

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing can be said here.

*(Interruptions)*

S. BUTA SINGH : Hon. Members from both the ruling party and opposition have raised this question. The leader of C.P.M. spoke to me over telephone and also gave in writing. A very dangerous atmosphere has been created there and they are apprehensive that elections will not be fair there. What we can do is that we may place all Central forces at the disposal of the Chief Election Commissioner. He should deploy the forces there because they have no faith in the local Government.

[*English*]

We will place all the forces at the disposal of the Election Commission.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : If the Election Commission does not deploy the forces, where we would go ?

[*Translation*]

Political murders are being committed there. In these circumstances fair elections cannot at all be held there.

*(Interruptions)\**

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : It is all right now. That is all. Not allowed.

12.12. hrs.

MOTION RE: REPORT OF THE  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON BOFORS  
CONTRACT

[*English*]

Extension of Time for Presentation of Report.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND (Chikkodi): I beg to move :

"That this House to extend upto the last day of the first week of the Budget

\*\* Not recorded.

Session, 1988, the time for presentation of the report of the Joint Committee to enquire into Bofors Contract."

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That this House do extend upto the last day of the first week of the Budget Session, 1988, the time for presentation of the report of the Joint Committee to enquire into Bofors Contract."

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN (Badagara) : This is a motion under rule 277 (1) It is an extraordinary move because a guarantee was given to the House that the report would be made available on the last day of the first week of this Session. Now, they have also given a statement—I have seen the statement which is totally unsatisfactory.

In this connection I want to point out some other departures from the precedents of this House and committee that I have found unfortunately this Committee has been indulging in. The first was an extraordinary practice of being photographed with the witnesses, which was disgraceful enough.

The two witnesses who ought to have been treated as witnesses had been entertained and a photograph taken and released to the press. They were given the status not of witnesses but the status of VIP visitors. And the Prime Minister of this country is going around and saying that they have given more than what they had expected. The Prime Minister, unfortunately, is not here. He is the leader of the House. He should have been more responsible and careful while talking about the deliberations of the Committee. The Prime Minister, who is a member, has no business, as you are aware, under the Rules of Procedure of this House, to talk about the deliberations of the Committee. I do not know whether he was talking about the information given to the Government or to the Committee. Since we are not part of this Committee, we have to go by the reports that have appeared in the press.

Under rule (275/2) only the hon. Speaker can allow inspection of records or evidence that had been tendered before the

Committee. What I want to know is what the Prime Minister has mentioned, the contents of the evidence, how he has been talking about it. Did the hon. Chairman of the Committee or any other member of the Committee convey it without your permission? Or was it done with your permission?

MR. SPEAKER : What communication ?

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : The communication of names of the persons or firms which had been given by two witnesses who appeared before the Committee, names of companies, individuals, persons or corporations or whatever they are.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : They are not witnesses ; they are culprits.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : That point I have already covered when I said the way the witnesses were treated as VIPs.

The Social Democratic Party's Congress of Sweden has expressed shock that they have been treated this way, when they said nobody has given certificate to Bofors in that Congress or in that country. It is a shame, national shame, we who have suffered have given these certificates. I want to know specifically whether under Rule 275 (2) you have given any permission or in your absented Chairman has given or what is this evidence the Prime Minister is talking about because he has no business and he cannot. As long as they are seeking this extension they cannot, because this evidence and I may repeat whatever evidence that has been rendered, whatever documents that have been submitted, if they are written documents, again I underline 'written documents' or statements made, they are in the precious custody of your good self and the House and the Secretariat also under Rule 383, is responsible. So therefore, ultimately it is your seat of responsibility, the trust we have placed in you. You are an instrument of the Constitution and this cannot be allowed to go on like this that the Prime Minister off hand goes somewhere and he issues a statement that this is what they have said. It is not done this way. It is a

disgrace again, for the first time that the newspaper have been full of stories about what is going on in this Committee. It is an unprecedented thing. How did this leak come about? Is this Committee going to function this way. That is the question I want to raise when they seek extension.

MR. SPEAKER : This is what you have already said.

Shri Madhavji

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : What happened to our amendments. They were not...

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad) : What happened to our amendment. We have given an amendment to the original Motion.

MR. SPEAKER : Amendments are not permissible.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Why ?

MR. SPEAKER : It is beyond the scope and negative in character. You can only oppose the extension of this time.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : There can be a difference of opinion between you and us. *(Interruptions)*

On that particular amendment we have certain construction which you can allow.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You can oppose it. You have that right. There is no question of amendment laid down anywhere.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Amendment and opposition are two different things.

