

Ministry is unfair to both the States of Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Hon. Member, Shri Rawat is right in saying that injustice has been done to both the States of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Both these States are backward and should be supplied maximum electricity(Interruptions)...

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): Maximum coal is supplied by Bihar and still Bihar is not supplied electricity in accordance with its requirement....(Interruptions).....

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Therefore, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to his statement that Government will supply electricity to villages

You say that houses of every poor man will be lighted and efforts will be made to maximise production in the fields. Both these objects can be accomplished only after the schemes of R.E.C. are completed and maximum electricity is supplied to us. We go on pursuing our demand and you do concede our demand but the quantum sanctioned is too low. You should supply enough electricity to strengthen our set up and we become self-reliant. Then we will extend our cooperation to the whole of India but it is possible if you cooperate with us and give us enough strength. We can also help other backward areas of the country like Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Now I want to say something about coal. It is no being made available to the people properly, particularly in the villages. Small Scale Industry Corporation is perhaps acting as commission agent for supply of coal and people of Rajasthan are being supplied coal through it. There are separate arrangement for supply of coal to the thermal power plants but the distribution of coal for other industries is made through this corporation and it is not supplied properly. With the result that our industries have not been able to make the desired progress. Therefore, there is a need to push forward small scale industries and for this you should extend cooperation to strengthen the ar-

rangements. You should also look into wherever the distribution is on lesser scale. Since it is a nationalised company under the control of Government of India, the distribution should be fair. You should look into the hegemony of certain elements who indulge in selling coal in the black market. A member from the opposition was just now complaining that the losses in coal operations are mounting. When there is a contract and there are no middlemen, how is it that you incur losses. This means that there is leakage somewhere. There are many unscrupulous elements who are illegally operating the mines and are utilising the coal. Alongwith this, they are smuggling coal and unauthorisedly despatching it to other places. It is because of these practices, that you are suffering losses. You should check these malpractices and make labourers shareholder in managements so that they may also keep a watch on the miscreants. It is due to this reason that the Government is suffering losses inspite of its complete monopoly in coal. Therefore, there is a need to streamline the arrangements. The distribution should be made at the state level. The distribution agencies should be strengthened to the maximum possible extent. You should check the malpractices, foul play and illegal operations. For this, you should take positive steps to strengthen the distribution system and take strict action against the nefarious designs of the people trying to bring a bad name to the Government so that people of India may feel that Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Government is handling the situation firmly and taking the country forward on the road to progress. If you give us cooperation in this, Rajasthan will become self-sufficient in the field of electricity, march forward and extend its help in developing the entire country.

16.00 hrs.

[English]

DISCUSSIONS UNDER RULE 193
REPORTED NEXUS BETWEEN AFGHAN
REBELS AND TERRORISTS IN PUNJAB

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House shall take up Item No. 16—Discussion under Rule 193.

B.R. Bhagat to speak.

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT (Arrah): Sir, with your permission, I want to raise a discussion under Rule 193 on a matter which is of very serious concern to us so far as the security aspect of the country is concerned. Actually, it is developing into a major security threat to our country. I would like the House to analyse and consider the seriousness of the situation. On March 28th, our leading newspapers published a news item saying that the nexus between the Afghan rebels and the terrorists in Punjab has come to light. The source of this is a reported letter of the Afghan rebel leader, Mr. Gulbhdin Hikmatyar, who is the head of the Hezbi-i-Islami, in a message to its Indian unit. They have got their own Indian Unit of Hezbi-i-Islami. It has said "some of our brothers were active with Punjab terrorists"

16.07 hrs.

[SHRI V. VENKAT RATNAM *in the Chair*]

The letter further says that the present Government of Pakistan i.e. the present democratic Government led by Ms. Benazir Bhutto has plans to stop these channels and arrest those who are active. It has also been stated further in that news despatch:

"Mr. Hikmatyar has asked his Indian unit to warn terrorists so that the Pakistan Government does not succeed in its traitorous plans."

The message also recalled the great support they had received from the former President Gen. Zia-ul-Haq. It describes the former President as the saviour of Muslims. This news item has appeared in the leading newspapers and the present discussion emanates from that.

As I said earlier, right from the beginning, for several years, it is there. It is not a new phenomenon but the new nexus has come to light that across the borders the Pakistan Government was deeply involved in trying to create a situation which may

destabilise a part of our country, which may destabilise the whole area. This House has discussed a number of times. The Home Minister has given the reports that Pakistan has been running training camps for the terrorists. There are arming, helping and they are doing all kinds of things. He gave many lists to this House and to the Indian Press also. A copy of the letter was given to the Government of Pakistan. But they always say that they are not involved. Previously, they were taking the name of God. They say: "For God's sake, we cannot do this. This is a serious thing which we cannot do." But they were doing it. The names of 34 camps were given to them. The list was given here also. But the recent letter says that the present democratic Government has its own compulsions. The fact is that the people of Indian and Pakistan are basically friends. They maintain friendly relations. Naturally that democratic Government is fortunate in having had a meeting between the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, and Ms Benazir Bhutto. The SAARC meeting led to the beginning of a new relationship, friendship and cooperation. If the Afghan rebel, who is known to be a protegee of the Pakistan Government and if there is a new dispensation and if he takes over in Afghanistan, he is going to occupy an important position and the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister said that Mr. Gulbhdin Hikmatyar has written that the present Government is trying to stop these activities. It has been stated that this was being done by President Zia-ul-Haq when he was in power. This will completely upset their plans. Therefore, they have warned their units. This is the situation present now. Now today there is a new nexus and on the one hand is the Afghan rebel. Now when we see a situation in Afghanistan, I think, our stand was right from the beginning when it started in 1979. The whole situation had arisen in Afghanistan because there was foreign interference which led to the even Afghan Government calling for the troops the friendly countries like the Soviet Union. It has a long history of how it happened. The enormous amount of arms is going on. This is an area today which has the largest peddling of arms. Arms amounting to

billions of dollars have come to India through this area. Apparently, this cannot be digested either by the Pakistan Government or by the soldiers of the Afghan rebels. It has over-flown everywhere now. Now the dangerous weapons are coming to our country. We have seen report that on Afghanistan border, we can get arms. Very sophisticated and dangerous weapons are sold in kilos and they are cheaper than the equal weight of even mutton. This is the report coming. You can buy arms anywhere. There are no licences. When there is the largest concentration anywhere in the world at this point of time, then naturally, they are over-flowing. It is particularly because there is a nexus of which there is further evidence. We were never in doubts about it. I think, our Members on the opposition—well, some of them may have some doubts which they have expressed in writing—most of them have expressed that this is a dangerous situation and the country must do something about it.

Now the new nexus is among the Afghan rebel leaders, Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, the Punjab terrorists and the fourth is the unseen one. someone has described it as 'Triveni' and the other one as he Saraswati. What is that unseen hand? The unseen hand is not that of Afghanistan at the moment. You can have a dichotomy there. The unseen hand is of the I.S.I.—the Inter Service Intelligence of Pakistan. They control this. They are controlling the operations. What is happening now in Jalalabad? Fights are going on. You have seen the reports coming that Pakistan personnel have been named and there are reports that they have been killed. But the more important is that the Pakistan personnel named as Mr. Mohammad Zahir and Mr. Zahid, have been involved in this. So, ISI nexus is there in Pakistan and they are trying to destabilise India and more particularly, they are trying to create a situation of revolt, trying to create a situation of separation in Punjab. They have not succeeded so far politically, they have not succeeded militarily also, thanks to the alertness of the Parliament and all of us. We have been alert there with the law and order machinery. They did excellent job—a very

unpleasant job—but they had to do it. But more important than that is our parliamentary democracy, the people's power here fighting for everything. Their aim was to create a situation in which there is complete break down in the relationship between the Sikhs and the Hindus. And our tributes go to our Sikh brothers. In spite of all provocations, in spite of all the international liaison, in spite of the worst kind of international forces working to create disaffection between Hindus and Sikhs in Punjab, it is mainly because of the Sikh brother, that there is no problem. Punjab is a land of harmony. And I am proud of it. This is, Indian parliamentary democracy. Whenever the country's interest is concerned, we are up in arms, we are up in security. That will prevail finally. It will finally prevail and all the nefarious activities of these people will be defeated as they have been defeated so far. But we should be aware of the kind of this nexus. Now we see what they are doing. The recent incident is that when the fight was going on in Jalalabad, 38 Indians have been killed. The latest report is that more Indians die in the rebel attack. The attack is on whom? The attack is of course on the civilian side. One of the worst victims is the Guru Teg Bahadur Gurdwara in Jalalabad which received 33 rockets. The house of God received rockets and 300 people of Indian origin who were taking shelter there had been killed.

