismember our country, the Centre should be strong. The States should also be strong; but if the Centre is strong, the States will be strong. *(Interruptions)*

Now I want to say something about an incident in my constituency. *(Interruptions)* An advocate from my constituency went to the State of Karnataka, to plead a case in favour of one Sadasivan. He was sanctioned a medical college by the Karnataka Government; and subsequently, that sanction was withdrawn, to give it to the Karnataka Home Minister. But, the advocate was murdered by the police. What happened in Karnataka? *(Interruptions)*

I approached the hon. Minister, Mr. Buta Singh in this House. He was kind enough to order a CBI inquiry. Now it has been proved that the Police officers had taken hold of this advocate; and with the connivance of the police officers, under the direction of ** he was murdered. So, my demand is that ** should resign, and that he should be arrested. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That allegation cannot go on record. The name of the person will not go on record.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: This is about my constituency.

Sir the opposition is speaking much about Harijan welfare and about protection to Harijans and minorities. I have got a photograph relating to my constituency. Only last week I visited my constituency.

[Prof. P.J. Kurian]

Four Harijan houses have been totally burnt. The photographs are here. I can place them.....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Four Harijan houses were totally burnt by CPI(M) workers in my constituency. (*Interruptions*); and Police is not taking any action. Ten houses have been attacked by DYFI i.e. CPI(M) workers. Do you know why? Because these Harijans have joined the Congress Party. (*Interruptions*) Yes, because they have joined the Congress Party their houses were burnt. The photographs are here. I am placing them on the Table of the House with your permission.....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, I cannot allow them to be placed on the Table. No; I cannot allow. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: I want to request the Home Minister that since this is about the burning of the houses of the Harijans, and atrocities on Harijans, I want him to get the matter investigated, and give a report early.

With this request, I support the Demands for the Home Ministry. I wanted to say many more things, but since you are not allowing me, I conclude my speech now, and thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Home Minister will reply tomorrow. The House now stands adjourned.

18.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, April 19, 1988/ Chaitra 30, 1910 (Saka).