MR. SPEAKER : The House may either adopt or not adopt the Motion.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have given an amendment which is not negative in character.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You can only oppose it. It cannot take any other form. As such no Amendment or substitute Motions can be moved to such a motion.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Firstly it is neither a Substitute Motion nor an Amendment. Anyway, I will explain my point of view at the time of my speech.

MR. SPEAKER : You can oppose it.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : I feel there is no need for an extension because this Committee has failed to function ; the cooperation which is necessary from the Government was not coming. The Government know the companies which have received payments. But Government failed to give this information to the Committee inspite of repeated requests. What will the Committee do ? Even if we extend the term of the Committee, the Committee will fail to do anything in the matter and I think that there is no need for extension of the term of this Committee. Because Government has got enough information, Government must come out with the names of the companies which had received payments. Government knows about it. Why should they not give it to the Committee ? There is no role for the Committee when the Committee failed to get information, the Prime Minister says that the said information will be given to them after the enquiry is conducted by C. B. I. That means C. B. I. to-day has taken precedence over the Committee. Why should there be a C. B. I. enquiry with regard to payment made to the companies ? The Committee should have been really taken into confidence and given information. When full information is not being given to the Committee, I do not think that the Committee will serve any purpose. I oppose this Motion.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I will come to the amendment later on. Of course, ultimately we have to accept your ruling. But I will try to put a construction by which you may reconsider your ruling about the amendments. [*Interruptions*]

We have perfect right to appeal to the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER : I will present those rulings.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I will appeal to you. But just give me a patient hearing.

Firstly, we feel very strongly that in the present context and with the limited powers that the Committee has got, the Committee will not succeed even if the extension is given to them. If they have not been able to find any thing by this time, it is for the simple reason .

MR. SPEAKER : How do you know it ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, we know it. Sir, it is a simple mathematical proposition. They have said that on the last day of the first week of this Session, they will submit their report, findings and recommendations. The very fact that they have not done it means that they have not been able to find anything. It is a simple conclusion. (*Interruptions*) As far as this Committee is concerned, merely giving them extension of time without giving them the powers which we demanded for participating in the Committee, that extension will not be useful. I will repeat them.

There are four important powers which we wanted to be given to this Committee and not leave them to your decision because we feel that the Presiding Authority should not be involved in this process altogether, with due respect to you, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : That is right. I agree to that.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, on a number of occasions, you have nodded your head saying that 'don't involve me', but ultimately they involved you.

MR. SPEAKER : Because I am the servant of the House. What can I do ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Thank you, Sir. At least give us the freedom of interpreting what we feel. First, the Prime Minister had declared time and again that in 1980 they had decided that there

would be no middlemen at all and therefore the payment of commission to the middlemen did not arise. Therefore, we demanded for this Committee the first power that let this Committee have the power to examine all the decisions regarding the procurement and storage of arms. They said 'No'.

Second, we said that if the objective of the Committee is to be fulfilled, any Minister of the Cabinet including the Prime Minister can be summoned before the Committee and the Committee should have that power. They said 'No'. Third we said that if the security aspect has been examined and therefore Bofors affairs could be investigated, even the West German submarine deal is also important and therefore give this Committee the power of investigating that part also. That was refused.

Lastly we said that since the Bofors Company is a foreign company, a number of foreign nationals are involved and therefore give this Committee the power—if they are willing of inviting the foreign nationals take their evidence and record their evidence formally in the Committee. This was not done and since these powers are not given, my amendment says that if the extension is to be given, let this House revise the powers of this Committee so as to facilitate the presentation of the report in the extended time. This is not negative in character at all and therefore I suggested only a proviso that in order, that an extension could be fruitful these powers should be given ..

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing can be done. I have noted that point.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, you have your independent judgement and we have our own. But unfortunately they clash.

MR. SPEAKER : Not all the time.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : But I am only trying to persuade you, Sir. I have full confidence in your understanding and comprehension. That is why I am trying to tell you how this amendment of mine in which I have merely said—it is a very important amendment at the end only add "and suitably revise the powers of the

Joint Committee so as to facilitate the presentation of its report within the extended time."

Secondly, Sir, I would like to point out to you that when you are giving them extension, even if they get the extension by the majority of the House, let them not commit the impropriety that they are committing. Sir, the Chairman of the Bofors came here. He had discussions with the Defence Ministry. He had probable discussions with the Minister and after that one does not know whether

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT) : He did not have any discussions with me.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He had discussions with the Ministry. Let us make it inanimate (*Interruptions*)

They had discussion with the ministry.

SHRI K. C. PANT : It makes a difference.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : 'It' and 'he', there is a difference. I said that he discussed with the Ministry the officials. (*Interruptions*) Remember that the Ministry is headed by the Minister. Let him not forget it. (*Interruptions*)

The Chairman of the Bofors had discussions. (*Interruptions*) Yes, I had headed the Railway Ministry and I know it very well .. (*Interruptions*). Not with retrospective effect. (*Interruptions*).

