

the Ruling Benches wanted has already been achieved. If the Treasury Benches wanted to see that the Opposition is exposed, they have already succeeded in their mission. The Opposition stands exposed already by running out and avoiding and shirking their responsibility.

Let the matter rest over there. That is the plea that I want to make to this House. Let us not further precipitate the matter. The Treasury Benches have got what they wanted. It would not now be proper, fair and just further to push the matter. I would, therefore, request the hon. Member, Shri Shantaram Naik, who has moved the motion that in view of the situation that has been created today by the opposition, in view of the fact that they have withdrawn and walked out and in view of the fact that they have exposed themselves to the entire nation, to withdraw his motion and not to precipitate the matter further.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: My only contention is this. The Committee of Privileges is also a fact finding Committee. Any matter where the House wants to find out the truth can be referred to the Privileges Committee and in the past, as far as my information goes, even matters under the Anti-Defection Law have been referred to the Privileges Committee. Therefore, his contention is not correct....

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: The rules may provide that, but what about my plea? What is the use of trying to precipitate matters?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall first put amendment No. 6 moved by Shri Shantaram Naik to the motion to the vote of the House : The question is:

"That in the motion,--

in paragraph 4, --

for "first day of the last week of the current session."

substitute "last day of the first week of the next session"

The motion was adopted.

Mr. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall now put the amended motion to the vote of the House:

"That during the discussion on 'No Confidence Motion' on 10th December, 1987, Shri K.P. Unnikrishnan, a Member of this House, made an allegation against Shri P. R. Das Munshi, Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce, of having made an untrue statement on the floor of the House regarding 'cornering of licences by Bachchan Brothers in Kandla Free Trade Zone' which was rebutted by the Minister.

That during the discussion, it came out that if on reference to the Privileges Committee, the allegation, was proved correct, the Prime Minister would make his Minister resign and, if the same was found false, the Member, Shri Unnikrishnan, would resign his seat in Lok Sabha.

"That the above proposition was accepted by all concerned, which is clear from the day's proceedings of the House.

"This House, therefore, directs the Committee of Privileges to make a detailed investigation into the allegation made by Shri Unnikrishnan and report to the House by the last day of the first week of the next session."

The motion was adopted.

17.25 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 on the

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

Statutory Resolution moved by Shri Buta Singh on the 2nd May, 1988 in respect of continuance in force of the Proclamation in Punjab.

Shrimati Sukhbuns Kaur.

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR (Gurdaspur): Sir, I rise to support the Resolution for the extension of President's rule in Punjab. As all the colleagues are aware, the situation in Punjab is such that none of us are very happy. What has been happening in Punjab? Punjab has been discussed before; suggestions have been made; assurances have been given, but in spite of everything, the conditions have not improved, as we wished and hoped they would have improved. Punjab is not a problem of Punjab any more. It is a national problem. As I said, the conditions in Punjab are not what we had hoped they would be.

The President's rule was promulgated with the hope that conditions would improve, but still the normal man, the peace loving man is being harassed and the conditions are such that the people are moving out of the villages into the cities. My constituency is Gurdaspur and I think, everybody reads about this place in the newspapers daily. It is one of the most affected areas. Everyday you hear of killings in Punjab and two three people out of them are from Gurdaspur.

Sir, the Home Minister is here and he has had several meetings with the officers of Punjab, with the Governor of Punjab and also with the newly appointed Advisor of Punjab and I am sure he is aware of things that are happening there. But since I belong to an area which is worst affected, I would like to bring out some of the things that are happening in Punjab. May be he is aware of them and may be he is not.

It is not only the members of the minority community who are being harassed and who have to leave the villages and go into the cities but it is also the peace loving Sikh who is being harassed. Anybody who earns a certain amount of money, who is

well of, the terrorists are going to their houses. They are going there and demanding money and these people have to give that money or they lose their lives. You have read in the papers that people have been killed. Complete families have been wiped out only because they did not do what the terrorists wanted them to do; did not concede to the wishes of the terrorists.

