

the Haj Committee gets a commission of 5% only.

- (iii) Haj Committee is at present headquartered at Bombay, which is no longer a central place for pilgrims drawn from all corners of the country. While there could be zones and zonal offices, headquarters should be in New Delhi.
- (iv) While Central Haj Committee is not a statutory body, it takes various crucial decisions all by itself.
- (v) The Central Haj Committee lacks representative character, so far as its membership is concerned.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY  
AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIK-  
SHIT): We will consider all the sub-  
missions that have been made by the hon.  
Members, to be included in the business  
for next week.

12.28 hrs.

COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

First Reports

[English]

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY  
(Puri): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the First Report of the Committee of Privileges laid on the Table of the House on 5th May, 1988."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the First Report of the Committee of Privileges laid on the Table of the House on 5th May, 1988."

The motion was adopted.

12.29 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE :  
APPROVAL OF CONTINUANCE IN  
FORCE OF PROCLAMATION IN  
RESPECT OF PUNJAB—Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up further discussion of the following Resolution moved by Shri Buta Singh on the 2nd May, 1988, namely:—

"That this House approves the continuance in force of the Proclamation dated the 11th May, 1987 in respect of Punjab issued under article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months from the 11th May, 1988"

Now Shri Jai Prakash Agarwal,

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk): Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Resolution moved by Shri Buta Singh for extending President Rule in Punjab for a further period of six months. What are the reasons for not holding elections in Punjab? If we look into the present situation in Punjab, we will find how violent incidents are taking place there, how bus-passengers are shot dead and how children, young and aged persons are taken out of their houses and killed mercilessly.

The situation in Punjab has deteriorated so much that terrorists are now using Rocket-Launchers in their attacks. They possess the latest arms. The Punjab problem has been discussed several times in this House. It is almost a certainty that Pakistan is behind the incidents in Punjab. Pakistan provides training facilities to the terrorists and gives them shelter. After having been trained, the terrorists come into Punjab to create mayhem. Can elections be held in Punjab or a popular Government function if this situation continues to exist? Could the erstwhile Punjab Government restore normalcy in the State? The action of the Central Government in disbanding the last State Government has given a lot of relief to Hindus and Sikhs in the State. The present situation in Punjab has created a feeling of insecurity

in the mind of every resident. This is the reason why thousands of people are leaving Punjab and taking shelter in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. Is such an atmosphere conducive to holding elections in the State? I feel that the Government wants to take strong measures to solve the Punjab tangle. For the Punjab crisis I shall also blame those hon. Members of the Opposition who did everything within their capacity to make the situation more complicated. They are fully responsible for that. Why is it that an act of terrorism in Punjab brings forth only a cautious reaction from us? Why do we hesitate to condemn the action of terrorists? What is holding us back from organising peace-marches on the roads of Punjab? Leaders make tall claims while speaking at the party-level here. But why do the same leaders get cold feet when it comes to visiting Punjab? If we analyse the situation we will find that the entire blame lies with our hon. colleagues in the Opposition. A political leader from Delhi visited Punjab and stayed at the Golden Temple for a couple of days. On his return to Delhi he said that no arms could be seen within the Temple area and that Golden Temple is just a place of religious importance, that no person with arms could be seen over there. But the seizure of large quantities of arms, during 'Operation Blue Star' clearly indicated what really went on over there. Did this not destroy the sanctity of the Golden Temple? Everyone has a devotion towards places connected with his or her respective religion. All of us bow our heads in reverence when we pass by religious places. But can a devotee accept the Golden Temple as a religious place any longer? Can he do that when he knows that politics has overshadowed what the Golden Temple stands for? Even today a large stock-pile of arms exists in the Golden Temple. Reports of firing and clashes with the police and military are received everyday. Can we still call the Golden Temple as a place of religious importance? I request the Government to take the strongest possible measures to solve the crisis in Punjab. The Government must restore the sanctity of the Golden Temple. For it is the symbol of the deep rooted faith of all devotees.

It should be restored to its original state so that the feelings of devotees are not hurt.

I take this opportunity to remind those political personalities whose actions have created a rift between Hindu and Sikhs. One of our leaders kept silent over killings in Punjab but when riots took place in Delhi in 1984, then he started counting the number of people killed. He sought to prove that casualties were much more than what was being announced through official statistics. Are these steps not aimed at alienating Sikhs from the Hindus? Nothing can be more shameful than this. I want to remind him that he himself had said that while travelling on a bus only Sikhs are chosen for search from the entire lot of passengers. If such things are said, the hatred between Hindus and Sikhs is bound to grow. The rift between the two communities will widen making it extremely hard to strike a compromise. While supporting this proposal, I request those hon. colleagues to choose their words carefully before speaking out. This problem is not like other problems. It is a disease, the cure to which lies in our working together. We should not just stand here and condemn the acts of terrorism. Empty words of condemnation will only strengthen the spirit of terrorists making them believe that they have an ally in our midst who sympathises with their cause. We should refrain from uttering such words.

Why did Sardar Buta Singh keep silent when he was declared 'Tankhaiya'? Did Shri Buta Singh go on a killing spree? Did Shri Buta Singh go around shooting with a gun? But people who indulged in wanton killings of innocent persons, who wiped out children in cold blood were not declared 'Tankhaiya'. All this saddens my heart. And they should feel sad too. Even such a state of affairs does not deter our hon. colleagues from helping the terrorist cause and criticising the Government here. The same hon. Members are scared of condemning those who kill people openly. How could our hon. colleagues remain oblivious to the killings of Lalit Makan and Gectanjali Makan and Arjun Dass,

the killing children attending a birthday party. All these incidents happened right here in Delhi and yet our hon. colleagues chose to ignore it in their speeches. Today the unity and integrity of our country is in peril. Powerful forces are at work behind this and we must work together to counter them. So I feel that it is impossible to hold elections and form a popular Government in Punjab considering the situation existing there. With this I support this Resolution.

[English]

12.37 hrs.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA** (Bankura): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I oppose the Statutory Resolution moved by the Home Minister, S. Buta Singh, for further extension of the proclamation of the Emergency,—I mean the President's Rule, for six months in Punjab.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT)**: You are obsessed with the Emergency.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA**: You are.

**SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT**: You are obsessed with Emergency. It is a slip of your tongue.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA**: The President's Rule, in Punjab, it has not—led to any improvement in the situation in Punjab; the situation has deteriorated, it has become worse. It was never so bad before.

It is doubtful whether the Government has any policy on Punjab at all. For the last six years the Government has been experimenting. This important border State of our country has been minimised to a laboratory. The Government is experimenting one after another measures. But it has not been able to solve the Punjab problem. The President's rule was imposed last year in the

month of May—on May 11, 1987. What was the reason? The reason given was there were large scale killings in the month of April, about 73 persons were killed. And another reason which was put forward by the Home Minister was that some Ministers were interfering with the problem of law and order. The terrorists and the extremists are not arrested and they are preventing, or they are interfering.

But, one year has elapsed—after two or three days, it will elapse. During the President's Rule, as many as two thousand persons were killed by these extremists. The terrorists, the extremists and the Khalistani elements have intensified their activities six months back. The Home Minister claimed that these extremist elements are running away, but rather they have intensified their activities. The terrorists, the Khalistani elements and the extremist elements have increased their activities.

Sir, five head priests were released. Who are these head priests? Out of these five head priests, three head priests—once declared inside the Amritsar Golden Temple "independent Khalistan" and hoisted Khalistani flag. Then, they were arrested and detained. Who is Jasbir Singh Rode? When there was Blue Star Operation, he was not in India. He was touring. He was in Dubai; sometimes in Manila; and sometimes in America. Outside India, he organised these extremist elements and he formed International Sikh Students' Federation. When he came back, he was arrested and detained. Then, he was released not only, but he was made as the head priest of Akal Takht. After his release, he declared that he would fight for *Puran Azadi* and *Sampoorna Azadi*. I do not know what is difference between 'Khalistan' and '*Sampoorna Azadi*' and whether the Government is demarcating between '*Sampoorna Azadi*' and 'Khalistan'. He started tight rope working. Subsequently, on 13th April, the intention was made clear. The two factions of AISSF were united and an International Sikh Conference was dominated by these elements. They declared there that those who would deviate from the path of Khalistan,

they would face the same fate as faced by Sant Longowal. Before release of these high priests, the opposition leaders were not consulted. The Government only consulted with one Sadhu Sushil Muni. Subsequently, forty Jodhpur detenus were released.

We demanded the release of innocent detenus, who are not Khalistanis or extremists and are languishing in Jodhpur jail. Most of them are innocent. Some of them were picket up outside the Golden Temple, arrested and put behind bar, in Jodhpur Jail. 363 persons were arrested. We have been demanding in the House that those who are innocent, should be released. An assurance to that effect was also given in this House. The Prime Minister himself gave an assurance in a meeting with the leaders of the opposition that their cases would be reviewed and that those who were not associated with the seditious activities would be released. A categorical assurance was given by one of the Cabinet Ministers, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, in Amritsar last year that their cases were being reviewed and that they would be released soon. But only 40 detenus were released. Are these 40 persons only innocent and others are associated with the seditious activities and that is why they were not released? These are the irritants which should be removed.

I do not understand the intention of the Government. Governor, Sidhartha Shankar Ray, has said that the release of five head priests and 40 Jodhpur detenus is part of their package with whom? Is it with Sushil Muni? With whom was this package arrived at? Why were the leaders of the opposition not consulted? For the last one year not a single meeting was held. It has been said in the annual report that an all-party convention was held in Chandigarh on 1st March, 1987 followed by all-party rallies in Ludhiana on 8th March, then at Hussainiwala and then at Amritsar. After Amritsar, what? What about the action plan? The action plan was adopted unanimously in the meeting of the leaders of the opposition and the result was very much encouraging. Lakhs of people attended the meeting

from different walks of life, not like your Ghulam Nabi Azad's public contact programme with security people.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): That was mass contact.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Mass contact with the security people and not the actual mass contact. But these programmes were very much successful and very much encouraging. Why was the action plan, which was adopted and accepted unanimously, stopped? Because suddenly Barnala Government was dissolved just on the eve of the Haryana elections to woo the voters of Haryana where you have failed miserably. Still you are pursuing a very narrow political path. You are still having a narrow opportunistic line. You do not consider Punjab problem as a national and a political problem. When the problem is political, solution must also be political. While replying to a debate under rule 193 last March in this very House, the Minister spoke for ninety minutes but he did not come out with any solution. He did not give any hint as to what they are going to do, what is their action plan, what is their Punjab policy. He only went on saying that the situation is improving. Like a broken gramophone record, he went on saying that the situation is improving, that the terrorists are running away, that they are sealing the border. We have been demanding the sealing of the border, we have been demanding that a White Paper should be published with regard to foreign intervention. Everybody knows who are encouraging, who are helping, who are abetting the U. S. imperialist forces and Pakistan. Why can't the Government seal the border? Now only they are thinking that the border should be sealed and barbed wire should be erected. What have they been doing for the last three-four years when we have been demanding in this House, not only from this side but from that side also, that the border should be sealed? It was the unanimous demand of this House that the border should be sealed but they have been sleeping like Kumbhkarna.

If the intention of the Government is

[Shri Basudev Acharia]

to hold elections and to hand over the power to the extremists, this will be disastrous because this cult of Bhindranwale, this fundamentalism, has gone deeper into the minds of the extremists. This will not only create a fear complex among the minority, but will also create further wedge between two communities in Punjab. It is good that still communal harmony is there. We have seen what incident took place in Karisari. Though the Sikhs here were asked to get separated from Hindus, they refused to do so. Both Sikhs and Hindus were killed. They died together. That tradition of Punjab is still going on. So, the Government has to rely on the patriotic secular forces of Punjab, the moderate Akalis, the secular forces. Now political forces have become irrelevant. They are holding talks with the extremists, *munis, sadhus*, but not with those who are fighting against the extremist elements. Both the Communist Parties, my party and Choubey Ji's party—The Communist Party of India (Marxist) and the Communist Party of India—are shedding their blood everyday. Our comrades are sacrificing their lives. Those who are against these extremist forces, those who are against these separatist elements, separatist forces, they are not holding talks with them. These forces have now become irrelevant in Punjab.