Let me tell you that if the discussions were held with the Defence Ministry officials one does not know afterwards whether the Bofors Chairman met the Joint Committee, but even if he has met, in sharing information and discussions and views with the Ministry first and then even meeting the Joint Committee that has been appointed, there is a breach of privilege. I have given you independent notice, Sir,

MR. SPEAKER : I have got one from Sri Unnikrishnan.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have already given, Sir. So, that will be coming



up. We will take it up independently. So, that impropriety is committed, I am afraid that even during the extended period, they are likely to do the same thing.

Sir, there is one more aspect to which I would like his attention to be drawn.

MR. SPEAKER : In spite of your warning

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATI : Yes, Sir, you probably know, it has been published in the press, there is a Swedish Secrecy Act, I would like to refer to Section 3, Chapter 14 of the Act. It reads :

"The Swedish Government may communicate a secret report to a public authority if it is evident that the interest of the information communicated prevailed over the interest which the secrecy purported to protect."

Sir, my contention is I do not know whether they have the knowledge of these provisions of Swedish Law, but they have not taken advantage of these provisions. At least we do not know whether they approached the Swedish Government and said that under Section 3, Chapter 14 of the Swedish Secrecy Act, we are entitled to get the National Audit Bureau Report (original Report) in which the names were already there. The names were erased and they were given to the Government of India. We have also received the copy and we have seen how they have erased the names. From that also you imagine what names might be there. That erasement is there. They have not taken advantage of that.

Then there is one more aspect to which I would like to draw the attention. They have not made sincere efforts to get all the information from the sources because the powers which we wanted the Committee to enjoy, those powers, were not there. Then there was a report that when the Chairman of the Bofors came, he said, 'I am prepared to share certain information with the Chairman of the Committee orally not in writing,' and it has been reported that the Chairman said, 'I will not accept any names orally.' Sir, the best procedure would have been, he could have accepted those names, convened

the meeting as the Chairman and said, 'As a Chairman I have received this information I am disclosing this to the Committee, let it be incorporated in the minutes of the Committee so that it becomes a formal Information'

MR. SPEAKER : Finish it, Sir.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATI : Sir, only two points. (*Interruptions*). They have committed so many blunders, I have to refer to all of them, Sir.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur) : This is one of the blunders that is being made.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The Prime Minister's statement, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : That is all over.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You listen to me. It is a very serious case, we should take note.

MR. SPEAKER : We will take note.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, firstly, giving a VIP treatment to the Chairman of the Bofors is giving the treatment to one who is a culprit, who is standing in the dock. Even the Swedish Social Democratic Party has expressed the view that this is not a proper thing that has been done. The Ruling Party in Sweden have expressed surprise as to how is it that in the National Audit Bureau I would like to tell you, Sir, to strengthen the argument of Mr. Unnikrishnan in the National Audit Bureau Report they have stated that Bofors has denied that they had any agents and they have paid any commissions, and while drawing their own inference the National Audit Bureau has said that 'we reject the contention of Bofors and on the basis of evidence that is available to me Bofors had an agreement with..... regarding the payment of commission.' So, they have rejected the credentials of Bofors. To such person whose credentials have been rejected whose bona fides have been rejected by the National Audit Bureau, they have been

given VIP treatment by our Government and they are not asked to appear before the Joint Committee as a witness.

Lastly, I would like the Chairman of the Committee to take cognizance of the fact that on 27th of August when I initiated the last debate on Bofors I had given certain information. The Minister was saying that 'you are not giving any information.'

So, I have brought in this House the case of Greaves Cotton company of which Mr. Thapar was the Chairman. I pointed out certain dealings. I pointed out 43 sub-contracts. I tried to point out the vehicle, the two trucks on which the Howitzer gun has been fitted how it is over-estimated by Rs. 100 crores. How in the Salb-Scania accounts over-estimation of Rs. 100 crores is there, which has gone out of India. All this should be taken note of and I wanted the Minister to reply. But he said, all this information will be passed on to the Joint Committee that they would set up. I do not know whether the Committee have taken cognizance of that or not. In spite of those provisions that are available, they are not able to do. Without the scope and powers which have been insisted upon, if they are not given, merely granting them an extension would not deliver the goods.