This is the report coming from Kabul. Some of them have been airlifted. The two sikh leaders, Harminder Singh and Gurmit Singh, are Afghan citizens and they are settled there. They have given a settlement of how Guru Teg Bahadur Gurdwara, the most holy shrine respected by all the people of Indian origin and Afghans as well, has been shelled and destroyed.

This is the phase of the worst kind of destabilisation that is going on. We don't understand these ideas. This is the fundamentalist activity in Afghanistan. In our land for five thousand years we have never had this. We said, anybody who is born here is our citizen; he may belong to any religion,

[Sh. B.R. Bhagat]
community, faith or language. For five thousand years we have lived like that. So, this is an unknown ideology.

The terrorisms that we are witnessing is imported. This is emanated from the urban unrest in Europe and the sources of its inspiration both in terms of weapons as well as in terms of ideas have been imported here. But we know the Indian people, the Indian Parliament, the Indian democratic structure, the Indian culture and the Indian history. They stand repugnant to these foreign ideas of separatism, dismemberment, on the basis of caste, religion or violence. this is the country of Buddha and Gandhi. This is the country of Guru Nanak. These very words bring you deep humanism and love for all the people. They cannot be subjected to being destabilised by these foreign ideas of violence or separatism or hatred.

This is the struggle going on. We have discovered a new nexus and I consider it may duty to bring it to the notice of the House. The newspapers have done it and now it is for the House to debate over this. The Prime Minister is at the moment engaged in writing along with the Opposition to find a new package of democratic solution which is acceptable to the people of the whole India and the people of Punjab.

At the same time, we should be aware of the forces which are our enemies working against us. This is an epic struggle going on as we have witnessed in the history between the right and the wrong, between the evil and the good. Certainly, the Indian democracy and the Indian Parliament stand for the good and we should be aware of the nature of the evil. We should also be aware of the nature of the threat that is constantly posing itself and trying to strike at our doors. We should know how to meet it. We know how to meet it and we will meet it. Meeting it is possible when everybody does his duty—the people of India, the Indian Parliament, the Government, the law and order machinery, etc.—by standing united.

I am quite confident that we will not only be able to eschew this, but we will eliminate this threat altogether.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa): Mr. Chairman Sir, we have heard the mover of the Motion—Shri B R Bhagat—carefully. Though the PTI report that quoted the so-called Foreign Minister of the rebel government of Afghanistan who sent a message to his branch people in India that their friends are active in Punjab is apparently a new revelation yet it is nothing new because over the years we have been telling this that what is happening in Punjab is not an isolated incident. It has international ramifications and Punjab has become the focus of an international conspiracy in the background of a bigger design to de-stabilise the whole region according to a global strategy pursued by Imperialism. Now this is the re-enforcement of that concept of ours that we cannot take lightly things that are happening in the secessionist direction in our country. May it be Punjab, J & K or certain parts of North Eastern region these kinds of elements have either already established a link or very soon they will be establishing a link because apart from the internal compulsions these people are having now they have behind them foreign forces and they will connect them together. Many reports came in the past. Many a times during the debate on the Punjab question we referred to his. Many study reports also mentioned this. Certain things have already been referred to by certain Commissions set-up in our country but I believe the Government have not been able to take this issue very seriously because in this background what was required for us to do was to create an awareness among the people about the evil designs of the alien elements and forces—who are directly linked—to dis-member this country. This awareness we have not been able to take to our people and if we have succeeded in this then the fundamentalist forces in our country would not have been in a position to emotionally mislead certain sections of our people in the manner that they are in a position to do today.

While we discuss issues like these, I believe, we are not going to give anything new in these matters for those who are following the debate inside this House. But actually we emphasise this very point that they need to be exposed before the people. What are their links? Who are behind them? This is very important. So far the US Government had been advancing an apparent reason that due to the presence of the Soviet Army in Afghanistan, they were giving all support to Pakistan. Now when that condition is no longer existing, after the Geneva Accord, and the pull out had taken place,, still we can see that the US Government, like in the past, is supplying arms and aid to Pakistan. The earlier situation is no longer valid so far as common understanding goes. But then these arms and support are being given to Pakistan with a definite purpose, to keep alive the very tensions, the unrest in which they are interested. And the larger part of this is being channelised through Pakistan to Afghan rebels. There are enough documents of proof in this regard. When Pakistan violates the Geneva Accord which they signed where any foreign power is prohibited to intervene in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, when they are prevented from giving any encouragement to terrorists, aid to terrorists, at that time, as it was referred to by Mr. Bhagat, their army personnel can be found across the border in Afghanistan. They can be found in the training camps. The European journalists have found them in the rebels camps near Jalabad. Even in the TV, Afghanistan has shown those Pakistani Army personnel who are captured by them. Why is there this kind of willful and deliberate violation of the Afghan Accord by Pakistan? Is this taking place without any motive? Now, they understand the they have become desperate again. They understand that with the kind of atmosphere created through signing implementation of the Geneva Accord, with the fall of Zia-ul-Haq Government and with the new hope raised by the induction of Benazir Government and democracy finding a way for its root in Pakistan, the attempts to have a firm hold over this area will be diminishing in future. That is why, they want this problem in Pakistan, this turmoil,

this conflict to continue. I do not want to blame the Prime Minister of Pakistan or that Government who are trying to firmly establish democracy in Pakistan. I believe that we should give them some benefit of doubt in their utterances they have been saying that they want to adhere to the Geneva Accord, they do not want to encourage terrorists in Punjab. When our Prime Minister had a talk with her, she had committed certain things. We should not disbelieve them. But we have to take note that all things are not being done democratically in Pakistan as has been referred to by Shri Bhagat. The ISI may not be under the control of the Government; maybe those people who are helping the terrorists who are training the Afghan rebels, they want the Benazir Government also to go. It is in the interest of democracy all over the region that these attempts and those who are all involved in this are defeated. It is in the interest of our county, it is in the interest of democracy in Pakistan, it is in the interest of peace in the region that these forces are defeated. Even when the Geneva Accord was signed and the USA and USSR stood as guarantors, the commitment was that after the pullout, no arms should be supplied from both the sides. At that time also, USA President insisted that they would be supplying arms and ammunition to their friends and the Soviets can also do that. It is a very good sign that even after the withdrawal, when the ISI predicted, that the Kabul Government will fall down, but despite the withdrawal, this Government had not fallen down. Their people are fighting; men and women are joining the army to fight and those who are outside now in Pakistan, those who are defying the commitment for a national reconciliation, they are being treated with contempt by the people. Any support to the rebel Government by any country would be a violation of the Geneva Accord, but that support has been given by Pakistan. Things are getting complicated, but the question is how to get out of that?