As regards the implementation of the Punjab Accord, they have stated in their Report that out of 11 articles, they have implemented only eight. They have not implemented three important demands—transfer of Chandigarh, transfer of some territory to Haryana and the water dispute—though two years and seven-eight months have elapsed. We all welcome this Accord. Though it could have been implemented earlier, but still we all welcome it. We have always demanded that this Accord should be implemented. When the Accord was signed and the Prime Minister wanted to hold elections, when he consulted us, we told him not to hold elections. We said, first peace should be consolidated there. Elections can be held later on. First peace should be brought in the State before the elections are held. Akali Dal Party came to power,

Punjab accord has not been implemented in letter and spirit. The water dispute has not been solved. The Erady Commission which was constituted to recommend the ways and means for the distribution of water between the three States had submitted their report long back, in the month of January last year. It was announced on the eve of Haryana election to woo the voters of Haryana. But you miserably failed. Why are these recommendations not being implemented? We want to support all the recommendations of the Erady Commission Report. But this Commission has not done justice to Punjab. What about the transfer of territory? So many Commissions have been constituted. Now, Punjab is under your rule. What about the construction of the SYL Canal. We were told that because the Barnala Government was there, the Akali Dal Government was there, the construction work was being prevented. Now, Punjab is under your rule. What are you doing? What is the progress of the SYL Canal? Who is now preventing you from its construction?

Sir, about Ranganath Misra Commission Report, a number of times we have raised this issue. The Commission submitted its report and the same was placed on the Table of this House. In every session we are demanding that the Commission's report should be discussed so that many points and many things will come out. But we are not being allowed to discuss the Report of the Ranganath Misra Commission. About 3000 people were butchered and 2733 innocent Sikhs were murdered. Not a single person responsible for the murder of 3000 Sikhs has been arrested so far. What is your reply to this? J. M. Banerjee Commission was constituted. But why the recommendations of the Commission have not been implemented so far? Sir, there is no inadequacy of powers in the hands of the Central Government. A number of Bills have been passed and enacted into Acts, like, the Punjab Arms Act, the Anti-Terrorists Act, the Disturbed Area Act. So many other Acts have also been enacted. Now, you have amended the Constitution also to impose Emergency in Punjab so that now Punjab problem

can be solved if you impose Emergency. You take away the right to liberty and right to freedom of life which are inherent rights of the people of the country, for a few thousand Khalistan extremists. You cannot take away the right to liberty and right to live of the people of Punjab as well as of the people outside.

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

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, I do not know whether the Government has become mad in experimenting various aspects of the situation and finding out a solution, sometimes having discussion with the extremists, with Mr. Jasbir Singh Rode, sometimes with Ragi and Bairagi and Sushil Muni. I do not know what is your policy. *(Interruptions)*

About this joint campaign there are many differences with the Congress (I), but on the question of unity and integrity of India we want to join hands with you, I mean, all the national parties which are for the unity and integrity of India will be with you. There should be a joint campaign mass campaign, to isolate these extremists and terrorist elements. Political campaign should be restored and the irritants like release of innocent persons who are kept and who are languishing in Jodhpur jail should be removed by their cases being reviewed. The Punjab Accord should be implemented in letter and spirit, Ranganath Misra Commission's report should be discussed and its recommendations should be implemented. Then J. N. Banerjee Commission's recommendations should be implemented, those who are responsible for the massacre in Delhi riots, in Kanpur and Bokaro, should be punished. These are the irritants. The psyche of the Sikhs has been disturbed. These irritants are to be removed and the joint campaign should be restored. The action plan which was adopted and accepted in the meeting of the Leaders of the Opposition should be started again.

MR. DEPUTY : SPEAKER : We adjourn for Lunch now and re-assemble at 2.00 p. m.

13.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the clock.*

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at four minutes past Fourteen of the clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair.]

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE :  
APPROVAL OF CONTINUANCE IN  
FORCE OF PROCLAMATION IN  
RESPECT OF PUNJAB—*Contd.*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Keyur Bushan,

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, I was on my legs, when you adjourned the House. I was on my legs. I could not conclude my speech. I was not allowed to conclude.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No, I allowed you to conclude. But you did not do. What can I do ?

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : I was on my legs.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I allowed you for ten minutes and rang the bell for ten minutes. You never heard. What can I do ?

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I told you for the past 10 minutes before adjourning for lunch to wind up. You were on your legs. But he was also on his legs. I called his name.

*(Interruptions).*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Just only one minute. You have only to conclude. If you continue, I would not allow it to go on record.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :** I conclude with a story from Rabindranath Tagore. Do you know, how the shoe was discovered? It is a story by Shri Rabindranath Tagore. A king wanted to save his feet from dust. So, he called a meeting of his Ministers. Ministers came and started discussion. The discussion was going on and 20<sup>th</sup> drums of snuff were finished. But they could not solve this problem. Then they decided to remove the dust from the roads so that the dust may not touch king's feet. They started removing the dust. The atmosphere became full of dust.

Again, the king convened a meeting. But they could not find out any solution to the problem.

Then a poor, illiterate cobbler came and he told the king "Why are you doing all these things? You can do one thing to save your feet. You cover the feet with a piece of leather. Then dust will not touch your feet."

All these problems are due to this Government. Today, the Punjab problem has become complicated because of this policy of this Government..... (*Interruptions*). The Punjab problem can be solved if this Government is removed. Because of this Government, all these problems are here. You are creating all these problems. The Government should be removed. By extension of proclamation of President's rule in Punjab, the problems cannot be solved.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI KEYUR BHUSHAN (Raipur):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I support this Resolution moved by the hon. Home Minister. The views expressed by Shri Acharia in the end have hurt me deeply.

Treating an issue, as serious as this, in a cursory manner, accusing each other of being guilty or shifting responsibility on the Opposition or the administration will not solve the problem. Let me emphasize that the Punjab problem should not be taken lightly.