I am sure, next time the same Chairman will come before this very House and move another resolution saying that they should be given further extension and extension will continue till the dissolution of the House. And, therefore, we are opposing the extension because the 4 powers which we wanted this House to give to his Committee and to strengthen his hands, are not available. Therefore, it is meaningless to give this powerless and meaningless committee any further extension. That is what we have demanded and therefore, we oppose this motion.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : In his statement just now made, he has made an allegation that the committee has committed blunders. This word "blunder" amounts to breach of privilege. Either he has to withdraw it or we will move the motion. Here, he has used the word 'blunder',

MR. SPEAKER : Now Shri Indrajit Gupta.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATI : In this House, Committee is Parliament. Just as we can have any views expressed in Parliament, we can say that the Minister has committed blunder. I can even say that the Parliament has committed blunder.

*(Interruptions)*

There is nothing wrong.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not a debate. Shri Indrajit Gupta.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : Sir, I sought your permission to oppose the motion because it is my considered view that further extension of time for this Committee's work will amount to only waste of time and waste of public funds. There are, at the moment, two inquiries going on, parallel. One is the inquiry by the Committee and another is inquiry by the CBI. This is an extraordinary state of affairs that two inquiries are going on. We do not know which one has got precedence over which one and eventually whose word is to prevail. No 1, this is an extraordinary thing.

Secondly, as has been mentioned already by Mr. Unnikrishnan, this is extraordinary. I do not know how it can be permitted under any rule or any question of conduct or anything that while the inquiry is going on, the Prime Minister has made public statement. He is on record in the Press—it has not been contradicted that he has said that these two gentlemen who came here, Mr. Morberg, President of Bofors and Mr. Gothlin, Senior Vice President and Chief Jurist of Bofors have given to the Government the names of some companies to whom payments were made companies abroad in Switzerland or somewhere, I do not know where they are. Is this the way in which the Committee is functioning, that the Prime Minister who is not a Member of the Committee, is giving a public statement to the effect that the names of some companies have been supplied to the Government—whether they have been supplied also to the Committee or not,

I do not know but supplied to the Government or supplied to the Prime Minister? The whole hub of this Committee, the essence of this Committee's terms of reference is to find out who has taken the money. It is not whether money was taken or not. That has already been established by the Audit Commission report.

MR. SPEAKER : That we will know when the Committee presents the report.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Now I am convinced and I hope you are convinced also ..

MR. SPEAKER : Leave me alone, Sir.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : .. that unless Bofors Company is willing on its own to reveal the names of the persons who have taken the money if they refuse to give that information there is no way by which Mr. Shankaranand or any of his colleagues can find out. It cannot be done. It is obvious that after the visit of these two gentlemen and the statement of the Prime Minister that they have given the names of some companies to the Government, they are not going to be able to proceed any further in this matter. Therefore, apart from this question of how they treated these two gentlemen, which is an impropriety, I should say, from any standard, and to cast doubt on the impartiality of the Committee and all that I think the Chairman should resign. Personally I would resign if I were the Chairman. I am sure his colleagues are not feeling very happy about it.

MR. SPEAKER : If you had felt like that, you would not have done that.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Why are we being asked to extend the time? That must be explained to us. For what purpose? Either the Chairman should tell us. Otherwise, he should tell us in the House that they are on the track of certain clues or certain information which they feel will yield certain profitable results. There is nothing like that. Simply they have failed to reach the deadline.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The Prime Minister goes on making statements.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Why should the Prime Minister be allowed to make statement?

MR. SPEAKER : I have taken that note.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: When Prime Minister's Government is under a cloud, how can he say that?

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN : He has also said his family and everybody has been cleared.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : He has repeated that again. (*Interruptions*).

This is gross impropriety going on. (*Interruptions*).

This Committee of Enquiry should not be given any extension under any circumstances.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : Originally, from the Opposition, we had asked for the setting up of a parliamentary.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. PANT : We cannot allow this to go unchallenged. The Government is not under a cloud. This is wrong. Government is trying to ascertain the facts. Our friends have not cooperated by joining this Committee. It is no use expressing these sentiments now. You could have joined the Committee and got to know everything. We wanted you to.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You may differ. But we have a right. Many people in the country feel that Government is under cloud.

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not monopolise the time.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Even the idea of Committee came from us, from the Opposition. We wanted the Committee to report for the purpose of finding out the

full facts as to whether bribe has been paid and, if so, to whom it has been paid. The Government at that time stalled it and the Government then became very enthusiastic to set up the Committee when the Swedish Audit Bureau report came disclosing that bribe has been given.

MR. SPEAKER : Are you opposing ?  
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I am opposing it. Ignoring all our requests and all our appeals, they set up a Committee without having any power to get the names from the company.

MR. SPEAKER : It has all been discussed. What is new about it ?