I believe, India has a role to play in this. It is not a question of another country, it is a question of our region, it is a question of taking steps against those who are linked

[Sh. Saifuddin Chowdhary]

with those forces who are engaged in destabilizing our country, dismembering our country. When the demand is made from responsible quarters that there should be a UNO post in the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan near Tokhram, I think, we should support it. This international organisation of repute has a duty to see that the benefit of Geneva Accord are not frittered away. I do not think that this House requires any statistics to prove that there is a link between the two. It is not a question of Afghans rebels alone, some of them and the Khalistan terrorists are linked to each other; they have links with J&K liberation Front also, or some forces in North-East. I find another bigger link also. The kingpin in all this is the USA Administration.

I believe, the Government has seen the news item in the Statesman dated 1st April, with the heading 'Khalistanis thank USA for support'. There it says:

"An international convention of Khalistan protagonists thanks theinternational organisation for moral, political and material support to the separatist movement, reports PTI"

I am not going into the further details of it.

Sir, those who are wanted by our Government are getting asylum in USA and they are getting support in USA and encouragement is being given by the USA Government to the Khalistani terrorists. There are so many other such reports that are coming which say as to how they are getting passports outside. I have seen one such report which came some days ago and that was about a big racket of selling passport which is operating in Singapore. The passports are sold to the terrorists by them and with the help of those passports they are coming into our country. The passports of migrant workers who are going there are being taken away by them and they are given to the terrorists. All these links have come to Light and I don't think we should take much time to

take action in this regard.

Now, Sir, since you have rung the bell I will conclude by saying one thing. We all know that there is a big conspiracy and, for years, we have been saying that in the killing of Mrs. Indira Gandhi some foreign agency had its hand. We had said that it was not an isolated incident. We all had made our comments clear on that but we are not provided with the relevant materials connected with that case. We had asked them to tell us which agency is involved in creating instability in the country. We have to tell that our people; we have to take them know the country or the agency which is trying to create instability in our country. We don't have to hide anything from the people. Now, this has become a very important requirement.

I am really pained to say that we wasted our time in debating as to what is Thakkar report and what is not a report. The vital question of knowing the name of the enemy has not been answered. What is the meaning of all these pretensions, I don't know. You tell me why we are not entitled to know which agency is involved. I would say, don't give us Report but just say which agency is involved and you please tell us that in reply to this debate.

[Translation]

SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI (Kanpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, our Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi has repeatedly stated on behalf of the country at the international level and our other leaders have also stated the same from time to time that certain forces are at work to destabilise India and such forces are not only dangerous for our country and our neighbours but are determined to impede the atmosphere of development and progress in the world and take one step after another with this end in view. The situation in Afghanistan is before us. The mischief played in India in the name of Khalistan is common knowledge and the same sort of mischief is being played occasionally in Jammu and Kashmir and it is not

necessary to mention as to where all this points to. We are all well aware that Pakistan was created by the British at the time of independence with the sole intention of troubling India and along with it entire Asian sub-continent has always been the focus of international conspiracies.

Secondly, the role which Pakistan has been playing since its inception is that of creating disturbances in India and not let this country rest in peace. There are definite forces behind Pakistan which are determined to destabilise this region and the view is being expressed again and again today. As regards our relationship with Afghanistan, it is naturally a matter of concern for us. The two countries have enjoyed cordial relations since long. Pakistan has tried to strain our relation about which I have definite information. During my tour of the Soviet Union in 1965, I had met late Khan Abdul Ghaffer Khan in Jalalabad who told me that some elements are planning to create disturbance in India and in Afghanistan as well. This is what Badshah Khan told me which I conveyed to the then Prime Minister, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri on my return to India. Today, after the passage of so many years, these things are becoming clear. Whatever is happening in the name of Mujahideens of Pakistan and at Jalalabad where a group of people of Indian origin were massacred in a Gurudwara are not isolated incidents. What forces are behind such destabilising activities? Wherefrom are they acquiring the arms and ammunition? Shri B.R. Bhagat and Shri Saifuddin Chowdhary have referred to the situation prevailing in Afghanistan and Punjab in detail. Wherefrom are they acquiring the sophisticated weapons which are found in their possession? They are definitely not manufactured in Pakistan and if Pakistan is inciting them, there is some other power which is supplying these weapons to them. The kind of sophisticated and weapons seen at Pakistan-Afghanistan borders and the news-items published in the press show clearly that some international conspiracy is at work and the main objective of which is to use Pakistan as an instrument for creating unrest in India. Because of this

design, Afghanistan is to be made as a base to harass Soviet Union because these two countries share the same border. India and Pakistan also share the same border in several regions.

Jammu and Kashmir has been peaceful so far but since some months, same kind of tension is being built up in that State as well. The fundamentalists are bent upon harming the interests of the country and grind their own axe. One point which I would like to make is that the Third World broadcasting network does not seem to be concerned with such matters. One gentleman whose name I would not like to mention because he is a Member of the other House, has constantly been the subject of discussion in this network, who has always made all out efforts encourage such elements and such nefarious activities. The assassination plan of late Shrimati Indira Gandhi was also discussed in the Third World broadcasting network. Such things are broadcasted and propagated through this network. Who hatches such conspiracies? Whoever is behind such conspiracies should be exposed. I have always been demanding this. I want to request the Government of India, that Pakistan is more an instrument of a larger conspiracy and forces behind such conspiracy should be exposed. The people of India want to know about the forces which are carrying out their activities while sitting in Pakistan. Even though at the face of it one may call it democracy in Pakistan as a result of election in which Ms. Benazir Bhutto won but in the real sense of the term I don't think so, as no change in their basic policy is visible so far.

Pakistan provides support for destabilising operations in India and U.S. support is provided through Pakistan in this regard. The same situation is prevailing in Afghanistan. If these elements are trying to destabilise our country and Afghanistan and if they are successful in their mission in Afghanistan, they will create the same trouble for the Soviet Union as well and there can be no doubts in this regard.

The Soviet Union is our friend and it

[Sh. Naresh Chandra Chaturvedi]

combats and checks those forces which are instrumental in creating unrest in the world in the name of international conspiracy and against humanity. India which is a major power is also doing the same work in the world today. Whatever attempts are made for destabilisation at the behest of two big powers, India, as the leader of the third world countries, has started countering such attempts. India is not allowed to rest in peace lest it may weaken such international forces. I agree with Shri B.R. Bhagat that the forces behind these elements should be exposed. Unless this is done, crores of people of India will not be able to make concerted efforts to defeat those forces and more over, the people of India are capable of using nonviolent methods for combating all kinds of threats. I have complete confidence that Shri Rajiv Gandhi will not only be able to give leadership to India but will provide necessary leadership to the entire third world as well. These forces should be exposed and in order to defeat their designs, an appeal should be made to the U.N.O. for checking all kinds of destabilising activities. The U.N.O. should station its armed forces in Afghanistan to meet this crisis. When Russian troops were stationed there, a lot of criticism was made and India was also criticised. It was said about our late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi that she was not opposing the presence of Soviet troops because India is an ally of that country. Similarly the present Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi has also been pressurised. But the fact is that after the withdrawal of the Soviet forces, the situation in Afghanistan has deteriorated. If the Russian forces or the forces of some other country do not control the situation there then the U.N.O. should station its peace keeping force in that country so that the mischief making elements do not get an opportunity to make mischief and they are completely eliminated. I make this demand while supporting Shri B.R. Bhagat.

[English]

SHRI R.L. BHATIA (Amritsar): Mr.

Chairman, Sir, the news item which has appeared in the Press and to which Mr. Bhagat has referred before me is another proof of the foreign forces interfering in India. A number of times—when the Debates took place on Punjab here—I and my other friends have also mentioned that the major problem which is facing Punjab is the foreign hand which want to destabilise India. Unfortunately, some of our brothers, some of our young people who are misguided, were playing the role of the foreign forces. So far as Punjab is concerned, I can assure you that nobody wants Khalistan. Neither the Hindus nor the Sikhs want Khalistan and this thing has been categorically stated by various leaders of different parties in Punjab. But some forces are determined to see that Khalistan is created, that a part of Punjab which is a very important State of India, which is a granary of India which gives a number of forces to the Indian Army, that part only should be there. That is important for the foreigners.