Observations over a long period of time have shown that repeated efforts to arrive at a solution have met with failure. The problem is a deep-rooted and acute. If we consider it as an ordinary problem of terrorism we can compare it to the terror created by dacoits in the Chamabal region. Some dacoits were killed in encounters and some surrendered consequent upon change of mind. Whenever communal riots take place, they too are controlled and the situation brought back to normal. To treat this as just another communal disturbance, a religious crisis or even an economic problem would be to deceive ourselves. And the problem will remain as it is. Efforts to find a social or political solution have also proved futile. History makes it clear that this is nothing but a conspiracy against the nation, a conspiracy to break the country apart. The participants in this game—plan are so ignorant that they fail to understand the gravity of their crime against the country. Their crime or their ignorance can be explained but the national leadership seems incapable of doing so. History has a lesson for us but we have not learnt the same. Were efforts not made to divide the country in the pre-independence days? Were the feelings of the masses not provoked in the name of religion? Did imperialist forces not try to divide the country in the name of religion? The same thing is happening today. A State which till recently had nurtured a unique culture and religion gives no importance to religion or to the maintenance of brotherhood between Sikhs and Hindus. I can say with certainty that whatever is happening in Punjab may be in the name of Sikhism but definitely not in the best interests of that religion. Sikhism essentially aims at creating bonds between hearts and bridging different religions together. Today everything is being done in the opposite direction. We should learn from history. The same thing happened then also. Flames of hatred and distrust are being fanned in the country. The masses are being brainwashed in the name of religion only to achieve the objective of dividing the country.

Can a religion be protected if separate nations come into being by exploiting the

name of religion? I can say it with certainty that due to the division of India those very people have suffered the maximum whose ignorance was once exploited for this purpose. Today some of their family members are in India, while the others are in Pakistan; both the families have to lead a separate life of grief and sorrow. These people pray to God that at least this artificial separation may be removed from the hearts of the people. Today attempts are being made once again to create a similar situation in the Punjab.

It is quite clear that any follower of Sikhism who follows the path shown by the Gurus can never do such a thing. In the Punjab, the religion of every individual, whether Sikh or Hindu is fully influenced by the teachings of Guru Gobind Singh. These teachings can never separate them from each other. The people who had misled others earlier at the time of partition alone are once again trying to divide the country by misleading the people. Therefore in such a situation, my submission is, that it is a question of the security of the whole nation and not of any particular party or person. We will have to solve it on the same basis as we did for achieving our independence. At that time we had united the whole country irrespective of party affiliations because we had to fight against the imperialist powers. With this thing in view, we have to move ahead step by step without bothering for the party to which one belongs, we should work together in order to solve the present composite problem whether it is in the form of politics or problem of the masses. We have seen everything from the view of administration. We have tried every system and each party which came into power. But the problems have not been solved. After that we are now empowering you to extend the President's rule. None of the citizens of India have any grudge against this. Whatever we want to achieve we may try to achieve the same through political process. We hope that your entire administration will face these secessionist forces strictly. The whole nation is with you. All the responsible people of the country should sit together to find out a solution. Thus those people who criticise for the sake of criticism only and are trying to present their

views, will also get an opportunity to come forward and put their point of view. This problem will be solved through political process. I am earnestly submitting it to you that the suggestion given by our leader is reasonable and we accept it. Let us make concerted efforts and move ahead. I want to tell you another thing that we visited 12860 villages. We also keep on meeting Shri Ramowalia. There is no sign of communalism in even a single village. We all must forge unity. When India was under foreign rule we divided it due to our own folly in spite of the right leadership. But today India is independent and its citizen is wide awake; he will not let the country be divided. The masses are leading us and we should move along with them. We should not blow our one trumpet but work together to create national awareness just as we had made sacrifices in the Jallianwala Bagh for the cause of independence, similarly we should be prepared to make sacrifices together. It was a day of 1930 that those who made their sacrifices sang patriotic songs. We conveyed the aspirations of Mahatma Gandhi in every village. The zeal, strength and emotion with which our bold patriots used to sing the patriotic song should be shown to the whole Punjab and be prepared for the same. I would like to present an extract out of that song to you:

Meri jaan na rahe, mera sir na rahe,  
samaan na rahe, na veh saaz rahe,  
Faqt hind mera aazad rahe,  
meri mata ke sir par taaj rahe,  
Sikh, Hindu, Musalman ek rahen,  
bhar bhar sa rasm riwaj rahe,  
Guru Granth, Quran-Puran rahe,  
meri puja rahe, meri namaz rahe,  
Meri tooti madayya mein raaj rahe,  
Koi gair na rahe,  
Meri been mein taar milen hoan,  
sabhi ek bhin: madhur aawaz rahe, Ye  
kisan  
Khushhal rahen, puri ho fasal sukh  
saaz rahe,  
Mere bachhe vatan par nisar rahen,  
Meri maan behnon ki laj rahe,



[Shri Keyur Bhushan]

Meri jaan na rahe, mera sir na rahe,  
Samaan na rahe na veh saaz rahe,  
Raqt hind mera aazad rahe,  
Meri Mata ke sir par taaj rahe

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDIN (Kishanganj) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, nothing less than the destiny of our country, the integrity of our State, the very future of our nationhood is today being decided in the fields of Punjab. This long interaction of chauvinism and fundamentalism has created a situation replete with separatism and terrorism. It has all the elements of a Greek tragedy. And many of us find the country moving inexorably towards a cataclysmic event which we dare not conceive, which we dare not dream of whether it shall be the replay of 1984, we do not know. We hope, it shall not be

Today, we have no option but to support the Resolution before us. We cannot permit a political vacuum and yet we have an opportunity to ask ourselves how shall we utilise this additional period of six months. I would like the Government to tell us to give us some hope that we shall be able to eliminate terrorism, that we shall be able to restore a sense of security to the people, that we shall be able to move towards a political solution towards restoration of this democratic process towards revival of the democratic forum that we shall be able to create an atmosphere in which elections can be held. I do not know what the answer of the Government will be, Mr. Deputy-Speaker. I do not know what guarantee the Government can give us. But here, we are placed on the horns of dilemma. I don't think we are going to achieve any magical result in the next six months, unless we undertake an agonising reappraisal of the past line that we have followed and definitely adopt a course, a different course.

Sir, since the imposition of the President's regime, there has been dramatic

escalation of violence in Punjab. The level of terrorism has gone up, the fire level, the casualty levels have gone up. The frequency of encounters have gone up. The sense of insecurity in the minds of the people has increased. The exit of the people from their hearth and home is almost assuming a torrential dimensions in certain parts of the State. The Golden Temple is once again being fortified. The Akal Takht and the SGPC the two time-tested institutions of the Sikh community have been virtually marginalised. Our border is being transgressed at will if we are to accept the Government's report that there is regular smuggling and arms running across this border. We know that Pakistan cannot resist the temptation of fishing in our troubled waters, though I am not convinced what the level of their interference is, because the Government have chosen to remain silent and not taken the country into confidence. I would once again urge upon the Government that it should place all the facts and evidence before the people in the form of a white paper.

