

be able to escape anyhow. This is my request to the Hon. Minister. With that conclude.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): It is for this reason that the Bills of this kind were brought. He has mentioned some problems which are being faced. We are satisfied with that. So, we would be able to help the worker in removing all those difficulties which have been faced by him.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."
 The motion was adopted.

17.35 hrs

STATEMENT RE: EXPLOSION IN
 JEEVAN BHARTI BUILDING,
 NEW DELHI

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Chidambaram.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, at about 12.00 noon, there was an incident of Bomb explosion in which some persons were killed and some were

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No. Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)**

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): The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs informed me that the Hon. Members desired to know the facts about an incident which took place in Delhi this afternoon. We have gathered the facts and I wish to place the facts.

** Not recorded.

These are the facts regarding the incident of explosion in Delhi earlier today, as received from the Delhi Administration.

At about 12.10 hours today (10.5.88) a bomb exploded in the Reception area of the City Bank located in the new LIC building called "Jeevan Bharti" near Regal cinema in the Connaught Place. City Bank is an American Bank. The explosion caused considerable damage to the bank premises. One person whose identity has been determined is:

—Satish Chaudhary, resident of NOIDA died in the explosion. Fourteen others were injured and one of them is in a critical state. Out of these fourteen persons, eight have been discharged. As regards the in-patients, five are in Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital and one in Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Hospital. Four of the injured persons were employees of the Bank and others were outsiders.

The case has been handed over to the Crime Branch of the Delhi Police for investigation. The Bomb Disposal Squad and Forensic Experts are examining the scene of occurrence.

All the injured are Indian nationals and the identity of all of them except one person who is unconscious and in a serious condition, has been established.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please... order. The Minister has made a statement. That is all. Now next item.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He has given his statement. That is all. Now Mr. Chidambaram, you may move, for consideration, the next Bill.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I cannot understand this. A bomb has exploded. One man has been killed. (Interruptions)

SHRI MANIK SANYAL : Our lives are at stake.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Your life is not at stake. Don't get excited. Your life is not at stake. A bomb has exploded. Bombs are exploded elsewhere also. Just because it has exploded in Delhi, your life is not at stake. You are unnecessarily exaggerating. Your life is not at stake. *(Interruptions)*

17.41 hrs.

SPECIAL PROTECTION
GROUP BILL

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now we take up next item Mr. P. Chidambaram.

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) : I beg to move.*

"That the Bill to provide for the constitution and regulation of an armed force of the Union for providing proximate security to the Prime Minister of India and the members of his immediate family and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

Sir, during the last few years, incidence of terrorist violence in the country has been on the increase, the aim of the terrorists being to destabilise the democratically elected government by resorting to selective killing of prominent members of the public including those in the Government. Following the assassination of Shrimati Indra Gandhi, a committee was appointed to go into various aspects of the assassination and it suggested the setting up of a single agency to devote itself to the exclusive task of looking after and ensuring the security of the

Prime Minister. In pursuance of the above, the Government on April 1, 1985 constituted the Special Protection Group, a specialised force consisting of well trained motivated professionals to provide proximate security to the Prime Minister and to the members of his immediate family both in the country as well as abroad.

The Group was formed to provide proximate security which includes protection provided from close quarters to the person of Prime Minister in static and mobile locations as well as in an aircraft. A unit of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), called the Special Duty Group (SDG) is also attached to the Special Protection Group for doing outer cordon duties in static locations for Prime Minister in Delhi; this unit is a uniformed contingent which is placed under the operational control and direction of the Director of the Group.

On the operational side, SPG has a strength of about 1400 officers who are handpicked from various Central Police Organisations and State Governments on the basis of their special inclination and physical and mental agility. In discharge of its duties and responsibilities, the Group carries out advance security liaison at places to be visited by the Prime Minister and for this purpose, it is equipped with a technical wing have a wide range of technical equipment and gadgets.

The purpose of the Special Protection Group Bill, 1988 is to have a self-contained statute for regulating matters concerning this force as well as to provide the essential legal status to its functioning. The Bill provides for the constitution of the Group and for deeming the existing Special Protection Group as the force constituted thereunder. It provides for the terms and conditions of service of the members of the force and for its control and direction. It has provisions restricting the application of some of the fundamental rights to the members of the force insofar as this is necessary for the maintenance of discipline. Keeping in view the exclusive task entrusted to this force, the Bill makes it obligatory on the part of Ministries and Departments of Central Government and State Governments and the