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Government must exercise its powers to get the names. Government has done nothing. The Committee is merely a shelter, a facade, behind which the Government is taking shelter, so that the names do not come. (*Interruptions*). Obviously, the Government itself has got people in high places implicated and that is the only conclusion we can draw. Let the Committee go on for ever and ever.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : They are waiting for another scandal to be referred to the same Committee.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati): The fact that the Chairman of this Committee has now come forward with a motion for extension of time and all that has come out of this Committee in the newspapers have fully vindicated the position that the Opposition took that this Committee will not be able to unearth any truth whatsoever with the powers given to this Committee. I will not repeat the other arguments but I would like to know before we are asked to vote on this, at least we must have some information. Firstly, this Committee was constituted by a motion of the Government. How, when a Committee has been constituted by a motion of the Government, a parallel inquiry has been conducted by the CBI on the same matter ? (*Interruptions*).

I would like to know has the Chairman written to the Government about restriction

of the CBI inquiry and his objection as to why a parallel inquiry has been set up. If not, how can you go on ?

The second point is more important. The Government has come forward with a statement that three names have been disclosed. (*Interruptions*). I am putting it in a different perspective. These names might have been disclosed to the Committee. These names might have been disclosed to the Government. If the committee has informed the Government about these three names, the House is entitled to know about these three names because the Committee cannot disclose anything to an outside agency. If the Committee has disclosed it to some authority, then the House is entitled to know. If the names have not been disclosed to the Committee, I would like to know from the Chairman what action he proposes to take. The names have been disclosed to the Government and not to the Committee, in fact. Therefore, the Substantive Motion for extension of time of this Committee is totally redundant. I hope the hon. Minister will give his answer. Without the answer, we cannot vote on this Motion.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir since 1952 when the First Parliament was established up to the Eighth Lok Sabha, there have been hundreds of Committees set up.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Is he opposing the Motion ? (*Interruptions*).

Is the hon. Member opposing the Motion for extension of time ? No, Sir, under the Rules of Procedure, only those members who oppose the motion in the case of a motion of this kind — are allowed to speak. There is no debate... (*Interruptions*) It is not a debate.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Under the Rules, on any Motion, any Member can support or oppose the motion.

(*Interruptions*)



MR. SPEAKER : With my permission, he can speak. I have permitted him.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : This only shows the ignorance or the knowledgeable ignorance of the hon. Members that on any motion a member can support or oppose can do both these things. Please see the rules. But I am surprised to know as to how they do now on this subject.....  
(*Interruptions*). I was saying that since 1952 upto this Eighth Lok Sabha, there have been a large number of Committees formed by this House. There are many Committees which have come before this House for extension of time, not once, not twice but many times and the House has not grudged them. They have been given the extension. I agree with you that this is an important Committee and that is why it is important that the Chairman and the Members of this Committee should be given opportunities to have this extension to find out the facts. After all, what do we want?  
(*Interruptions*). One of the hon. Members repeated that four powers have to be given. They have been discussed in this House and replied to adequately, in this House. They have not talked about the extension of time but about the substantive motion and about this, it has been discussed for 25 hours and 56 minutes, in this House. But the same things have been raised again. The intention is not to allow the Committee to find out the truth and also to intimidate the Committee in this House. I would like to say one thing. Sir, this is most unusual for the House that a Committee in the process of functioning, has been so much charged with so many things, as has been said. Prof. Madhu Dandavate has committed another blunder by not allowing the Committee of Parliament to function. Rather, he is mounting missiles on the Committee and trying to see that they do not work. What is the meaning of saying by an hon. Member that the Prime Minister is going on making the statement? Does he need the hon. Member's clearance to make the statement?

(*Interruptions*) .

MR. SPEAKER : If he has cast any impropriety, I will see.

(*Interruptions*.)

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I agree. I am saying today in this House that it is well-known that some representatives came. They met some Ministry's official - I mean the Government officials. They met the Committee. Now there are facts or there might be, I do not know. They know better. There might be some facts. They may be within the knowledge of the Government. Can't the Government say : "we have got knowledge". Or, they may like to put before the Committee or if the hon. Members want otherwise, it can be disclosed. It is surprising...(*Interruptions*) I would like to say three points. The first point is that in the Parliamentary Democracy, never before, a Committee asking for extension of time to find out the truth, has been charged with this kind of thing saying : "you are incapable, you cannot find out anything". I say that it would have been nice for the hon. Members, if they had joined the Committee and put all these questions there, they would have been in a better position to cross-examine the witnesses who had come. Now being outside the Committee, having developed cold feet at the last minute and not forming the Committee, they say this...(*Interruptions*) It is because they know that the charges they have brought against the Government are false...(*Interruptions*) Why this running commentary, Prof. Madhu Dandavate? You have always been like a professor creating all kinds of blunders; that is your record in this House. Mr. Speaker, what I am saying is that we are for finding out the truth. Therefore, we are for the extension of time asked for by the Committee. Let the truth be found out by this Committee...  
(*Interruptions*) I would say that it is not fair for them at this time when the Committee is trying to find out the truth, to level all these charges and say, "You are unable, you are incapable, you cannot find out the truth, you should close down, you should resign". Why should they resign? On the other hand, they should now join the Committee and say, "We will help you in finding out the truth".