Angry statements even by the Home Minister will not do. I dare say, even the barbed wire will not help us. Even if we accept the suggestions made in some quarters of handing over the border districts to the Army, I don't think would produce peace in Punjab, unless we take the people into confidence and take necessary measures

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur) : Are they not being taken into confidence now ?

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : No, they are not. That is my feeling.

The Government seems to lack a political perspective and a political vision. We must admit—whether we like it or not—that the Akali Dal is the only party with roots in Punjab and that has been destroyed. Our game has been to divide the leadership, to destroy the leadership. All the political parties put together cannot stabilise the political system in Punjab today.

There has been a deliberate creation of a political vacuum. Guns and rockets naturally fill in the vacuum. Punjab has been turned into an arsenal of the terrorists and a playground of the paramilitary forces. It is an unfortunate situation.

I don't know whether the Government deliberately avoid the quest for a political solution. I am not suggesting that all demands must be accepted. But I do suggest that the Accord that has been solemnly entered into should not be put aside. It should be seriously pursued and implemented to the extent possible. Something must be done about Chandigarh, about water dispute, about the territorial adjustment about the religious demands of the Sikh community, about the religious and cultural questions that have been raised. One thing more: that the Government should try to understand the psychology of the situation. The Government, it seems to me, lacks this skill or the capacity of diagnosis. A deep wound has been caused to the Sikh psyche and unless we can do something about it in terms of undoing the bitterness of the Operation Bluestar, in terms of doing something for the victims of the massacre, in terms of rehabilitating and providing adequate relief for those who suffered in Delhi and other places...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER. Please conclude.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Sir, I will take a few more minutes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER. The Minister has to reply.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Sir, others have taken 20 to 25 minutes. I will take only a few minutes more.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Your Party has been allotted only three minutes. Please conclude now.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I am sure you will not be that strict with me Sir. I must complete my argument.

The Government it seems to me are at their wits and because they seem to be moving in circles. The trouble is that they are moving within a fixed framework and working with a fixed methodology. I think there is a need for a new breakthrough and a review of the situation.

Divisiveness cannot become the instrument of governance. It can only generate an emotional backlash. Therefore, I would suggest that it should be treated as a long term national objective to avoid, to eliminate misunderstandings and the distrust that have crept in and to give Justice where due. Hindus and Sikhs have to live in Punjab and Punjab has to remain a part of our country. These are the two issues on the basis of which we can build a new situation.

Our leaders and our Government have to undertake serious negotiations with a capacity of give and take. They have to respond properly, not in confused terms or incoherent measures or in a heavy-handed or imaginative style. Black laws or use of force and military action can help us; but only to a point. Mob violence can never help us; and even cloak and dagger operations

I understand that the Minister of State admitted in the Rajya Sabha that certain arms have been smuggled by some secret agencies of the Government. That is what I saw in the papers.

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): Please read the paper correctly. I stoutly denied the allegation and the newspaper report. The newspaper report is here. No newspaper has reported me like that.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: That arms have been smuggled from Kabul to India by certain secret agencies.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : No. The word 'smuggle' was never used. You please read the newspaper.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I would conclude by saying that we cannot use another Barnala to demolish another Badal, we cannot find another Ragi to demolish another Barnala and we cannot find another Rode to demolish another Ragi because whether another Rode will come or be found we do not know. This is the situation in which we have to step in very wisely and very cautiously. I once again plead with the Government that there should be general amnesty for the so-called deserters and effective action for their rehabilitation. There should be release of all the Jodhpur detenus. There must be punishment for the 1984 rioters. Fake encounters must be stopped. Mass arrests must stop. There should be perhaps a change of guard because Rays and Ribeiros have had their turn. The Punjab accord must be implemented. Political parties must be consulted. This great community, this patriotic community which had made such sacrifices their leaders and representatives in all fields of life, all the prominent elite of the community, must be invited to participate in finding a solution. By gaining trust by acting justly and by proving our bonafides to the Sikh community we can isolate the terrorists even today because that is the main purpose and we can encourage the patriotic and the nationalist forces because that alone and they alone working with the Government and with all the political forces in the country can save Punjab and can save India.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM NARAIN SINGH (Bhiwani) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the President's rule has been imposed in the Punjab for the past one year. The situation in the Punjab after that has been growing from bad to worse. When Shri Barnala's party was in power, 3-4 persons used to be killed every day and corruption was also prevalent. The Government always appreciated the Barnala Government and called it a good administration.

But Barnala Government was suddenly thrown out of power in the month of May last year and President's rule was imposed there. Ever since then, 4 to 5 times more people are being killed. People are killed at the rate of 10, 20 or 30 per day. Besides, you must have observed that in the adjoining states also these terrorists have created a panic. Recently in the Patiala district shots were fired on two lorries of Himachal Pradesh in which many people were injured. In Haryana two buses were totally destroyed. Thus, even the adjoining states have become the targets of these terrorists now.

There is no security of anyone's life and property in the Punjab. Terrorism prevails in the whole of Punjab. Earlier when 4-5 persons used to be killed, the people from religious communities, Congress Party or Communist Party used to condemn it. But today even if 20 people are killed there is no one to condemn it because everyone is scared of the terrorists. The major cause of these terrorists activities is that the border of Pakistan touches the Punjab. They get training from there. In this direction, endeavours have been made by the Government to seal the border. But despite all the efforts of the Government the border has not yet been sealed. Now the situation is such that the terrorists cross the border and come to our country and after doing the mischief go back to Pakistan. Therefore my submission is that the border should be sealed immediately.

The second cause of terrorist activities is that the Punjab police does not cooperate with the Government. The police personnel do not apprehend the terrorists while attacking the people, because they are in connivance with the terrorists and other anti-social elements and are bribed by them. There is large scale corruption in the Punjab police due to which it loots huge amounts of money. Even the chastity of women folk is not safe in the Punjab. A good number of people are migrating from there. You must have read it in the newspaper today that there are 2000 families living in camps in Jalandhar and Amritsar. Therefore it

is not right to rely on the Punjab police particularly its lower rung. It is B.S.F. and C.R.P.F. personnel who take action as and when the situation demands.