Sir, a number of times I have stated in this House, given examples and proof of the foreign hand, but yet some people have been saying that, "You must prove it and if it is there, why does the Government not come out with it?" But here is a very big proof as to how the foreign forces are helping and how they are trying to destabilise this country.

On the 25th of March,—last month—there was a meeting of some international Sikh organisations in London and there, apart from other things which I need not mention here, they thanked some Governments and the international organisations for the help they have given for the cause of Khalistan. What more proof do you want?

And I must ask our Minister if he has got the information of that meeting which was held. It has appeared in the Indian Press, it was even editorially commented in the *Hind Samachar* of yesterday, in which they have mentioned that the international organisations had thanked those Governments and international organisations for the help in the form of money, in the form of weapons,

which they gave for the cause of Khalistan.

So, I would like to ask the Minister and my question arises out of this Press report to which my senior colleague Mr. Bhagat has referred, that is, whether the Government is aware that there is any unit in India of the Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, to which the message was passed? Is the Government aware of it? If the unit exists what are their connections with the terrorists? I would like to know that from the Minister. So far, we know that the terrorists have got connections with the smugglers on both sides of the border, on the Indian side as well as on that side and they are the conduits for bringing weapons into India.

My second question is, whether there is any nexus between that unit of Gulbuddin Hikmatyar in India and the terrorists. What kind of links are there? Because, it is known that the weapons are coming from Pakistan, and the weapons are supplied by America to the rebels of Afghanistan, those rebels are referring to the Indian section and since the smugglers are the conduit, there must be a nexus between all those people. Our Minister must satisfy us and give this information to this House about what is going on.

With regard to the things which have been mentioned by my colleagues earlier with regard to the situation in Afghanistan, after the Geneva Accord it was expected that since the Russian Army has gone back now there will be no supply of the arms to the rebels by the U.S.A. and other forces. But the result is that there is tension in this region and we have to see how all these forces are connected and what are the forces which are behind them, which are trying to destabilise not only India but the other countries also in our region.

So, this is our request to the Minister that he must tell us, although we all of us know which are all those forces, how they are placed, what are their connections, how they are organising, how they are helping them, how they are sending arms and how they are sending money, etc. But they are

also guiding all those forces while sitting abroad and those forces must be exposed.

With these words, I request the Minister to answer all these questions—whether there is nexus; whether there is a unit of Hikmatyar in India; whether the Government is aware about it; what are their connections with the terrorists; what are their connections with the smugglers and the terrorists and also, if he is aware of the proceedings of the 25th March meeting in London, where they have openly thanked various Governments. The Minister must share this information with the House.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Sir, I agree with the concern expressed by the motion brought by my hon'ble colleague Shri B.R. Bhagat.

Many questions have already been raised. I would like to raise one or two questions in my own way.

With regard to Gulbuddin Hikmatyar unit, I fully agree with what Mr. Bhagatji has said. In the given international situation, was it so very unexpected that these people that is the rebels of Afghanistan would have connections with Khalistan terrorists in India? Surely they are not having connections only today. They must have been having connections for a long time. The Members of Parliament have to learn such a thing from the newspaper. Why can't the Government of India inform the Members of Parliament directly? If the Government of India did not know it earlier, then it is very dangerous. I am not asking this question out of any rancour. I want to know, whether our Indian Intelligence Service is being fashioned in Harvard University culture...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: It is very irrelevant..(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: It is very relevant. If you have not understood it, then I will spell out. It is the Government of India who wanted their Officers to go to Harvard for training. Anyway, Mr. B.R.

[Smt. Geeta Mukherjee]

Bhagat has correctly said about Hikmatyar affairs that there were unseen hands behind it and he mentioned I.S.I. I was really expecting that he would also name the not-so-very unseen hand, in very categorical terms, i.e. those of the American imperialists. I really fail to understand why he stopped at that. He did not mention it very explicitly i.e. about the hawks of American imperialists. ...*(Interruptions)* I know that there are certain national consciousness on certain questions... *(Interruptions)*

Mr. Chairman, I am having only two more points to make. One point is about Hikmatyar affair. I am glad that those who expected the Najibullah Government to fall like a pack of cards had to be disappointed. In that context I am very proud that the women of Kabul are playing a very great role in defending Jalalabad. That shows that if you free women from the fundamentalists clutches and do not tie them down to please certain fundamentalists for certain electoral or any other considerations, then Muslim women can rise like this. This also we should learn from Afghanistan.

Earlier there was a news that Indians died in Jalalabad. Later on, our Government representatives have said that they were not Indians but the people of Indian origin, Sikhs in Afghanistan. I do not know what is the reality. I want the Government to clarify this. But that again has some lesson for us to learn. Our friends in Punjab, I think, this time will appreciate, after the murder of innocent people in a gurdwara, that gurdwaras or for that matter any other religious institutions should not be made sanctuaries for political reasons.

This news which has created deep concern in our mind has another facet. This again gives us an opportunity to convince the Sikhs of Punjab how connection with Pakistani agents in the name of Khalistan is dangerous. I think, this again gives us another opening to have better dealing with the Punjab situation of which we should make

proper use. Whenever a new atmosphere opens up, for example as happened after the Operation Black Thunder, for settling the Punjab question, the Government should utilise that moment properly. My feeling is that that moment was not properly utilised. This has given again one such opening which our Government should make use of instead of your young leader blaming the entire opposition in the NSUI convention as happened yesterday. Therefore, this is a national concern which all of us share. I hope, our Government will feel very much concerned any lay bare the entire nexus as referred to by Mr. Bhatia, and it will play a significant role in seeing that Geneva Accord is not violated by USA and Pakistan, by mobilising all other forces in the Third World against these countries.

I agree with the distinction made between Benazir Bhutto and Pakistan ISI elements, etc. These are the forces which are trying to de-stabilise Pakistan itself. Therefore, we should have a separate attitude towards this kind of forces and Benazir Bhutto. Therefore, we should make all attempts sincerely in this SAARC region against imperialism and fight against those forces which are trying to de-stabilise not only our country but also the peace in the entire region. We have to play this role in a very effective, serious and responsible manner, which we have been called upon to play.

17.00 hrs.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD (Hingoli): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on the 29th March, the *Times of India* carried a news item 'Rebels backing Sikh terrorists' in which it was said that the head of the Hosb-i-Islami Afghanistan, Mr. Gulbuddin Hikmatyar had sent a message to his brothers, who are working in their unit in India, that they should caution the terrorists in Punjab so that they may not be caught or troubled by the Pakistan Government. I think our relations with Afghanistan throughout the history have been very cordial. I remember, when I was a child, I had read a story written by Rabindra Nath Tagore 'Kabuliwala' and since then I have fallen in love with the pathans....*(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER: Not about Mr. Kabuli.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Not about Mr. Kabuli. But who knows some day someone may write about him also. I also remember, Sir, that it was the citizens of Afghanistan who took Netaji out of India, gave him shelter and saw to it that he reached his destination in Germany safely. But unfortunately today, some citizens from the same country have come to India under different names. They have formed their unit and are having nexus with the terrorists in Punjab and Kashmir. These forces in Kashmir and Punjab want to destabilise our country and to see that our integrity is not maintained.

