

lish this co-operative in the joint sector.

Regarding housing there is a strange thing. A housing bank has been set up for local people and several loans are being disbursed. Bamboo is produced in Chandrapur district of Maharashtra. It is sold to paper mills at a rate of Re. 1/- or Rs. 1.50 but to people who need bamboo to construct huts, it is sold at Rs. 10/- or Rs. 15/-. Why this double standard? Subsidies are given to industries but not to those people who want to construct huts of bamboo. How can people use local material in this way and how does the Government expect to promote housing?

As to giving loans the Government should ensure loans to farmers and labour, otherwise they will not benefit. This will benefit only the employees of banks, officers and Government employees. Loans are given to those with a regular monthly income. A person with an uncertain income does not get a loan. In this way a farmer is not given a housing loan because his income may get delayed due to natural calamities. I had formulated a scheme worth Rs. 18 crores. I have been demanding the amount for the past 3-4 years but not even Rs. 50 lakhs have been released so far. Today, nobody is prepared to give loans to farmers and labour. We approached the housing bank and HUDCO several times but they asked for a State Government guarantee because they apprehended who will pay money in case of default. The State Government expresses its inability in standing guarantee for farmers and labour, as well as housing societies. Schemes are made but they do not benefit to the desired extent.

I want the Government to pay attention to water management, farm mechanization, agro-based and food-processing industries. Exports should be increased and import of consumer goods should be done on a selective basis. Otherwise there will be an increase in trade deficit, which will ultimately lead to a total finance deficit. The Centre should instil discipline among States which

are running over-drafts. As this is the election year, States too want to make a deficit Budget. The State which have submitted budgets have shown deficits and none of them has dared to increase taxes. The hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Finance Minister have increased taxes even though this is an election year but their counter parts at the State-level have not done likewise. Instead they are running over drafts. This could lead to a loss or even inflation. We have to pay attention in this direction. With these words I express my support for the Bill and request you to consider my suggestions.

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16.42 hrs.

STATEMENT *RE*. OPERATION OF THE  
NATIONAL SECURITY (AMENDMENT)  
ACT, 1987 IN RESPECT OF THE DIS-  
TURBED AREAS OF PUNJAB AND  
CHANDIGARH

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): Sir, on the 3rd March, 1989, the Prime Minister had intervened in the discussions in this House and *inter-alia* made some important announcements regarding Punjab. I take this opportunity to inform the Members of this House of action taken on an important part of that announcement, namely the operation of the National Security (Amendment) Act.

As the Members would recall, in 1987, Parliament had passed the National Security (Amendment) Act, 1987, which introduced a new Section, 14A, in the National Security Act, 1980. This Section provided that in respect of the "disturbed areas" of Punjab and Chandigarh a person may be detained for a period exceeding three months without reference to the Advisory Board in specified circumstances and for a maximum period of detention of two years. Certain time limits in the parent Act for completion of various procedural steps were also enhanced by this Amendment Act.

[S. Buta Singh]

Section 14A was operative in respect of detentions made before 8th June, 1988. Its applicability was extended by one year i.e. upto 8th June, 1989 by the National Security (Amendment) Act, 1988.

Pursuant to the Prime Minister's announcement that the National Security (Amendment) Act would be withdrawn and the provisions of the parent Act would be restored in their applicability to Punjab, the Government have decided that the applicability of Section 14A will be allowed to lapse in the normal course on 8th June, 1989. Meanwhile, instructions have been issued to the Government of Punjab that they should not invoke the provisions of Section 14A with immediate effect.

The Prime Minister's package on Punjab has been widely welcomed. Government are committed to implement the package fully and quickly and move forward to find a solution to the outstanding issues of Punjab.

16.45 hrs.

FINANCE BILL, 1989—*CONTD.*

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I disagree with the hon. Minister and hon. Members of the Ruling Party when they say that this Budget is in favour of farmers, labourers and the unemployed. Prices start increasing even before the Budget arrives. Consumers are unable to get the concessions provided for them in the Budget. I want to cite an example to explain my point. The Ministry of Textiles has given a concession of Rs. 27/- on polyester yarn; Rs. 10/- on filament yarn and 50% on nylon yarn. When we went to the market to buy cloth we did not find any reduction in the prices. If these concessions had been given to consumers

there would have been a decrease of Rs. 2/- to Rs. 10/- in cost of a metre of polyester cloth. So the concessions meant for consumers do not reach them. In what way can this Budget be called progressive?

Permission was granted to Reliance Industries to produce upto 10,000 tonnes but the Company is clandestinely producing 25,000 tonnes. This again is an indication that this Budget is far from progressive.

The various schemes of the Government are implemented through its various Departments. But now there are two major problems that we are facing today. I feel that it is very important to solve these problems. The first problem is that of increasing population. It is eating into the vitals of our economy whatever progress is made by the country is nullified by the population explosion and there is no change in the conditions prevailing in the society. On the one hand are the people who live below the poverty line and on the other are the people who have more money than they can handle. Black money has created a parallel economy in the country. This is a problem of a alarming proportions. Besides, the growing population in cities is creating many other problems. In this context I want to say that there is a lot of difference between poverty in villages and the economic situation in cities. This gap should be reduced.

Irrigation facilities do not exist in the area where I come from. If ten families are engaged in the cultivation of five bighas of land they are not even able to produce more than 10 quintals as there are no irrigation facilities. Two families are dependent on one bigha of land and it is difficult for ten families to sustain themselves in such conditions. Only when some of the families are provided other means of livelihood can we call this a Budget in favour of poor farmers and labour.

I wanted to raise a few points concerning my constituency. Jahanabad is a sensitive area, in no less a dangerous position than Punjab. There are some elements over there who call themselves terrorists. These