The people there are caught between two very difficult situations and I would like to give an example to the Home Minister. A terrorist goes to a Sikh family and says "I want to leave my weapons here". He is forced to accept those weapons and the terrorist leaves those weapons and goes away. Then the man is caught by the police and the police wants to know where those weapons are. He naturally leads the police to the house of the man who was forcibly made to accept those weapons and hide them. The police takes him away and say that you harboured the terrorist. So, he is beaten up by the police or whatever his fate is, the Home Minister knows. The after that the terrorist finds him out and he is either killed by the terrorist and if he is not he is taken by the police and kept in jail. I do not know what happens to him later on. So, the problem is that if he goes to the police he is in trouble and if he does not go to the police he is in trouble. I would like the Home Minister to take this into consideration and also you have noticed and read about it that a lot of people who are killed they were the informers of the police. We have requested the Governor and I request the Home Minister again that please when anybody gives you information, this information should not be leaked to the Press or to anybody else because in this way you are not going to get the cooperation of the people. I would go on all evening giving examples of what is happening in Punjab but I am only bringing this out so that my colleagues here realise and appreciate that a part of their countrymen; a part of their brethren are living in such conditions in this country and it is the duty of each one of us in our own little way to do what we can to help the Government and to help the Prime Minister to solve this problem and bring peace in Punjab. We thank the Prime Minister for all the initia-

tives he has taken and I on behalf of the people of Punjab request him that he should do something to remove any such irritants that are bothering the people of Punjab; the common man of Punjab.

Sir, I am here today appealing to all my colleagues to realise the conditions in Punjab and to help us. Tomorrow, day after tomorrow or may be the next week you all might be standing in two minutes silence for me. But let that fear not deter us in our determination to fight terrorism. I would not take much time of the House. I would like to convey to the Prime Minister through the Home Minister that the Congress in particular and the people of Punjab in general are solemnly behind the Prime Minister in whatever steps he takes to solve the situation in Punjab and seeing the situation and the conditions, since there is no assembly, there is absolutely no other option for the Government but to extend the Governor's rule for another 6 months and I support this Resolution.

[Translation]

SHRI MANOJ PANDEY (Bettiah): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Resolution moved by the hon. Home Minister for the extension of President's rule in Punjab. As regards the situation in Punjab, discussions have already taken place in side and out-side this House and as the hon. lady Member has also said just now, the situation in Punjab is really very serious. The living conditions of the people in Punjab cannot be described in words. I have sympathy for them. Every day Punjab incidents make the headlines of the newspapers. Even the late night news bulletins on T.V. have the predominance of Punjab events. All the time, Punjab situation is occupying the minds of the 'people of this country.

There are no two opinions regarding the fact that our hon. Prime Minister has left no stone unturned to solve the problem of Punjab which is being appreciated by all. The sincerity shown by him in implementing the Punjab Accord is extremely appreciable. But it is unfortunate that whenever we discuss that Accord, the

leaders of the opposition start finding some or the other fault on which the Government may be criticised. For example, whenever the Punjab Accord is discussed, efforts are made by the opposition to take political advantage of it. Before signing the Punjab Accord and even later, the opposition leaders were always invited by the hon. Prime Minister for talks, they were apprised of the latest developments and in consultation with them attempts were made for a solution. Today the Members of the opposition are not present here, otherwise I wanted to tell them that whenever difficult situations arose in Punjab, the opposition parties started indulging in "witch hunting". Punjab problem is not a political problem. Various hon. Members mentioned it as a law and order problem but the Punjab problem was never treated as that of law and order by our party. Hon. Member Shri Ramoowalia will also agree with me on this point but it is unfortunate that whenever the question of finding a solution to the Punjab problem comes to fore, those living outside the Punjab and the Members of the opposition start talking about the law and order situation. We have never seen the Punjab problem from this angle. Sir, the difficult situations as are prevalent in Punjab, can never be viewed as law and order problem. It is a national problem. That is why every citizen of India has a concern for the incidents of Punjab and he does think why all this is taking place there. As I have already said, all the time only Punjab problem occupies our mind and we are all sad due to this. The feeling of this sadness is also just, because Punjab is our prestige and honour and its per-capita income is the highest in the country. I have myself been to Punjab and have seen everything with my own eyes. Words fall short in praise of the Punjab farmers because their contribution to the advancement of this country has been substantial. It is a great thing that there is no caste and creed consideration of Hindu and Sikh among the farmers. A farmer is simply a farmer.