I want to know one or two things from the hon. Minister. Is it a fact that their units are working here in India? If it is not a fact, has the contradiction appeared from the Government in any of the newspapers? If they know who are the people who are working on our soil against India's interest, what action has the Government taken to deport them from India? These are the three main things that I want to ask the hon. Minister. I also want to know whether it is a fact that a year back, a meeting took place in London between Dr. Jagjit Singh Chauhan, the representative of the Kashmir Liberation Front, the representative of the Mujahiddins and the representative of the Islamic Centre in London, and there they decided to cooperate with each other. If it is a fact, then why was this fact not disclosed to the House? Even if you did not disclose it, what precautions have you taken so far to stop their cooperation with each other, which will destabilise our country?

We have seen that in Kashmir some of the arms and ammunition that was supplied to Mujahiddins has entered. It has also come to Punjab. I want to know how much of arms and ammunition have come, how much you have been able to discover and what action you have taken against those who have brought it. Kashmir and Punjab are the two States which are our border States. In Punjab, of course, President's rule is there but in Kashmir we have an elected government. The local government should take all

precautions and they should also work in liaison with the Central Government so that they can put to an end the atrocities that are committed by the terrorists in their own country, Sir, we have been hearing about the Hindu-Muslim riots in Kashmir and all these things will go in favour of destabilising our country. Some sort of political understanding with the secular forces, is a must. If we don't do that, then I am afraid, like Punjab—Punjab is at least recovering—Kashmir may also go out our hands. So, in both the places, you should try to do that. This is my suggestion.

Lastly, Sir, there is a news item; I think in *Patriot* or in *Hindustan Times*, that our Government is trying to help for a broad-based Government in Afghanistan. I pray they succeed in that. When our Government is actually determined to do that, I do not know why Mr. Gulbuddin Hikmatyar should send a message to his own unit whereby he wants to activate them and keep them with the terrorists in Punjab and Kashmir. I hope, the hon. Minister will reply to these points raised by me and dispel the doubts that most Members have in their mind about the whole story.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara): Sir, I congratulate Mr. Bhagat for bringing forward this subject for discussion in this House. But about the nexus between the Afghan rebels and the Punjab terrorists in India as also about the news item relating to that I am not in a position to equate the Afghan rebels activities and those happening in Punjab. I differ if there is an attempt to equate the both. I hope what is happening in Afghanistan may not take place in India or anywhere in Punjab. The reports are there that about 1.5 million people have died and about 5 million people have become refugees and about 10 million people are kept in various parts of Afghanistan as part of the rebel activities. I hope this will not happen in India. Therefore to equate both is not at all correct. But whatever may be nexus that has been brought out, if there is anything that is brought to the notice, that has to be demolished immediately.

[Sh. Thampan Thomas]

Sir, the terrorists activities are going on in various parts of the country and when it is analysed, recently certain conventions held at the International forum had recommended that terrorists activities on both sides are being supported by the vested interests and the vested interests support the terrorist activities for political reasons as well as for economic reasons. Our country is a developing country and this region in the world map is a developing region. The persons who are interested to destabilise this region may on the one side activate the group of terrorists and on the other they may activate the terrorists to achieve their own ends. This is quite common because their economic interest has to be looked into. The weapons which were used in Punjab region by the terrorists, may be sent with the same symbols for use in Afghanistan also. The persons who want to destabilise this area may want to destabilise the other country. But in this respect, I would like to point out one thing that a full-fledged discussion on all these things can only help in knowing the exact position in the matter. Now, the Thakkar Commission has reported that there were foreign hands behind the murder of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the late Prime Minister of India. How the foreign hands had actively participated in this heinous crime is to be established. Now, Mr. Chaturvedi was referring to Mr. Ram Jethmalani's name. But in the *Indian Express* the name of Mr. R.K. Dhawan appeared. If he is telling about Mr. Ram Jethmalani, another citizen of India, then in the light of the present situation, people will also keep in mind the name of Mr. R.K. Dhawan, Additional P.S. to the Prime Minister. So, Sir, this august House should consider how the terrorists and the International agencies working in groups in various parts of the country should be dealt with. This has to be considered by this august House in an impassionate way. For this purpose, I think if these records are available, perhaps it may bring out the co-relation between the international groups and international agencies which are trying to destabilise this region and we can find out where

the real culprits are—the real culprits who are destabilising this country, whether they are hiding in the Prime Minister's house or in the Opposition camp perhaps. This can only be revealed if all these things are brought to our notice.

Sir, when Mr. Chaturvedi tells us about Mr. Jethmalani, I have my reasonable doubts about other persons. How can this be brought out? Mr. Bhagat brings a Resolution saying that there is nexus between Afghan rebels and Punjab terrorists, we would like to know the real facts which the Minister may be able to tell us on the basis of the report received from the investigating agencies. We are very much concerned about the political situation in Afghanistan and at the earliest opportunity, if a political solution is arrived at, it will be good for the region. We should be neutral to the Islamic fundamentalism and we should help the people to bring out people's government in Afghanistan. That will be the best solution to have more stability in this region.

With Pakistan we had friendly relations which were established during the Janata period in 1979 and which were not there earlier. If we can re-establish these friendly relations with the democratically elected Government in Pakistan, it may stabilise the situation. Instead of that, what is happening is, the Prime Minister is charging the Opposition calling them murderers. And also they want to get protection under SAARC umbrella bringing to the people's thinking that there is something going to happen when they are holding power and a situation like this comes. Keeping the situation of fear, to hold on to the office certain techniques are played. The SAARC umbrella is much acclaimed for regional cooperation. If really the Prime Minister could succeed in establishing friendly relations with Pakistan, peace would have been established in this region. But unfortunately it could not be.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Is it your party line?

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: It is not my

party line. I suspect certain things. (*Interruptions*). If better relations can be established, these problems can be solved and any nexus between these terrorist groups is too dangerous for this country and that has to be demolished. In these things how effectively the Government can function? Even in Punjab in spite of the powers which we have given to the Government to meet the Punjab terrorism, we could not succeed. Even in regard to the ceiling of the border with Pakistan the Government has failed. Even after passing of the anti-terrorist law, the Government kept it for 14 months to bring the rules and implement them. Then how can we have success in this context? Of course, I join with Mr. Bhagat in the feeling that the nexus between Afghan rebels and Punjab terrorists is dangerous for the country. Not only that. Any terrorist movement anywhere, in any part of the country or in any region is with an ulterior motive, for economic and political reasons and also to politically destabilise this region. This can only be met by sustained action and the cooperation of the people.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA (Vidisha): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Senior Member of the House Shri B.R. Bhagat has expressed serious concern over the involvement of Afghan rebels in the terrorist activities in India through a motion brought in the House under Rule 193. Many newspapers have also reported news item to this effect last week. It is really a matter of great concern that efforts are being made to create a condition of uncertainty in or around India, and terrorists activities are being carried out in the country and anti-India forces are getting help from their foreign mentors who have connive with some vested interests.

Since time immemorial India has been working for development of peace and striving for creating a condition of live and let others live and spreading the feeling of brotherhood in the world. Due to the fact that India has made tremendous progress towards achieving self-reliance during the last

40 years and has emerged as the strongest democratic country in the world, certain imperialistic powers which want to destabilise the country or want to create feeling of disunity in the people did not relish our progress well. That is why they are conspiring against India on the one or the other pretexts.

Our late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi has realised this danger long back 8 to 10 years ago and cautioned the people of India to be vigilant against the 'conspiracy being hatched to disintegrate and destabilise the country. Their evil design can be seen in the developments in Diego-garcia and establishment of military rule in Pakistan and Bangla Desh. All these developments took place in the 7th and 8th decades in a row one after another in our region. When these forces did not succeed in their conspiracy hatched one after another and our Government under the leadership of our young Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi took stringent measures to face the challenge posed by them and exposed their evil designs, these reactionary forces are now trying to create crisis in Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and other border States. Recently the Government have come to know about the illegal supply of sophisticated weapons by Afghan-rebels to the terrorists active in our country. This exposure has given clue about the nexus which is a matter of concern for all.

