

and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Tamil Nadu for the services of the financial year 1988-89 be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Tamil Nadu for the services of the financial year 1988-89 be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is: "That Clauses 2 and 3 and the Schedule stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clauses 2 and 3 and the Schedule were added to the bill

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is:

"That clause 1 , the enacting formula and the Title stands part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted .

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill

Supplementary Demands for Grants (Punjab), 1988-89 submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha

SHRI B.K. GADHVI : I beg to move: "That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

14.50 hrs.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS - (PUNJAB), 1988-89

(English)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House shall now take up discussion and voting on the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget for the State of Punjab for 1988-89.

Motion Moved:

"That the Supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Punjab to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the financial year ending the 31st day of March, 1989 in respect of heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 17 and 22."

<i>No. of Demand</i>	<i>Name of Demand</i>	<i>Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the Vote of the House</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
		Revenue Rs.
17.	Local Government, Housing and Urban Development	70,00,00,000
22.	Revenue and Rehabilitation	1,00,00,00,000

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Reddy

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, now the House is taking up the Supplementary Demands for Grants for expenditure by the State of Punjab for the year 1988-89. The House is taking up this painful business for the fifth or the sixth time. I term it as painful because of two reasons—firstly the financial aspect of it and the second one is the political aspect of it.

While replying to the debate on Tamil Nadu, the Hon. Minister tried to decry the political aspect of it. With great respect I would like to submit to the Minister that both these things go together ; he cannot separate both the financial and the political aspects, both the aspects have to be touched and then the Minister has to answer both the points.

14.51 hrs.

[**SHRI SHARAD DIGHE** *in the Chair*]

As far as the financial aspect is concerned, it is quite clear that more than Rs. 170 crores - Rs. 174 crores to be precise is being sought as additional grants for Punjab. Out of these Rs. 174 crores, two items consume almost all the amount. One is Demand No. 17 local government, housing and urban development; Rs. 70 crores. The second one is Demand No. 22-revenue and rehabilitation; Rs. 100 crores.

Before going into the details of these two demands I would like to say that when I peruse these demands, I cannot get an idea as to why these amounts are being sought to be approved by the House. What are the necessities; how these amounts are being spent; and what is the purpose of it? We have got a very very brief statement as a foot note wherein the Minister says, Rs. 70 crores are being asked for to be spent for urban development in and around the Golden Temple. The other one is for Rs. 100 crores which is being sought for development and rehabilitation work.

Now the House, without knowing anything as to pass these two demands. No details are given; the Minister has not made any statement nor have we got any details.

As far as Rs. 70 crores is concerned, it is to be spent for housing complex or some such thing around the Golden Temple. I am not able to understand what is the purpose of it. I don't know why the Government wants Rs. 70 crores. I don't know what are the houses to be constructed, what is the amount likely to be given as compensation. No such details are there. The House is kept completely in darkness as to the utility of this Rs. 70 crores. And the House is asked to pass this demand for Rs. 70 crores ! That is one aspect.

As far as the other demand for Rs. 100 crores is concerned, it is for rehabilitation. The foot note which is given says that the amount is being asked for so that the amount may be spent for those people who are affected by the calamities. We don't know where the calamities have occurred, we don't know the magnitude of the calamities; whether these Rs. 100 crores are sufficient or not or whether it is more; and how this amount is being utilised. It says that Rs. 40 crores has already been spent. Why is the Government trying to prevent the House from knowing the full facts?

They should have come forward and if representative government of the people were there they would have known which areas had been affected more and which were not affected and where this amount is to be sent immediately. All these things only peoples' representatives can know. It is only an MLA who represents a constituency will know how much is the loss. President's rule has been imposed in Punjab for the last two years and we do not know when will it be lifted. I only hope President's rule will not be extended further. I would also like to request the hon. Minister to furnish some more details as to how this Rs. 177 crores are going to be spent. Is this amount sufficient or not? I hope the hon. Minister will clarify all these things in his reply.

The second point is about the political aspect. You cannot separate political aspect from financial aspects. As far as Punjab problem is concerned it has become a very peculiar problem. All these days you were giving the impression that the terrorists are being trained and helped by Pakistan. They are arming them. These terrorists come into India and after committing murders and shooting they go back to Pakistan. Most of us believed it to be true but had there been any truth in it then why did the Government not make any effort during the past two years to discuss this matter with the Pakistan Government at diplomatic level? The very fact that Government has kept silence and has not been trying to take any steps to discuss the matter with the Pakistan Government shows that what the Government has been proclaiming is not true. It seems they have no evidence. So they are not moving the Pakistan Government in this matter.