Another thing is that moderate Sikhs have not been encouraged. Had the Government encouraged them, the old people would have given good advice and done something. But now the terrorists have become advancement and they demand Khalistan. Therefore the Government has no right to govern if it cannot safeguard the life and property of the people. So the Government should take some solid steps and find out a solution by taking the leaders of national and regional parties into confidence. Besides the cases of the detenus lodged in Jodhpur jail for the last 3 to 4 years should be examined and the innocent persons should be released. Their genuine demands should be considered so that this issue may be solved. Today the unity of India is endangered due to this.

[English]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are hearing about the Punjab situation for the last several years. And I don't know how long will we hear about this. Actually, the Punjab situation is deteriorating very fast. Only four leaders of Punjab have given a statement that Mr. S.S. Ray, Governor of Punjab, is misleading the Government of India. They have also indicated in the statement that corruption in Punjab was never so high as it is today. The corruption in the area of Punjab is at the highest peak. Such a statement is coming from the people belonging to the ruling party.

The President's Rule was brought in Punjab only to help the Congress Party in Haryana. But the Congress party failed. I had met our hon. Home Minister and wanted to know what he intended to do now. For about a month or so, they are waiting for a *Hukamnama* from Shri Jasbir Singh Rode. When he will issue the *Hukamnama*, the killings in Punjab should come to an end and the *Hukamnama* will quell everything. With this hope, they

are going in a fashion which is most non-political. It has only crippled the administration. I request the administration and the Government to kindly see that this is not done. You are political wings and should move politically so that we are able to save Punjab and face the situation in the correct manner.

When the Barnala Government was brought down, we were told that the morale of the forces is now very high and the terrorists are on the run. But after six months, we are finding that the morale of the terrorists is high. More and more people are being killed and the security forces refuse to come out of their camps at night. This is the real situation in Punjab. Nobody grouses. But why this situation is there? Everybody accepts that Pakistan's hand is there. Everybody accepts that US hand is there. Everybody accepts that only a small number of terrorists in Punjab are playing a very good game. But you don't accept your own failure, plus the failure of the Government of India to tackle the things properly. Its intervention from time to time has always been on the wrong side. This is the reason. Now we have gone to such a situation that it is very difficult now to come out.

As Comrade Basudeb Acharya was telling, the response to the mass contact programme was really nice. It was suddenly stopped. Then suddenly, the mass contact programme was started by your party. Why was that done? Why did you stop that thing? Why don't you call a meeting of all the political parties again? At least, my party never says, don't be strong against the terrorists, You must be strong. The morale of the security forces must be strengthened. But only by this method you cannot do it.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: Why don't you give your solution to this?

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Our solution is to call for a meeting of all the political parties. Why don't you call for it? If you only try to bring the Congress Government in Punjab by this way or that way, it is wrong. As you are trying in

[Shri Narayan Choubay]

Tamil Nadu don't try that here. That will be a wrong method.

My last point is that we will again and again be saying Punjab, Punjab. For how long, we shall be saying like this? I again enjoin upon the Government to kindly consider it seriously and leave out the sadhus babas and fathers. You call all the political party people and see that something can be done. I want and request Mr. Buta Singh to consider one thing. These irritants will have to be put to an end. What about the Jodhpur detenus? Can't screening be done within 4 years? You say so. These people should be screened and released wherever required. They are not screened. In screening, if you find them to be culprits or accused, then the case should be started against them. Then in front of our eyes, thousands of Sikhs are killed. They have been tied up to the lamp posts and petrol was sprinkled and have been set ablaze. Mr. Buta Singh, you saw it yourself. And you could not arrest a single person.

You say Punjab is a national problem but when the question of implementing the Accord comes, you become wholly irritational. You become partisan. Leftists and our party are there to help you. We do not think to take a partisan role. Our people are dying; your people are dying and their people are dying. Still you are silent. I do not know what for you are silent. Be serious. Solve the problem and call all-party meeting immediately and face the problem as it should be faced.

With these words, I conclude.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yes, Mr. Buta Singh.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) : Sir, give me two or three minutes. I would like to give some suggestions I have given my name.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : After the Minister's reply is over, I will allow you. At the end of his reply, I will allow you to have clarifications.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : This is not correct. I have suggestions to make. I will not seek clarifications. I will spend less time than that.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Don't disturb. Listen to the Minister's reply.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : What is the rationale behind this?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There is no time for your party.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Why not? What is the reason?

PROF. N. G. RANGA : What is all this\*\*? Every time you create this trouble. Every time you get up in this manner.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Sir, I have great respect for you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Don't waste time. Time is limited.  
(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yes, Mr. Buta Singh.

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Motion for extension of the President's Rule in Punjab has been the subject of discussion for the last three days and the hon. Members have expressed their genuine feelings on the issue. The hon. Members have expressed their deep concern over the Punjab situation. Punjab has become a complex and grave problem for this House and the nation. Last time during the course of a discussion on Punjab, I had started my speech by stating that one thing is amply clear about the prevailing terrorism in Punjab that the forces which are out to divide the country have made terrorism their instrument and are killing unarmed people in that State.

\*\* Expunged as ordered by the chair.

This has been going on for the last four or five years. However, gradually the situation has reached a point where the terrorists have now been completely isolated. Many hon. Members and Shri Shahabuddin wanted to know whether there is any connection between the prevailing terrorism and Sikh psyche. I want to clarify that there is no such link at all. The Sikh psyche is patriotic, the Sikhs are famous in history for their contribution in maintaining the unity and integrity of the country and hence it is a part of the Sikh psyche. Moreover, the Sikh psyche has been shaped by the teachings of the Sikh Gurus. These handful of terrorists engaged in balkanising the country, have no connection with the Sikh psyche. No Sikh would take up arms against the innocent people. The Sikh community has been created to protect the innocent and not to kill them... (*Interruptions*)...

[English]

AN HON. MEMBER : What about the massacre of so many people everyday ?