With these words, I support this motion for extension of time.

MR. SPEAKER : At least I am happy on one account : blunder crosses blunder and everything is settled.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Sir, I have not said anything myself. I have only repeated what they said. Every word that I have said has been said by them; I have only repeated.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Do not expunge blunder, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : No : I will keep it.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Let the blunder be repeated by him all the time.

MR. SPEAKER : I will ask the Chairman of the Committee. Do you want to say something ?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : At this moment I have nothing to say on what the Members have said. What I have to say will be said in the Report. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : He should reply to the various points raised by the Members.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, I have moved the Motion for extension of time and I appeal to you put the Motion for adoption.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will give my ruling.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Some points have been raised by the Members...

*(interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The amendments I did not allow because it cannot be done under the rules. I was touched and impressed by the eloquence and finer points. But still my position is the same.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : A private Member like Mr. Bhagwat Jha Azad has replied. At least he should try to say something.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : No

question of reply. I have my right to speak. Do not forget that, I have not replied. I have spoken.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN : I have put a question to you...

MR. SPEAKER : I will see to it.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN : You can tell us later.

MR. SPEAKER : You can give it to me. I will reply.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Mr. Speaker, at this stage disclosing anything that is happening in the Committee will not be proper.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : He wants to deal with them later. He says that he cannot divulge anything now. We can ask him later.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I would only submit to the House that the Committee is functioning quite effectively. It has not suffered from, or found, any difficulty in its functioning for want of anything as alleged by the hon. Members. We are perfectly going on the right lines and the Committee has been functioning very effectively.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :  
"That this House do extend upto the last day of the first week of the Budget Session, 1988, the time for presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee to enquire into Bofors Contract."

Let the Lobbies be cleared.

12.50 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Lobbies have now been cleared. I want to inform the House that Shri Shankaranandji has already moved a Motion for the extension

of time regarding the Report of the Joint Committee. I shall now put that Motion to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That this House do extend upto the last day of the first week of the Budget Session, 1988, the time for presentation of the report of the Joint Committee to enquire into Bofors Contract."

#### THE LOK SABHA DIVIDED

12.56 hrs.

Division No. 1

AYES

Abdul Ghafoor, Shri	Bhosale, Shri Prataprao B.
Agarwal, Shri Jai Prakash	Bhoye, Shri S.S.
Ahmad, Shri Sarfaraz	Bhuria, Shri Dileep Singh
Ansari, Shri Z.R.	Birinder Singh, Shri
Anthony, Shri Frank	Budania, Shri Narendra
Awasthi, Shri Jagdish	Bundela, Shri Sujan Singh
Azad, Shri Bhagwat Jha	Buta Singh, S.
Baghel, Shri Pratapsinh	Chandrakar, Shri Chandulal
Baitha, Shri D. L.	Chandrsekhar, Shrimati M.
Bajpai, Dr. Rajendra Kumari	Charles, Shri A.
Balaraman, Shri L.	Chaturvedi, Shrimati Vidyavati
Barrow, Shri A. E. T.	Chaudhry, Shri Kamal
Basavarajeswari, Shrimati	Chavan, Shri Ashok Shankarrao
Bhagat, Shri B. R.	Chavan, Shrimati Premalabai
Bhagat, Shri H. K. L.	Dabhi, Shri Ajitsinh
Bharat Singh, Shri	Dalbir Singh, Shri
Bhardwaj, Shri Parasram	Dalwai, Shri Hussain
Bhatia, Shri R. L.	Das, Shri R. P.
Bhoi, Dr. Krupasindhu	Das, Shri Sudarsan
	Das Munsi, Shri Priya Ranjan
	Dennis, Shri N.
	Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan
	Digal, Shri Radhakanta
	Dighe, Shri Sharad
	Digvijaya Singh, Shri
	Dikshit, Shrimati Sheila
	Dinesh Singh, Shri
	Dogra, Shri G. L.
	Dube, Shri Bishma Deo

Gadgil, Shri V. N.

Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya

Gehlot, Shri Ashok

Gholap, Shri S. G.

Ghorpade, Shri M. Y.

Ghosh, Shri Bimal Kanti

Jagathrakshakan, Dr. S.