Sir, Punjabis are a martial race. They fought a number of wars for the country. A number of their sons had lost their lives for the honour of this country. It seems as if you want to subjugate this martial race and, as such, you are playing with the feelings of Punjabis. I am of the view that government is not trying to understand the nature of Punjab problem. The Government is not trying to understand the psychology of Punjabis. One feels in order to subjugate this martial race the Government has resorted to all this. It seems Punjab problem is the creation of Congress Government. From Bhindrawalla down to Mr. Rode all these people were encouraged by Congress Government. These people are responsible for creating Punjab problem. Mr. Rode has not come forward to give up claim of Khalistan. (*Interruptions*)

so I would like to know is the Government really concerned about solving this problem? Has it made any effort to understand the psychology of the people there? I am sure this Government will not be able to solve this problem. You are trying to solve this problem with the help of Governor or

police officer. Reports have come against the Governor that he is mis-behaving in Punjab and is not able to understand the matters. He is going to the extent of allowing police officers to kill Punjab people who may not even support or believe in Khalistan. Such an allegation has been made by a police officer. I do not know how far this is true but a police officer cannot risk to make such a charge against a Governor.

15.00 hrs.

So, you are trying to solve the Punjab problem with the help of such police officers. The second thing is that you have got a top official whom you have placed at the helm of affairs in Punjab a man who misbehaved with a woman, his own employee. A complaint has also been lodged against this man. A lot of things have appeared in the Press. so, with the help of such discredited people does the Government really think that they will be able to create some confidence in the people of Punjab and that the problem will be solved? so, it is time that such a such a Person, police officers, who has misbehaved with woman employee and against whom a complaint has been filed, must be transferred immediately and some other competent and reputed man be posted in his place.

As far as the Longowal Accord is concerned, the Government has put it in cold-storage. This accord was signed about 30-35 months back. The main point in the Accord is the transfer of Chandigarh. The second point is about the Sutlej Yamuna Link Canal. This was a very important matter for the people of Punjab. For the past about 30-35 months, the Government has not been able to take up these two matters. Why has the SYL canal not been taken up? If this link canal had been taken up, it would have given a psychological satisfaction for the people of Punjab that the Central Government is very sincere to implement the Accord. You are not doing it. In spite of this, we don't hear a single word in this supplementary budget. Even in the main budget, what is the amount allotted for SYL Canal? Nothing is there. So,

[Sh. K. Ramachandra Reddy]

by doing all this, do you think that you will be able to satisfy the psychology of Punjab people, who are a martial race, who feel that this Government is cheating them in a different manner, and that they will be satisfied? What about the transfer of Chandigarh? When the Longowal accord was signed, why was it not transferred to Punjab? Why has it been kept pending for the last 30-35 months. These are the two important things. when you are not able to implement the accord for the past 2-3 years, do you really think that the people of Punjab will be satisfied, will have trust in you, will be able to believe you? Under these circumstances, I am very sorry to say that this Government has no intention of solving the Punjab problem. The Government has no intention of trying to understand the problem. The Government has no intention of going deep into the matter and try to find a solution. Under these circumstances, I would like to suggest a solution. You can't solve the Punjab problem alone. The matters are connected with Haryana and Rajasthan very intricately. If you try to tackle the Punjab problem, you have to involve Rajasthan and Haryana. Those two States also have to be brought to a table and then some discussions will have to be held. How to satisfy them? You are trying to convert the Punjab problem into a national problem for your own peculiar gain. I tell you that it is not a national problem. It is more a regional problem. The regional feelings have been hurt. That's why some misguided youth are crying for Khalistan.

The Congress Party is supposed to be a national party. I don't think that the congress Party is in a position to understand this regional problem of Punjab . They are not able to understand the psychology. They don't want to go into the matter. So, I request the Government to appoint a committee of some regional parties. For example, Shri N.T. Rama Rao in Andhra Pradesh is there. Then, Mr. Hedge in Karnataka and Mr. Mahanta in Assam are there. Such regional party leaders are very successful. You appoint a committee of some such people. Let

these people discuss the problem with Haryana, Rajasthan and Punjab. After consultation with these regional party leaders, I hope, the problem will not arise. As far as the Punjab problem is concerned, we have to remove all those half-hearted measures, for example, release of detenus of Jodhpur. You will have to think of releasing them at a stretch. If you had released these people one year back, you could have created a very good opinion in the minds of people of Punjab. You could have created a very good atmosphere in Punjab.