[Translation]

S. BUTA SINGH : Please listen to what I am saying and then ask your question. I want to assert that to call the terrorists as Sikhs is to insult Sikhism. They are not Sikhs they are the enemies of humanity. By calling them Sikhs, we are hurting the sentiments of the Sikhs and this is what I have to say. The situation has come to such a pass, as you may have read in the newspapers yesterday or day before, that even the supporters of terrorism inside the Golden Temple are unwilling to support it any longer. Similarly, the merciless killing which is going on which includes the massacre of women, children and the aged, snatching of ornaments, and rape have been condemned. We cannot say as to how far it will be successful but it proves the fact that even the communal minded Sikhs are not supporting those elements hiding in Har Mandir Sahib and oppressing humanity in this way.

Therefore I would like to analyse it a little further, I agree that there are many

issues in Punjab which are still unsettled. For Example, the Punjab Accord. The Accord has to be implemented, it is not a closed matter. Unfortunately the very composition of the Accord is such that in order to implement each article three or four parties are involved, and for every new issue there is a Tribunal or a Commission and so on. The verdict of the commission has to be accepted and executed. Many efforts have been made. I am not saying so today to accuse somebody. Much efforts have been made on the question of water, territory, Chandigarh but the various parties involved failed to reach a consensus. The result was that the implementation of the Accord got stuck upon these three or four issues. Just now Shri Shahabuddin has stated that religious aspects of the Accord should be implemented. I can say it with certainty that the religious points have almost been taken care of. A draft of the Gurudwara Act has been sent to every State. The view of the States will be coming shortly. So far as the Gurudwara Act is concerned efforts are being made to implement it as it has been proposed in the Accord. Views are being obtained. S.G.P.C has to give its opinion. When the S.G.P.C. does not exist, whose view should be taken ? How is the Centre to be blamed in this regard ? There are several other bodies which will have to furnish their opinions. Several issues have financial implications. Shri Ramoowalia is present here. The daily broadcast of hymns from Shri Mandir Sahib is also in accordance with provision of the Accord.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA (Sangrur) : I think the S.G.P.C. has sent its views on the subject.

S. BUTA SINGH : We have not received it so far. It has not come to us. If it has been sent to Punjab Government, then I cannot say. It has not come to us and there are many States where historical Sikh Shrines are located. Several State Governments have yet to submit their views. We have received the views of 5-6 State Governments. The Sikh Organisations have also to send the same. Then there are the Members of Parliament as well. Another reason for the non-implementation of the Accord is that Haryana

[S. Buta Singh]

Government has not yet accepted it. However, they want that the canal should be expedited. These two are contradictory. We do not accept the Accord but we want the water of the canal. How can it happen? What have you to say, Shri Choubey? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : You only tell us.

S. BUTA SINGH : We are providing 100 per cent funds. In order to expedite it, we held meeting with the Planning Commission, Central Water Commission, Haryana Government and the Punjab Governor. But the Haryana Government says that it does not accept the Accord but the Canal should be completed at the earliest. If this is their opinion, then it is difficult to implement the Accord because the very nature of the Accord demands the agreement among both the parties. Along with it, there is also the territorial issue. Under it, certain areas of Punjab have to be given over to Haryana. There are points on which both parties should agree. As regards the issue of Water, we have the Award. It includes the views of Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab.

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Why cannot you speak with those Governments?

S. BUTA SINGH : The Governments say that we do not want to accept the Accord. With whom are we to sit? Can you persuade with the Government? We are willing. That is the problem.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : You have to take the initiative.

S. BUTA SINGH : Definitely, I myself took the initiative. The first thing I did after the Hon. Chief Minister was installed in Haryana I called him and he said, "Sorry, I cannot subscribe to this Accord but you expedite the canal."

SHRI SAIFFUDIN CHOWDHARY : In same line with the Bhajan Lal Govern-

ment.

S. BUTA SINGH : We will definitely try. We do not say that we will not. We owe the responsibility. But unfortunately the very nature of the Accord is that it cannot be implemented by only one party on one side. It has to be...

[Translation]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : The draft of the Accord has been prepared in such a way that it can never be implemented.

S. BUTA SINGH : Now you are questioning the Accord itself. When the Accord was prepared, you had supported it. As regards its implementation,.....

[English]

You should also lend your support. You have a lot of leverages with these Opposition parties which are ruling. You kindly lend your support to them and tell them that this is in the best national interest. Everybody should support it.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Till recently Haryana was ruled by your party. At that time you did not do it.

S. BUTA SINGH : This is the problem. I say even now it is not too late. Why do not you go there and tell them. We are willing. Sir, I have to finish it before 3.00 o' clock.

SHRI SAIFFUDIN CHOWDHARY : We will try to do within the power that we have. We are here to persuade them.

[Translation]

S. BUTA SINGH : Shri Ramoowalia, Shri Acharia and Shri Choubey have raised certain points. You said that the Pradesh Congress leaders have said so. I verified it with the President of Pradesh Congress who said that the press reports are absolutely false. His amended statement has come. He has stated that such reports are untrue. It is

not proper to blame any particular individual and make him accountable for everything. I can see that some newspapers are also involved in such a campaign. Many hon. Friends are of the opinion that Shri Buta Singh should be held responsible for it. Some would blame the Governor for the Punjab situation, or Shri Rebeiro or the District Superintendent of Police or even the Patwari they would say that if the Patwaris are changed Punjab may become peaceful.

**SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA :** There is a difference between the Patwari and the Governor.

**S. BUTA SINGH :** I was referring to the system. I include myself as well. I don't know as to how many articles have been written in Weeklies and Dailies about me.

[English]

So long as Buta Singh is there, I tell you I will be the luckiest person.

[Translation]

I am prepared to make every sacrifice for anything that could solve the Punjab problem.

[English]

I am physically prepared to go.

[Translation]

I do not agree that anybody is putting any obstacle in the way of peaceful solution of the Punjab issue. We could not reach several places and other officials also have not been able to reach all the places. But the Governor goes to every place of mishap. He shares feelings of the people and express sympathy with them.

**DR. A.K. PATEL (Mehsana) :** The Governor also takes part in 'Bhangara' dance. (Interruptions)

**S. BUTA SINGH :** Sir, it is not proper to interfere in anybody's personal life and play jokes with him. We should see

how he is discharging his duty. He is doing maximum struggle. He is covering every village, every tehsil and every district. He has evolved a very good system. All political parties and all officials take part in the 'Lok Shakti' meetings started by him and solve the problems at Panchayat level. I have never come across such initiatives as he is taking as a Governor. He mingles with the people to the maximum and makes efforts. But the situation is such that it is not possible for anybody to eliminate the problem totally howsoever influential he might be.