Jain, Shri Nihal Singh

Jain, Shri Virdhi Chander

Janarthanan, Shri Kadambur

Jangde, Shri Khelan Ram

Jatav, Shri Kammodilal

Jeevarathinam, Shri R.

Jena, Shri Chintamani

Jitendra Prasada, Shri

Jitendra Singh, Shri

Jujhar Singh, Shri

Kamat, Shri Gurudas

Kamble, Shri Arvind Tulshiram

Kamla Kumari, Kumari

Khan, Shri Aslam Sher

Khan, Shri Mohd. Ayub

Kidwai, Shrimati Mohsina

Kisku, Shri Prithvi Chand

Krishna Singh, Shri

Kunjambu, Shri

Lal Duhoma, Shri

Mahabir Prasad, Shri

Mahajan, Shri Y. S.

Makwana, Shri Narsinh

Malviya, Shri Bapula I

Mane, Shri Murlidhar

Manorama Singh, Shrimati

Mishra, Shri G. S.

Mishra, Dr. Prabhat Kumar

Mishra, Shri Umakant

Modi, Shri Vishnu

Mohanty, Shri Brajamohan

Motilal Singh, Shri

Murmu, Shri Sidha Lal

Murthy, Shri M. V. Chandrashekara

Mushran, Shri Ajay

Muttemwar, Shri Vilas

Naik, Shri Shantaram

Naikar, Shri D.K.

Namgyal, Shri P.

Natwar Singh, Shri K.

Nawal Prabhakar, Shrimati Sunderwati

Negi, Shri Chandra Mohan Singh

Netam, Shri Arvind

Odedra, Shri Bharat Kumar

Odeyar, Shri Channaiah

Oraon, Shrimati Sumati

Pakeer Mohamed, Shri E. S. M.

Pandey, Shri Manoj

Panigrahi, Shri Sriballav

Pant, Shri K. C.

Parashar, Prof. Narain Chand



Pardhi, Shri Kesharao	Shah, Shri Anoopchand
Patel, Shri Ahmed M.	Shailesh, Dr. B. L.
Patel, Shri C. D.	Shankaranand, Shri B.
Patel, Shri U. H.	Shanmugam, Shri A. C.
Patil, Shri Prakash V.	Shanmugam, Shri P.
Patil, Shri Vijay N.	Sharma, Shri Chiranji Lal
Peruman, Dr. P. Vallal	Sharma, Shri Nand Kishore
Pilot, Shri Rajesh	Sharma, Shri Nawal Kishore
Poojary, Shri Janardhana	Sharma, Shri Pratap Bhanu
Potdukhe, Shri Shantaram	Shastri, Shri Hari Krishna
Pradhan, Shri K. N.	Siddiq, Shri Hafiz Mohd.
Purohit, Shri Banwari Lal	Singh, Shri Chandra Pratap Narain
Purushothaman, Shri Vakkom	Singh, Shri Krishna Pratap
Pushpa, Devi Kumari	Singh, Shri Santosh Kumar
Rai, Shri Raj Kumar	Sinha, Shri Satyendra Narayan
Ram, Shri Ramswaroop	Soren, Shri Harihar
Ram Awadh Prasad, Shri	Soz, Prof. Saifuddin
Ramachandran, Shri Mullappally	Sukhbans Kaur, Shrimati
Rana Vir Singh, Shri	Sultanpuri, Shri K. D.
Rao, Shri J. Chokka	Sunder Singh, Ch.
Rath, Shri Somnath	Saryawanshi, Shri Narsing
Rathod, Shri Uttam	Swami Prasad Singh, Shri
Raut, Shri Bhola	Swell, Shri G. G.
Sahu, Shri Shiv Prasad	Tariq Anwar, Shri
Sankata Prasad, Dr.	Thakkar, Shrimati Usha
Satyendra Chandra, Shri	Thakur, Shri C. P.
Sathe, Shri Vasant	Thomas, Prof. K. V.
Sayeed, Shri P. M.	Tilakdhari Singh, Shri
Sethi, Shri Ananta Prasad	Tripathi, Dr. Chandra Shekhar

Vairale, Shri Madhusudan

Kurup, Shri Suresh

Van, Shri Deep Narain

Mahata, Shri Chitta

Vanakar, Shri Punam Chand Mithabhai

Malik, Shri Purna Chandra

Verma, Shrimati Usha

Masudal Hossain, Shri Syed

Vijayaraghavan, Shri V. S.

Misra, Shri Satyagopal

Vyas, Shri Girdhari Lal

Murty, Shri Bhattam Srirama

Yadav, Shri Kailash

Patel, Dr. A. K.

Yadav, Shri Ram Singh

Patel, Shri H. M.