You could have created a very good atmosphere in Punjab, as far as the sincerity of the Government is concerned. Government did not do it. Government to do it in piecemeal. after all this could have been done very easily. For two years, you have been languishing over this problem. You have taken two years to release these detenus. so, unless and until the Government makes sincere effort to solve this Punjab problem by implementing the Rajiv-Longowal Accord, it will not be solved. It will be a very sore thumb in the body of India. I request the Government at least, when you cannot solve it, to appoint some Committee of some other States and ask those few people to discuss and then come to a conclusion. Then only the Punjab problem can be solved.

SHRI R L. BHATIA : (Amritsar): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Reddy who spoke just before me had a bad brief and he put the brief very badly to this House. He has no knowledge about the Punjab situation. I think somebody from here has explained something to him and he has stated it on the floor of the House.

He has objection to the giving of Rs. 170 crores to Punjab—Rs.100 crores for rehabilitation and Rs. 70 crores for widening of Golden Temple area. He was objecting today as to why this money is being spent there? For all these years, the discussion was taking place that Golden Temple has become the seat of the terrorists and the neighbour is utilising it and it was difficult for the security forces to play their role. Then it

was decided to widen that area.

Firstly, it is one of the biggest centres of religious attraction. Sikhs from all over the world come over there. There were congested houses around the Golden Temple. Firstly we wanted to beautify it and secondly it was for the security reasons. So, Rs. 70 crores are being spent for the compensation, for the demolition of the houses and widening of roads around it and also to beautify our most sacred and most worshipped places, that is Golden Temple.

With regard to Rs. 100 crores, he has said what for this relief? Nothing has been explained. In Punjab we had the worst floods. Punjab has never seen such magnitude of floods. In my constituency-Amritsar-river Ravi was in spate and there was 12 feet of water which took away everything-including the belongings of the poor farmers. Their houses had collapsed. Their animals were killed and anything and everything they had in their houses were lost.

Similarly floods in Sutlej and excessive rains for three days in Punjab and the cloud burst in our area have affected Punjab. Punjab has never witnessed such heavy rains. It is for that reason only, the Punjab Government is coming forward to ask money from the Centre to be paid as compensation to the people and to rehabilitate Punjab and I am surprised that you are objecting to the rehabilitation of Punjab. The Government of India has been rehabilitating Bihar every year, Assam every year. It is for the first time that Punjab is coming to the Centre for help. Punjab which is the granary of India, which is feeding India and which is giving 70 percent to your procurement system and your kitty and you are objecting to that. I am surprised to know that.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: I am not objecting to it. I am only saying what is the purpose of this money? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI R.L. BHATIA: For the damages and for the losses amounting to Rs. 1000 crores, what the Government of India is

paying is only Rs. 100 crores. It will not satisfy the Punjabis. You can ask your friend Mr. Ramoowalia how perturbed the Punjabis are on this issue. How he is perturbed? It is only a small help.

You should not object to this. You wanted an explanation. I have given you an explanation. You are ignorance you do not know what had happened there.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: We are not objecting to this.

(*Translation*)

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad) : That is very small amount for help. The Government of India is paying only Rs. 100 crores which means that it constitutes only 30 percent of the total amount required for this purpose and the remaining 70 percent should be provided by the state in their Budget. But it should be given by the Centre. It is not a central but a state Budget which we are going to adopt here in this House. The Government of India should increase the amount from Rs. 100 crores to Rs. 300 crores. If they are prepared to grant that amount?

[English]

SHRI R L BHATIA : As you know, the political situation in Punjab is very bad, and the Punjab is virtually depending on the centre for all this. But if you go into these technicalities that Punjab should give so much and the Centre should give so much, then no help can go to those people. We are very grateful to the Centre for the help which they are giving to us. It will go to the help of those people who have been marooned and who have suffered a lot.