Just now Shri Choubey talked about the morale of the forces. This can be confirmed from the details of three encounters held during the last fortnight. Our jawans, both from C.R.P.F. and B.S.F. fought with determination and made sacrifices. They became martyrs and eliminated the terrorists on the spot. How far is it justifiable to call these encounters as fake encounters. This is just launching of a disinformation campaign in a planned manner by some people who do not want that the Punjab problem is solved. All the parties, particularly, the C.P.M., the C.P.I., Akali Dal (Longowal), the Congress Party and the B.J.P. extended their support to this cause. The difficulty arose when some people instead of speaking against terrorism and Khalistan in these campaigns held big rallies and repeated their resolve to remove Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Just now also Shri Acharia said that the only solution to the Punjab problem is the resignation of Shri Rajiv Gandhi. The country will go to dogs if the aim of such persons is achieved. Shri Acharia also cannot save the country from such a situation. How far it is correct to say that the Punjab problem will be solved if the Shri Rajiv Gandhi resigned. They are creating a misconception in the minds of the people. On one hand they make these allegations and on the other hand complain that they were not included in the campaign. How this sort of remarks will boost the morale of the people and the forces. Naturally, this will boost the morale of the terrorists. This is what these people want. It is unfortunate that such words are uttered by people like you. This disheartens the people and demoralises the forces. This weakens the forces who are



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fighting against anti-national forces. Just now Shri Choubey said that the problem might be solved by calling an all party meeting. I agree with him.

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Then why are you holding talks with those elements who are against the unity and integrity of this nation.

[Translation]

S. BUTA SINGH : We sincerely want that all opposition parties should come together in so far as this issue is concerned because it is a national problem. It has also been alleged that we want to win the elections through this method.

[English]

I do not think, anybody can be so casual about this.

[Translation]

You are talking of elections in Punjab at this juncture.

[English]

At least not in these circumstances. Your party knows it better than anybody else.

[Translation]

First of all we have to eliminate those enemies of the country who are killing innocent people in Punjab. You are talking about elections. In the resolution that has been moved in the House we are simply saying that the administrations may be given more time under the constitution. It is a formality and it is not proper to talk about elections in Punjab at present. Elections will be held at appropriate time. At the time when all of you were of the view that elections cannot be held, it is we who took the initiative. As soon as the situation improves.....

[English]

We will be the first people to come before this House for elections. We will not shirk our responsibility.

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not want to take much time. If you kindly allow me, I shall conclude within two minutes.

It is absolutely wrong to say that we are trying to make political capital out of it. Just now my colleague Shri Chidambaram said that a systematic campaign of disinformation is going on. It should not be like that.

Shri Shahabuddin mentioned fake encounters. Such allegations were also published in the newspapers. The Director General of police, the Governor of Punjab had referred to them and I have also made a statement in the House about these cases. There were one or two cases which came to our notice and prosecutions were launched and compensations have duly been paid. The Director General of police as well as the Governor of Punjab have clearly said that the Government does not want such incidents to take place. It is possible that in certain stray cases some innocent people were killed in the midst of a massive campaign being launched in Punjab. But a misunderstanding is being created in the society by the propaganda that fake encounters are taking place. This will make the common believe that in the real sense fake encounters take place. It is a wrong thing we should not encourage misnomer spread by our enemies.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : There was a report published in the Statesman. Let the Government have it investigated.

S BUTA SINGH ; I do not want to mention the name of any newspapers. All these stories are planted which create confusion. It is aimed at creating disbelief in the minds of the people against the

Central Police Organisations, Para-Military Forces deployed there. These things demoralise the security personnel.

**SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA :** Will you have it investigated by a commission comprising independent persons in Punjab ?

**S. BUTA SINGH :** If there are any such instances it should be brought to our notice in black and white. Only then such cases will be investigated. Wherever such instances were reported, they were investigated. When such incidents took place in Jalandhar and Amritsar, they were duly investigated and prosecution launched. We have told about these incidents and never denied. But it is totally wrong to use propaganda tactics and launched a movement to demoralise the people and create hatred in their minds against the para-military forces.

Shri Shahabuddin said about Pakistani Interference. A meeting of the Home Secretaries of both the countries is likely to take place. While participating in a discussion held earlier I had placed proofs and also unfortunately I had to contradict the statement made by the President of Pakistan. I had placed proofs and even now I can produce the remaining proofs. As has been said by Shri Choubey, we can call a meeting with the leaders of the Opposition, if they so like and take them into confidence. We will show them the documents which prove interference by Pakistan. It is not that we say this thing, the entire European Press is publishing it. I have got a report published in the Financial Times, London. They have got their independent source of information. In a detailed article they have proved almost on the same lines as I had said. They have published this thing and proved as to how the Pakistani security forces are shielding the terrorists, sending arms, training the terrorists and organising training camps and finally sending them to India so that they could destabilise India and spread terror in Punjab. All these things are there.

[English]

We are going to take up with the Pakistan Government through our diplo-

matic channels. Under the circumstances, I will commend to this august House that the situation is very serious. We should all be together in this. One thing that I may tell you.

[Translation]

Earlier also I told Shri Indrajit, Shri Choubey and Shri Acharia that we will welcome any well meaning person who would help us in finding a solution to this problem. But I would like to stress on one point that unity and integrity of the country is above all and the Punjab problem can be solved within the framework of the constitution of the country. Religion is not above the country in a secular and democratic set up. The simple thing is that the unity and integrity of the country will have to be preserved. Separatism will have to be curbed and misuse of religion will have to be stopped by adopting constitutional methods. Sikhs, Hindus and Christians are living like brothers in Punjab. Their unity needs to be strengthened. Keeping in view these things we have brought forward this resolution in the House and I am fully confident that the august House will adopt it.

[English]

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER :** The question is :

“That this House approves the continuance in force of the Proclamation dated the 11th May, 1987 in respect of Punjab, issued under article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months with effect from the 11th May, 1988.”

*The motion was adopted.*

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER :** Now we take up Private Members' Business. Since we begin this business five minutes late i.e. at 15 05 hrs., we will conduct this business till 17.35 hrs.

Now Bills for introduction. Mr. Shantaram Naik.