Yadav, Shri Shyam Lal

Patil, Shri D. B.

Yadava, Shri Bal Ram Singh

Raju, Shri Vijaya Kumar

Yadava, Shri D. P.

Rao, Shri A. J. V. B. Maheswara

Yogesh, Shri Yogeshwar Prasad

Rao, Dr. G. Vijaya Rama

Zainul Basher, Shri

Rao, Shri Suhari

## N O E S

Rao, Shri V. Sobhanadreeswara

Acharia, Shri Basudeb

Reddy, Shri B. N.

Barman, Shri Palas

Reddy, Shri K. Ramachandra

Bhoopathy, Shri G.

Riyan, Shri Baju Ban

Biswas, Shri Ajoy

Roy, Dr. Sudhir

Choudhury, Shri Souar Brahma

Roypradhan, Shri Amar

Chowdhary, Shri Saifuddin

Saha, Shri Ajit Kumar

Dandavate, Prof. Malha

Saha, Shri Gadadhar

Datta, Shri Amal

Shukla, Shri Vidya Charan

Deo, Shri V. Kishore Chandra S.

Tiraky, Shri Piyus

Dora, Shri H. A.

Unnikrishnan, Shri K. P.

Ghosh Goswami, Shrimati Bibha

Yadav, Shri Vijoy Kumar

Goswami, Shri Dinesh

Zainal Abedin, Shri

Gupta, Shri Indrajit

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Subject to correction, The result\* of the division is as follows :

Hansda, Shri Matilal

Ayes ; 177

Iyer, Shri V. S. Krishna

Noes : 41

*The motion was adopted.*

\*The following Members also recorded their votes :

Ayes : Sarvashri Arjun Singh, Subhas Yadav, Manvendra Singh, Shrimati Chandra Tripathi, Sarvashri K. J. Abbasi, Navin Ravani, Shrimati Manemma Anjiah, Sarvashri Kinder Lal, Naresh Chandra Chaturvedi, Dr. G. S. Rajhans, Shri Mankuram Sodi, Shri P. Kolandaivelu and Shri Tape-shwar Singh.

Notes: Sarvashri C. Madhav Reddi, Syed Shahabuddin, Dr. Chinta Mohan and Shri C. Sambu.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the House will take next item, namely, matters under Rule, 377 Shri Mohanty...

12.55 hrs.

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) Need to provide more time for Oriya Programmes on TV and Radio by originating certain programmes from Cuttack and Sambalpur

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri) : A 10 KW Doordarshan Transmitter has been commissioned at Cuttack which relays programmes from Delhi. Oriya programmes from Doordarshan Kendra, Cuttack are not telecast by 10 KW transmitter except 40 minutes Area Specific programme. It is suggested that Oriya Programmes may be telecast from Cuttack from 6.00 P. M. to 8.40 P. M. like all High Power Transmitters with Oriya Regional News Service from 7.30 P. M. to 7.40 P. M.

Government of India had assured that a separate News Unit for A.I.R. Sambalpur will be set up soon after the studios are completed. Though studios have been commissioned, News Unit has not been sanctioned. Government should keep this commitment

so that a long felt need of the people of that region is fulfilled.

In Orissa, All India Radio has set up a 1 KW radio station at Cuttack for commercial broadcasting which covers area within 20-25 Km. radius. In view of increase in growth centres like Sambalpur, Berhampur, Rourkela, Angul (NALCO) Damanjodi (Nalco), Sunabeda (AEF) etc. Government of India should set up more commercial broadcasting stations to cover these growth centres.

#### (ii) Need to check devastation by floods in North Bihar

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : North Bihar, particularly the Mithila region, has been ravaged by unprecedented floods this year, the like of which was not experienced in the last 100 years. Kamla, Kosi, Bagmati, Gahuma and Adhwara group of rivers have played havoc with the region. The floods continued for more than two months. Miseries of the people are beyond description. They lost everything including mud houses, standing crops, clothes, utensils and savings of life time. 90% of them have become pauper.

Most of these rivers originate from Nepal. Unless these rivers are controlled at the point of their origin, North Bihar will continue to be devastated by floods every year and no amount of relief will help in rehabilitating the marooned people. As such, the Central Government should initiated talks with the Government of Nepal on an early date and see to it that dams and reservoirs are constructed at the point of origin and North Bihar is saved from devastating floods every year. Incidentally, it needs to be mentioned that north Bihar is one of the most thickly populated regions of Asia and it is not humanly possible to evacuate the total population and settle them elsewhere.

At the same time the Central Government should depute the officers of Central Water Commission to find out the reasons for the breaches in embankments.

*The Lok Sabha adjourned for lunch till fourteen of the Clock.*