Coming to the political aspect of it, I am very much surprised at the analysis of Mr. Reddi. His argument is that Pakistan is not training terrorists but the government is saying again and again that they are training terrorists. Mr. friend is very much ignorant about it. Either you don't read the newspaper

[Sh. R.L. Bhatia]

or you do not discuss about it with your friends who have given you this brief. All the people who have been arrested are terrorists; they have given statements; they have given a lot of information what has happened; where they have been training in Pakistan; how they were given money; how they were given arms and weapons and everything. So much so, he also says that if we have knowledge about it, then why should we not protest against it to Pakistan. Meetings at the level of Secretaries have been place. The Government of India have given all the information to them to which they have no answer. They were provided with places where they were being trained, the amount of money they had passed on to them and the weapons they had given to them. I would like to inform you that we have protested; we have given them information on that respect.

Then he was referring to Punjab situation he also said that Chandigarh should be given; then he also mentioned about Sutlaj-canal-link. Then, he also said that it is inter-linked with Haryana as well as Rajasthan. As you know, it is very difficult to solve those issues which are linked with other States; it is not that the government does not want to solve them; we are keen to solve them as anybody else. There are difficulties as they are inter-linked. Many meetings have taken place and many more meetings will take place. He also suggested that there should be a committee. Well, if the opposition parties can go into the matter, we have no objection. Let them talk to all of them; and if there is a consensus, we are prepared for it.

Coming to the budget, I rise to support the supplementary budget for Punjab. In this connection, I have only to say a few things as many things have already been said in the previous budget. I want to say something about basmati rice which is produced in Punjab. It has a special arrow mark and it has a consumer preference in the Middle-east. It fetches a good price. For instance, one bag of basmati rice, if we export, we can import 8-

10 bags of imported wheat. So, we should encourage the export of basmati rice; and for this, many a time, we have approached the Centre that more area should go into the production of basmati rice; for this certain things should be given to the Punjab so that they may be able to have more area under basmati rice. For this, our demand is first the support price for basmati rice should be fixed. It will help the farmers. Secondly, the government should create export development fund and subsidise the losses to the procurement agencies. As you are aware, we have the best procurement system in the whole of India and we give 60-70 percent of basmati rice to your kitty. Therefore, we expect from you that you will have export development fund to help the procurement agencies to meet their losses.

There were exports worth only Rs. 85 crores, of Basmati rice from India. But now we have increased it to Rs. 240 crores and it can considerably increased because, as I said, it has consumer preference abroad. So, if some facilities are given to the Punjab farmer and Punjab Government, we can have more of this crop.

Secondly, coming to the point of electricity, we have two projects, one is Ropar Thermal Plant Project and the other is Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Plant which have been cleared by the Central Government, but the Planning Commission is not coming forward to give us the money so that we may carry on those two projects, which are very vital projects, for our agricultural economy and we must give them electricity to enable the farmers to grow more.

Coming to the utilisation of funds, every single rupees that has been utilised and the utilization is the best in Punjab, compared to any other State. If you kindly see the amount given to us and how it has been utilised, you will be very each satisfied that, that this project, Ropar III, has been commissioned in 34 months, whereas it was supposed to be completed in 45 months. See the efficiency of our officers who have been able to achieve this objective.

Secondly, you take the plant load factor. Again, it is the highest in India. The all India average is 56, but in Punjab it is 72 percent. Just see how this plant load factor is being achieved in Punjab, see their efficiency.

Then there is a great target of one lakh tubewells to be energised in the Seventh Plan. You will be glad to know that instead of five years we have completed it in four years, keeping in view the efficiency of the Punjab administration, I would request you to kindly help us in the Ropar and Guru Nanak Dev Power Projects.

Then, you have given us aid for Punjab's relief and rehabilitation. As I have already said in replying to some questions, this aid is very inadequate and we are not coming to the Centre every year or once in every two years or four years. This is the first time we have come to you and I hope that you will be magnanimous in giving aid.

On the other day, there was a question in Parliament when I asked about the money which was given to us in this regard. It was not a clear answer. The Minister said, that more than Rs. 153 crores was given. I do not think that it is a true figure and they also said that for tubewells etc., they had given some extra money and for roads also. Kindly make it clear how much money you have given to us and how much you intend to give us more. Your budget also shows Rs. 100 crores. So, I am not clear as to how much will be the total sum that will be given to us.

Mr. Chairman, You please give me five minutes more. This is only the first part, I have replied. I have yet to speak about the political part.