From the very beginning we have been attaching great importance to the matters concerning establishment of peace in Afghanistan and creating harmonious relation between India and Pakistan and with the other neighbouring countries. But for the past few years, vigorous attempts are being made to form at terrorist activities in Punjab and sophisticated weapons, stringer, missiles and AK. 47 rifles are being supplied to the terrorists at the cheapest rates at which they are not available anywhere in the world.

The situation assumed serious proportion when it was found that a nexus has developed between the fundamentalist of Afghanistan and Pakistan and the Panthic

[Sh. Pratap Bhanu Sharma]

Committee to smuggle sophisticated weapons by Afghan rebels to terrorists India who are engaged in killing of innocent persons in Punjab.

I would like to draw your attention to the SAARC Summit held in Islamabad recently and prior to that in Kathmandu in which the member countries resolved to take stringent measures against terrorist activities to safeguard the interests of one another.

Now it is seen that such elements are active in Pakistan and are receiving training under military supervision. These elements are helping Afghan rebels and also providing weapons to the terrorists in India. Not only this, they are trying to divide Hindus and Sikhs. The news item appeared in the Hindu daily of dated 2nd April exposed their religious philosophy and regard they have for religious places whether it is a Mandir or Masjid or Gurudwaras. It has been reported that Tegbahadur Gurudwara in Jalalabad was made the target of 23 rocket missiles. It is a matter of great concern and it is an attack on religious feeling. Rather it is an attack on humanity. there is no belief or religion of such fundamentalist. Neither have they regard for any religion. They play in the hands of others and operate terrorist activities in the name of religion

From the very beginning it has been our message to the mankind that the greatest religion is to serve the humanity. Every religion of India lays emphasis that the religion which serves humanity is the supreme. We must give a serious thought to this. I would like to know from our hon. Minister of Home Affairs about persons or forces who are having relation with Panthic Committee. Interviews are arranged through Pakistan about which the hon. Member Shri Chaturvedi has also mentioned that an interview of an hon. Member of the Parliament who happens to the member of other House, was published on 21st November 1987 in 'The Third World Network', the payment for which was made by the Government of Pakistan.

Such persons who give protection to the murderers of Shrimati Indira Gandhi deny their relations with the persons like Gurbachan Singh Manochahal and Vasant Singh Zajarwal, but in fact they have relations with them. The opposition, in spite of condemning them and exposing their misdeeds, is keeping track with them. Such persons who are involved in making conspiracy against India and weakening the democracy, should be exposed.

In the end I would submit that with the pace the democracy in India is becoming stronger by utilising its talent and natural resources available with it, some vested powers which want to establish their own colonial powers in the name of religion—whether it is America or the other imperialistic powers, are envious of our progress and always pose a threat to the defence of India. We should be cautious of the nexus of such powers. Late Shrimati Indira Gandhi had warned us 10 year ago that some foreign powers were hatching conspiracy to destabilise India. Her forecasting is now proving true. Shri Rajiv Gandhi has expressed his determination to face the challenge posed by them. He is also saying that some powers are bent upon to divide the country and such persons are being helped by the oppositions who are having alliance with them. When such charges are levelled against them, they feel offended and in protest they stage walk out from the House but they can not sever their relations with anti national forces who seek financial assistance and weapons from our enemy countries and so much so that even payment for their interviews are arranged through enemy country. Such people should be ashamed of themselves as they are trying to destabilise our Government and the country.

I would like the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to clear his stand on this matter and lay all. Intelligence information and papers available with the Government at the table of the House as also House be apprised of the steps being taken by the Government in this regard. The Government should expose those elements which mislead the country

and conspire with foreign powers to provide shelter and financial assistance to the terrorists in India.

[English]

SHRI B.B. RAMAIAH (Eluru): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the issue of Afghan rebels associating with the terrorists of Punjab is a very important issue. When we talk about the Afghan rebels, we have to go a little further and see as to what is happening. We hope that after signing the Geneva Accord and after the Russians leaving that country, peace and harmony would be maintained in Afghanistan. Unfortunately things did not happen as we expected. What is happening in Jalalabad? These events show that some other force must be supporting those rebels. Otherwise, they cannot survive and sustain for such a long period. Who are the people who are supporting these rebels? Earlier, on several occasions, we had discussed about the terrorists problem in Punjab. They have been trained outside the country. They are getting support from outside. How are the arms coming to this country? Unfortunately, in spite of our repeated discussions at every level with Pakistan, there seems to be no compromise at all and the situation is not improving. The rebels in Afghanistan, who are being supported by Pakistan, may be indirectly supporting these Punjab terrorists or they may be directly supporting them. This is what is happening in Kashmir. We have to consider one thing and we have to see our part in preventing it. Our border security is very important. If the Government had taken care of our borders properly and if they had protected the borders properly, these things would not have happened. It is not only the question of training of the terrorists and supplying arms in a large scale but also there is the question of smuggling activity. It has become a paradise for smugglers in this country. Arms are being sent across the borders. Rockets are coming into our country from across the borders. This shows the weakness on our part in maintaining the border security. In fact, it is not only Punjab which is going to be affected but the entire country is going to be affected. Naxalite

activities are increasing because all these weapons are available to them. These arms are distributed from one place to another. The arms are being distributed to such areas. Even though we have some understanding and even though we have made some compromise with the new Prime Minister Ms Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan, still things seem to be not going on as per the true spirit of the agreement. This is what is happening in our SAARC. Other countries of SAARC are going on making some compromise regarding trade etc. All sorts of things are going on well in reality. What is happening in the European Common Market? How things are improving there. But here we go on discussing and meeting the heads of the State but unfortunately during the past few days things are deteriorating. We have not implemented certain things as per the real spirit of the SAARC agreement. We have to consider as to how in other parts of the world such things are implemented. Regarding the other countries in the world, they have made some compromises between their neighbours and they are working very smoothly. If the SAARC had worked sincerely with more devotion and worked more effectively, these things would not have happened. Who are the people who come to our country? They are only our neighbours. We know everybody else. We have discussed these things so many times. In spite of that, they are going on and nothing has been stopped. We cannot bother about what had happened earlier. At least we thought that things would improve now. What is happening today in Kashmir? It is not only Punjab but other parts of this country would be affected. These things are happening because of our inadequate border security. These things are not being implemented in the true spirit of SAARC. I sincerely feel that if we take proper care, if we implement the SAARC agreement, then things will improve and these terrorist activities will not take place in our country. There would have been complete peace and harmony in Afghanistan if the SAARC principles have been implemented. What is expected of the Geneva Accord? Whatever accords are there, they only exist on papers but in reality they are not working

[Sh. B.B. Ramaiah]

17.33 hrs.

properly. Unless we implement these things in the true spirit of the agreement, peace and harmony will not be maintained. It is not only Punjab but the other parts of the country will also be affected. We have to take proper care. We have to take into account as to what is happening in other parts of the country. How are our neighbours behaving? We should not keep quiet thinking things are going on as per the understanding we reached. I only sincerely hope that our Ministry and our Government will see that our borders are secured properly. We should maintain proper security so that our borders are properly controlled. This sort of thing should not happen. If such things happen, we will have to take a very serious attitude and not simply sit across the table and discuss here and there and finally forget about it. I hope, our Government will take note of it and will take proper precaution and take measures that are required. I hope, that they will secure this country's democracy properly.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT(Almora): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I associate myself with the concern of Shri B.R. Bhagat, the has expressed on the alleged nexus between the extremists of Afghanistan and Punjab, who are acting in collusion with each other to spread terrorism in India and Punjab. I express my deep sorrow for those people, of Indian origin who have fallen victim to the rockets targetted by the Mujahedeens at the Guru Teg Bahadur Gurudwara, Jalalabad.