Sir, the solution to this problem is to be sought through a collective effort. The hon. Prime Minister himself has said the same thing but it is quite sad that even on the

[Shri Manoj Pandey]

Punjab issue, the opposition Members do not want to sit together or to have a consensus on the issue. It is an ordinary thing that minor errors are made in any Operation, but the opposition has not expressed its opinion which may prove that they have not shown a sense of responsibility in this regard. After all the Punjab problem is that of the entire nation. We all understand where is the origin of the Punjab problem. We did not create this problem, foreign powers are also involved in it. Everybody knows it. But it is regretting when the Members of the opposition say that we have never talked to them responsibly, though we have repeatedly said that we are always ready to solve this problem.

Sir, you are aware that Pakistan has a hand in the Punjab problem and you also know the name of the country. Which is supporting Pakistan. It is not an easy job to solve such a grave problem instantly or within minutes. Every body knows that the Punjab is the epitome of our country's honour. Whatever we can say in appreciation of the Punjab farmers and our Sikh brothers, still falls short. They have done a lot for our country. Besides this I maintain that if there are 2-3 brothers in a family, each one of them may have a different aspiration. This country too is like a family and our hon. Prime Minister is like a guardian of this family. May be one brother in the family has a feeling, which may be perhaps right, but if he stands apart and says that he would like to live in a separate houses, the family would never give its permission for such things. It will not be accountable for this. If that person wants to quit the family, then India as a family will never pardon him for that.

Sir, everyone knows as to who is financing these extremists. Boys, minor as well as adults go and get training there. Even today about 10-12 thousand boys are being imparted training there. Even today, training in A.K. 47 chinese assault rifles and rocket launchers is being imparted to them across the border. But one thing is beyond my comprehension viz. how does this infiltration take place on our borders? Sir, it is

due to our own weakness. We read in the daily reports that while crossing the border five extremists were killed. Sir, what do you mean when you say that they were killed while crossing the border. Only those five people do not cross the border but some more persons cross the border and the actual number reported is only of those persons who get killed. The use of rocket launcher is a very serious thing and I every-time there is a possibility of such activities. I do not think that the number of troops we have deployed there is, insufficient, but there are some drawbacks with them. At the same time we should also appreciate the conditions in which our forces are functioning on the borders. They all are working hard from dawn to dusk for the nation and if we sit here and talk against the interest of these forces, it does not behave us.

I feel that those forces have been deployed for maintaining the unity and integrity of the country but the way we talk about them is not just, though there are certain drawbacks in their working which need to be brought to the fore, and I do not maintain that everyone in the force is doing very well, yet we must appreciate them for the conditions in which they are working. On one hand you talk of the AK47 rifles and on the other, you are also aware of the arms provided to the B.S.F. and the sort of the training they are given. Suggestions for improvement are now being made and some improvement has also been done in it. I would like to mention that both the sides are equally responsible and in order to solve this, various steps have been taken. Our Hon. Prime Minister has repeatedly said that we want to have talks with the opposition and find out a solution to the Punjab problem on the basis of general consensus. But it is regrettable that our opposition members behave in such an irresponsible manner. Moreover, they start criticising and say that we did not say this or that. All this is very painful.

The most important thing is that we are to find out a solution to the Punjab problem and it is the duty not only of our Hon. Prime Minister but of all the people. Regarding the reports of killings in Punjab

that this morning 16 persons were killed, yesterday 17 were killed, day before yesterday 20 persons were killed I would like to say that, such a possibility is always there when some frenzied people...

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH:
Give your suggestions.

SHRI MANOJ PANDEY: That is what I am doing only. It is you people who talk of other thing. What I mean to say is, that we people, including the Members of the Opposition organised a number of meetings. Our Congress Members also attended these meetings at certain places and the opposition also participated in them at certain other places. This had a good impression, but even in this matter, the misfortune was, that some parties did not cooperate. The Hon. Prime Minister is being blamed for this too, but how long will this continue? It is not apt to blame Shri Rajiv Gandhi for everything.

When they say here in this House that the problem of Punjab is the problem of the country then why should they try to find fault with and criticise Rajiv Gandhi on all matters? The Opposition will have to think over this afresh. In my view, efforts for bringing about a general consensus among all the parties should be accelerated so that the misguided youth may be brought back in the mainstream. There can be no two views regarding the fact, as Shri Ramoowalia also agreed to it that. Whenever all the parties held a joint meeting, it certainly had an impact on the terrorists.

In my view the prime need of the present democratic process is to start our collective collective efforts afresh. We should visit the villages and make the villagers familiar with our feelings for them because we think alike regarding the progress of this country. We must apprise the people of the plans being formulated for this welfare and of the feelings we cherish for them.

It is quite unfortunate that one of our opposition friends from Maharashtra has gone to the extent of saying that we will

boycott the sikhs. There exist such elements in the society who creates such feelings in the country. They also know the Consequences they could have faced for that in some other country. It is our hard luck that some people are taking undue advantage of the negative values of our democracy, which should be avoided. Had they been the citizens of some other country, they would have faced the results of their misdeeds, yet, the fact remains that there are some good people also among them. But when they loose their sense of reasoning, they find no difference between good and evil. The democratic proces initiated by you, should be restarted and the president rule in Punjab should be further extended.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA (Sangrur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was just listening to my dear friend Shri Manoj Pandey. We have had discussions on Punjab many a time for hours together in this House, but till today, nobody knows about the stand of the Government of India on Punjab? Has the Government laid down any policy to sort out the Punjab problem till now? Nobody knows about it so far. On 2nd December, 1987, Hon. Minister of Home Affairs, Shri Buta Singh had himself said in this House that terrorism has been increasing very fast. He had also stated that the main reason of this increase in terrorism, is the existence of Pakistan behind it. Mention of Pakistan in this context is not a new thing; Akali Government had also emphatically stressed the need of initiating discussion with Pakistan on the diplomatic level. You had dismissed the Barnala Government on the plea that 87 people had been killed. However, I want to tell you that after 31st Dec. 1987, 1216 persons have been killed there. When Barnala Government was dismissed, I had advised the Government not to mention the number of killings as the ground of dismissal.

Four reports have been submitted by the hon. Governor of Punjab. Each one has a different recommendation. In the first report, dismissal of the Barnala Government has been recommended. In two other reports, President rule had been recommended for Punjab while the fourth one

[Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia]

contains the recommendation for the extension of President rule by another 6 months. I stress that the hon. Governor is misguiding the hon. Prime Minister and these reports are absolutely bogus. This report also mentions that M.L.A.s used to interfere in the administration. Till today no case has been filed against any M.L.A. for his interference in the police administration and no warrant has been issued against them in this connection. I have the courage to say that all the four reports are quite bogus.

Besides this, the number of innocent killings has been increasing constantly. Not only this, but five Congress members from Punjab, well known to Mr. Dhillon, have also said something, which is well known to you also. Our hon. Home Minister is leaving. I wanted to tell him something very necessary. I request him to remain in his seat for a minute. These five Congressmen have stated that communication gap is increasing in Punjab. I demand the dismissal of the present Governors of Punjab who is quite unrealistic and speaks irrelevant all the time every where. He should be replaced by somebody else who is intelligent, sensible and Hindi speaking and may not misguide the parliament, the Prime Minister and the Government of this country. It is my immediate demand. Without the dismissal of the Governor. The present Governor, it won't do. Shri Siddharth Shanker Rai considers himself next to the Prime Minister. I mention the names of those five Congressmen-vice-president Sardar Dilbagh Singh, General Secretary Chodhary Kewal Krishan and three other leaders of the Congress Party-who have said in a Press Conference at Jalandhar yesterday that the Governor has failed. What is the position in regard to the corruption in the State? As regards the corruption in the police stations in Punjab at present, it has reached such a level that the present earning of an S.H.O. is upto Rs. 50,000 per month and that of the S.S.P. reaches upto the mark of Rs. 5 lakh in certain districts of the State. Corrupt people can never fight against the terrorists effectively because

some of them have a nexus with smugglers.