Since long, news have been appearing in the press that Punjab terrorists are receiving the dispatch of deadly arms and rockets out of the supply of arms being supplied to the Afghan rebels by a particular country through Pakistan. Such news are definitely a matter of great concern for the people of India which have been threatening the law and order situation and unity and integrity of the country.

[Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Such is the situation of Pak-Afghan border that there is every possibility of diverting the supply of those arms to Punjab which were apparently meant for the Afghan rebels and the carriers of such arms are those smugglers, who are involved in drug trafficking and Pakistan is the den of such persons. In this situation, I would request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that it should be investigated whether some of the Punjab terrorists have been seen in the training camps organised for Afghan rebels and if it is so, it is certain that some terrorists have been penetrating into Punjab with deadly weapons. Pakistan is still the refuge of terrorists. In view of the nexus between the smugglers and the terrorists and in view of the attitude of the Pakistani Army, it is our good luck that changes have taken place in Pakistan and democracy has been restored there, which is having favourable effects on the mutual relation of the two countries and it is in line with the feelings of the people of both the countries. In this respect, we extend out support for the initiative taken by our Hon. Prime Minister and Mrs. Benazir Bhutto. It has given us hopes, but the suspicion that there are still such training camps in Pakistan, which have been imparting training to the Punjab terrorists, still haunts the mind and has not yet proved baseless. If some one thinks like that, he is mistaken. I would like to request the Government through you that investigation should be made to find out the nexus, if any, between the terrorists, the Mujahideens and any such intelligence agency, which wants to destabilise India. There was some news in the newspapers that some unit of Afghan rebels is operating in India and that breach has been informed that the Government of Pakistan is blocking the way for supply of arms and ask the rebels and the terrorists in Punjab to be alert. In case it is true, this is a matter of great concern. Besides, this should also be kept in view that Afghan rebels have said that the Government of India has been standing by the Government of Afghanistan. So it is a

strong founded suspicion that Afghan rebels have been supplying arms to the terrorists and they have also asked these Afghans living here to remain active. There are a lot of Afghan nationals who have come here and some of them may be having sympathy towards them. I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that the Government should be very cautious and should get it investigated thoroughly.

Sir, we can also trace this nexus even on the international level. Anti-India terrorists hold demonstrations against India in Frankfurt, Paris, London or in other foreign countries. Some of them are evidently Pakistani nationals or some are members of the so called Jammu-Kashmir Liberation Front whereas some are working as informers of the terrorists of Punjab. They dance to the same tune against India. They speak in the same voice and level same sort of allegations against the Government of India. Thus, there is an element of active cooperation between them and we cannot ignore this fact, because it reflects here also.

Today, this nexus is so strong that when Mujahideens launched rocket attack on the Gurudwara of a particular religion in Jalalabad and a large number of people of that religion were killed, none of the terrorists criticized this attack, though they call themselves the Messiah of the religion and in the name of religion, they conduct all their anti-national activities to the detrimental of the integrity of India. I am not talking of any faction of Akali Dal. Instead, I am just saying about those terrorists, who do not have faith in religion, but are merely operating their anti-national activities in the name of religion. These people did not say a word to criticise it.

This nexus is too strong to be ignored. Sir, it is good that the hon. Member, Shri Thampan Thomas is present here. He spoke of the Thakkar-Commission. I can very well understand his resentment. It is but natural that when a person is vanquished, he gets infuriated.

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): His speech today is an appendix to his yesterday's speech.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: I would like to submit to Shri Thampan Thomas that the Government is going to move a resolution on Thakkar Commission. Which will be discussed here. You can participate in that discussion, if you have got the courage and if you think your stand to be logical. It will certainly make an impact on the masses, if you make out your point to justify it.

[*English*]

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: One foreign agency's name is mentioned in the Thakkar Commission Report. I want to know whether it is the same agency which is involved in the Afghan and Punjab terrorism.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Sir, I was just making a passing reference to Shri Thampan Thomas.

[*Translation*]

Shri Thampan Thomas has objected only one one ground i.e. why the opposition is being associated with it. Particularly he mentioned about Shri Chaturvedi. We know that none of our friends in the opposition can deliberately think about anything which is anti-national. But knowingly or unknowingly some people do commit such things. If you want me to name the person I will clearly say it as Shri Chaturvedi has also said it and Shri Pratap Bhanu Sharma has himself said that he appeared for an interview on the third world network on the 21 November, 1987. He is an hon. Member of Rajya Sabha whom you love most and who has been elected by the people of your state with your support. He is sitting in the Upper House. It is known to Shri Thampan Thomas that the entire pay-

[Sh. Harish Rawat]

ment therefor was made by Pakistan. He has not only praised the Mujahideens, but also said that the Mujahideens have been working with a determination and with the same spirit some youngmen in Punjab have been fighting against the atrocities of the Government. We are pained to find that he has tried to equate the two. It does not matter that it was broadcast on third world network or Pakistan had paid the money, but he has equated the Mujahideens with the Punjab terrorists. Though in my opinion they are of the same category but they are moving in a wrong direction whereas he has stated them to be on the right path. It is matter of regret that he has compared them with the people working in the right direction. We have every right to ask you to change your attitude, if such people are there in the opposition. To whom you will say. Your ex-Chief of the party, who, it is not known whether he is in the High Command or not, had gone to the Golden Temple where he had given a clean chit that there were no weapons with them, but after some days when the police searched that place, they seized a large number of such sophisticated deadly weapons on which concern were expressed not only in and outside this august House, but also at the inter-national level. You are either confused or lost in other matters.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs through you that it should be thoroughly investigated whether there is any unit of Afghan rebels operating in India. If so, it is certain. They may be having a nexus with the terrorists of Punjab. If this is so, it is a matter of grave concern for India. The Government should consider it seriously and find out as to how are these dangerous weapons, which are supplied to the Afghan rebels, reaching the terrorists of Punjab and J.K.L.F. and such other organisations which are responsible for the disturbances in Jammu and Kashmir. If this is not found out, it will be a blunder on our part. I think that the hon. Member has moved the resolution with this intention in mind. I render my full support to

the concern expressed by Shri B.R. Bhagat in this regard.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA (Sangrur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I express my deep concern about the matters raised by Shri B.R. Bhagat. I fully condemn the reported nexus between Mujahideens of Afghanistan and the terrorists of Punjab which poses a serious threat to the unity and integrity of the country. However, I have slight objection to the heading of the resolution. It should have read as follows:

[English]

"To raise a discussion on the situation arising out of the reported nexus between Afghan rebels and terrorists in this country."

[Translation]

Terrorism prevails in Jammu and Kashmir and in other areas as well but why has only Punjab been singled out? This should have been changed... (Interruptions)...

It is a matter of great satisfaction that the entire House has praised the people of Punjab for having stood firm like the Himalayas and for maintaining unity despite the designs of the terrorists, foreign agents and foreign powers. I thank the hon. Members for giving vent to the genuine feelings in this regard. The hon. Members have praised the people of Punjab and the Sikh community in particular for not having been swayed by any kind of instigation and for standing firm and united. Shri Harish Rawat, in appreciation of the people of Punjab, said that they have stood firm like a rock in the face of heavy odds. To me it appears to be a fight of a lamp which has to weather storm and rain.....

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: A storm may only displace a few persons whereas the lamp gives light to thousands of people.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: It should not happen that we fail to strengthen this lamp of unity of people of

Punjab. The people of Punjab are making their level best to fight terrorism...

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: This reminds me of the following Urdu couplet:

*" Fanoos bankar jiski hifazat hawa
kare
Veh shama kya bujhegi jise roshan
khuda kare."*

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOW-ALIA: God has lighted the lamp of our unity. It is a fact that terrorism is spreading to other States as well. Shri Chidambaram had stated on 2nd April in reply to a question that

[English]

'The monthly average of persons killed in Punjab increased from 43.3 during 1986 to 162.41 in 1988.'