I want to say one thing more. Even in the report presented by the Governor it has been mentioned that Pakistan has a hand in the Punjab problem, as had been stated earlier by Shri Buta Singh also on 2nd December, 1987. I have also said earlier that Pakistan has a hand.

We have repeatedly asked for certain things viz people responsible for riots in Delhi should be punished. Somebody has obtained stay on the report of Jain-Banerjee Committee. Since then 5 months have passed. Please tell me, whether Delhi Administration has submitted any application, or any effort has been made by them to get this stay vacated. Such things give rise to distrust. This stay has been granted knowingly. These feelings are gaining ground in the minds of the people that discussions are held in the Parliament but Government of India does not take any political step. I want to ask the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs Shri Chintamani Panigrahi about the political steps they have taken to solve the Punjab problem since 11th May, 1987 when President rule was imposed in the State. I would like to know whether any all party meeting has been held? Shri Manoj Pandey has said a very good thing just now. I support it. We should take it very seriously. The Governor of Punjab, the present administration in Punjab has cut off itself from the people. Sardar Gurudayal Singh Dhillon is sitting here. Sardarji, we had gone to Khattar Kalan on 23rd March, 1987, you had also gone there. Shri Vasant Sathe, the Chief Minister of Bihar Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad, Surjeetji and Barnalaji all had gone there. Two lakh people had assembled there. 'India today' published their report stating therein that on 23rd March, 1987 two lakh people assembled at the birth place of Sardar Bhagat Singh. But today only 750 people have assembled at the same place and at the memorial of the same martyr. It proves that you have cut off yourselves from the people. This time Governor had gone there whereas earlier, we all had gone there, This time the Governor Ray addressed the meeting, he has completely

cut off from the people. He is a 'mourning' Governor who goes only to express his regrets at some body's death. He has no other work. Some misunderstanding is being created that we are with you. We have no objection, no complaint about it. You smashed our stable Government like a glass tumbler. It was unconstitutional and wrong but we have no bitterness in our minds. I say that we are being wrongly informed. Just now, it has been said that some launchers, some bullets have been brought in from Kabul and Afganistan through Indian Air Lines. Why such news are being published in the Press? If Dhiren Bhagat is saying something wrong, he should be prosecuted. Why is he publishing such news? But he states in his paper that there exists a freight delivery register, in which it has been mentioned that some goods dispatched from Kabul were received at the second cargo complex of the Indira Gandhi International Air port. As per the register's entry, Air-way Bill No. 058-3035-4273 has been quoted therein. 22 crates of rocket launchers have been mentioned to have been received in the name of D.C. Communication. I want to ask only this much whether it is true? If it is not true, accept it here. So I say that we should check this thing also.

18.00 hrs.

In the end, I want to say that we have to strengthen our unity. This is a matter of great pleasure that there is unity in Punjab

today. There are 12,861 villages in Punjab and it is the blessing of the Wahe Guru that there has not been any Hindu-Sikh riot anywhere in Punjab. They never quarrelled with each other. Its credit goes neither to the Congress party nor to the Akalis. It goes to Guru Govind Singh of India or to the Lord Krishna and to the 500-700 or thousand years old traditions of this country. We fear that we may not be accused of participation in the breaking of friendship which has been lasting for the last 500 years. We should take some steps in this direction like calling the all party meetings and obtaining the general consensus. The Prime Minister himself should spare some time for it, even if the discussions are to be held for one week. Suggestions to solve the Punjab problem should be invited from all sections of the society and these should be honestly implemented.

With these words, I oppose this resolution, which has been brought here for extension of the President rule in Punjab.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet at 11 A.M. tomorrow.

18.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven
of the Clock on Friday, May 6, 1988
Vaisakha 16, 1910 (Saka)*