[Translation]

I am not one of those people who point out that 43 persons were killed on an average in a month under the Akali regime and 162 persons were killed during the President's Rule. Although this is a fact but I am not going to make it an issue. The point that I am going to submit is that the reply of Shri Chidambaram and the Government of India is a proof of the gravity of the threat posed by terrorism and in this connection. I have humbly submitted that we welcome the steps taken by the Hon. Prime Minister recently to lend strength to the people of Punjab. But the leading writers, journalists and the intellectuals of the country have said some other things also in this regard. They have said that the terrorists have certain talking points and they try to mislead the innocent people of Punjab. It is the grace of God that they are not misled inspite of it. If the terrorists are dispossessed of these talking points, we shall be able to strengthen the people of Punjab. In this regard I quote:

[English]

The package has accentuated other de-

mands, particularly, the need to punish those responsible for the November, 1984 riots. All Opposition Parties have spoken with one voice on this issue. The mental torture caused by the riots to the Sikhs can be healed only if the guilty are punished in accordance with the law and this is the demand which even the BJP has raised.'

[Translation]

I am referring to strengthening of the people of Punjab. Shri Tohra and Shri Badal were arrested during the Barnala regime. Whatever we may say but the fact is that Shri Badal and Shri Tohra were arrested because our party the Akali Dal (B), lost the SGPC elections in the democratic process but the Government reacted by arresting these two leaders. More than two years have passed and they should be released. Sukhjinder Singh Sekhon and Kuldeep Singh should also be released. After all, it has been proved that they also belong to the national mainstream and are not isolated from it. I want to submit one more point. Our intelligence organisations have to rely on the Press for getting information. The hon. Members who are present here had no inkling of the events to come. Why should we rely on the newspapers and journalists for getting information. The Government should be vigilant about the matter under discussion in the Consultative Committees or in the different Forums and take stock of the situation developing in the country. The situation today is that the Press has become the sole source of information. It has been reported in the press today that one thousand home guards recruited recently in Punjab have resigned at the behest of the terrorists. This has been reported in the Press. I want to suggest the way of strengthening Punjab. I sincerely feel that the proposal of the hon. Prime Minister for holding panchayat elections in Punjab will be a step in the right direction. However, the situation prevailing in that State at present should be taken into consideration before taking any such step. I think the situation in Punjab is not favourable for holding the elections. The hon. Members from Punjab in both the Houses had unani-

[Sh. Balwant Singh Ramoowalia]

mously suggested that panchayat elections in the State should be postponed and the were postponed. One thousand Home Guards have resigned today because terrorists have threatened to kill their children if they continued in service. In such a situation if elections are held, there will be division in villages and hostile forces will gain strength and our unity will be eroded. An all party meeting should be convened to find out whether elections should be held or not. Punjab issue should be discussed with them and steps should be taken to isolate the terrorists from the common people. Necessary attention should be paid as to how to do it. With these words, I share the grave concern expressed in the House.

[English]

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, though I do not agree that this episode should be treated as help given by the Afghan rebels to the Punjab terrorists, yet this is not an isolated phenomenon, it is a part of the total phenomenon and that is what should be the diplomatic order in South West.

I would invite the attention of the House that the Pakistan President wanted to have a confederation and Afghanistan would be a part of the Pakistan confederation. This is the design which has been worked out there. I would also invite the attention of the House to the fact, that when the Afghanistan was being discussed in the presence of the Soviet Foreign Minister when the Prime Minister of Pakistan, that helpless lady, spelt out the Government policy, then the foreign Minister said: "Madam, this is your party's policy, this is not the foreign policy of the Government."

So far as Afghanistan is concerned, the policy is being determined by the army and not by the democratic Government. That is the tragedy of the situation. In the Geneva Agreement, it has been stipulated that there would be no Pakistan army in Afghanistan

border. But that itself is being violated. My submission is that unless we analyse the total diplomacy in that region, we cannot find an answer to this problem.

Who did not know that Pakistan was supporting the terrorists? When it was first disclosed by the Government, a section of the leadership in the opposition laughed it away. But when Shri Barnala came as the Chief Minister, when he said categorically and emphatically that Pakistan was interfering, helping the terrorists, then only it was accepted. The tragedy of the situation is that a section of political leaders want to play the game of confrontation in this area. There are a section of political leaders who are basically fundamentalists but they give lip service to the patriotic cause of India and to the national integrity. This is what we all should be conscious of and my submission is that everybody should be conscious of it.

Now, I came to the other side of the matter. Here I would like to quote a Communist leader of Pakistan. Perhaps his statement would be useful for the debate. Mr. Jam Saqui, Politburo member of the Communist Party of Pakistan alleged today that the Pakistan army had been imparting training to Afghan Mujahideen at 120 centres in the country and both Pakistan and American advisors had been attached with the Afghan rebel groups operating from Pakistan territory.

Then he further said:

"Pakistan army had been operating in 23 countries on behalf of the USA and in Afghanistan also the army's stake is very high because if there is no tension, the Pak army cannot demand for high defence budget."

So, this is a part of their policy. The Government has no control whatsoever. Even Benazir's own brother said that his sister had conceded too much to the army to be the Prime Minister. The Army is still controlling and directing the policies. So, we must be very much careful about it.

After the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi's visit to Pakistan we have a very cordial atmosphere between the two countries. But now the reports are coming that the Pakistani rangers are supporting the intruders in India. I raised this point in the Ministry of External Affairs Consultative Committee meeting. I put the question to the Home Minister but the reply given was very funny. The reply was, "We have no information". I request the Home Minister to please into it. Is this the way we should handle the situation? I don't blame you personally. I say that some of the bureaucrats do not understand the implications and the seriousness of the situation which is to be looked into.

Another aspect which I would like to submit is about the withdrawal of Russian army from Afghanistan. Sir, I recollect the days when India's policy with regard to this was spelt out. India did not outrightly condemn the Soviet Union. I was there in this very House where India and, particularly, Mrs. Gandhi commented that this was the non-alignment policy which they were pursuing. The policies which Mrs. Gandhi followed have now proved to be hundred per cent valid. What has happened after the withdrawal of the army of the Soviet Union? The situation has gone into the realm of fundamental forces and into the realm of Super Powers. We should be very much careful about it. I would like to know what is the reaction of the Government of India to this. When Pakistan had worked out a policy to have confrontation with Afghanistan, what was the reaction of the Government of India this? Now, the situation is that we have to strengthen the Benazir's Government which is a democratic Government. The Army is controlling the situation there and without the army's help there cannot be any interference by the rebels in India.

18.00 hrs.

What is our attitude towards the Islamic

Conference which constitutes all the Islamic countries. Almost all the Islamic countries have extended their recognition to the rebel government. The only country which opposed it is Iran. We should have expressed our reaction to these developments. But we are conspicuously silent. The Shura meeting which constituted the Government there was held at gun point. So far as the Shias are concerned, they are not involved in or associated with the rebel government. We must be very careful and we must spell out our stand. This is an issue on which the country should stand united. There should not be any politics of confrontation in areas where the integrity of the nation is concerned. There should not be any politics of confrontation in areas where the existence of our very freedom is in question. There should be no politics of confrontation where the basic ideal of our nation itself is at stake. The nation must stand united as one man and fight.

So far as Pakistan is concerned, we should be very careful, although we have very good relations and their Prime Minister is anxious to improve the situation. I say we must be careful because we have the experience of their experiments with the nuclear bomb and about their moves to import weaponry from the United States of America. All these things are going on because Mrs. Benazir has absolutely no control over the army. About the issue of Siachen also, the army questioned her right. The Simla Agreement does not provide an answer to the army. These are the problems to which we have to address ourselves and find solutions.

18.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven
of the Clock on Thursday, April 6, 1989/
Chaitra 16, 911 (Saka).*