The present political situation in Punjab continues to be same, but there is one improvement, that in fact there is some of stability. Stability in the sense that people of Punjab have decided to meet the challenge and now there is no migration at all. So, this is one feature, which has come to Punjab,

that the Punjabis have decided to stay where they are and they will fight out terrorism and will not leave their homes. That kind of demoralisation is over and people are staying. But in this situation all the political parties are trying to help. I would request the Akali Party also to come forward and join the mainstream in fighting the terrorism because that will make a much difference. My past experience shows that right from 1981 to 1988, they have been supporting Bhindranwale or Bhindranwale Front. Shri Ramoowalia will say that his section of Akali Dal did not do that. My statement is general. In 1981 when Bhindranwale was being arrested, the statement made by the Akali leader was, that the Government is trying to finish Sikhism and if he is not released, they will start Morcha, and they also threatened us that they will lead movements in Punjab. Then, the Akali Party again took Bhindranwale to Golden Temple. He was staying in Chowk Metha. They started certain movement in Punjab, but they failed. They brought Bhindranwale to Akal Takht. For the first time, 'Dharamyudh' or 'religious war' was started against the Government. For that, they invited him and asked him to stay there. Bhindranwale and the Akali leader spoke on the same stage. Later, when Rode became the head of the Akal Takht, some section of Akali party—here I will differentiate because last time you have said that you did not do it—went there, offered him *saropæ* and honoured him. today, Mr. Reddy also has given this impression and somebody also may say that Rode is our creation or something like that. But, when Rode was made as the head of the Akal Takht these Akali leaders went there and honoured him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool) : They had received the support from the Congress party.....(Interruptions)

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA (Sangrur) : A former Home Minister had gone to Bhindranwale and he was promoted for doing that(Interruptions)

SHRI R. L. BHATIA : When your turn comes, you reply. I am trying to establish that it is your creation, you helped him, you have brought him to the Golden Temple now today you are saying that it is our relations and all that.

Shri Sukhinder Singh, ex-Akali Minister said that they wanted Khalistan and that was not contradicted by the Akali leader then. Then, Baba Joginder Singh father of Bhindranwale was made as the leader of the UDA. Can they deny it? They made him the leader of the party.

Sir, what I mean to say is that right from 1981 to 1988, it was the Akali party who did not have a clear thinking as to how to deal with the situation which was prevalent in Punjab. They have been either siding with him or encouraging them and probably they were thinking that it will be the terrorists and the extremists who are fighting war, let them fight with the Central Government, and then they will take advantage of it. But, this is not the situation now. The situation has slightly changed, as I said.

About 400 Congress leaders have been shot dead by the extremists so far and a large number of people belonging to CPIM, CPM and BJP have been shot dead. Now, the leader of the Akali party Mr. Talwandi was also shot dead. We are very sorry and we condemn this. Now, at least the Akali party should think, what is happening, what they have achieved in seven years by doing this. Well, you can accuse the Government. Naturally you can always do it. Nobody can stop you, as Mr. Reddy has already accused the Government. But I just want to see your action. What is it that you have been doing for the last 7 or 8 years? It is because of your confusion that the problem in Punjab persists. The day you are clear in your mind, the day you will feel that you want to fight against terrorism, the boys are doing something wrong, they are being helped by Pakistan and other foreign forces, I am sure, the same day, the situation in Punjab will become clear. Therefore, I request them that if they

have made mistakes in the past, it is time now that they should change and think as the other parties are thinking like Congress Party, CPI, CPM. All these parties are against anti-national forces, who are being backed by the foreign forces. Let the Akali Party think over it and come forward to help other parties in this matter. The moment they do it, I am sure, the Punjab situation will change.

With these words, I again request them to ponder over, change and help other parties so that we have a better situation in Punjab.

With these words, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Punjab.

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South) : When I spoke on the Punjab Budget during the last session, I had expressed a hope that it would be the last occasion that Punjab budget would be discussed in this august House. But unfortunately, we are forced to discuss it again and again. It is better if State subjects are discussed in the State Assemblies.

Just now, I heard with rapt attention my esteemed colleague, Mr. Bhatia, for whom we have very great respect. He is a very seasoned Parliamentarian. He is a person who is respected by all. I thought, he would throw some light on the solution to the Punjab problem. I was happy to learn from him, because he hails from Punjab, that there was a slight improvement in the situation. But I do not know what he means by that

SHRI R.L. BHATIA : I said that let the Akali Party also think over this issue. The day you think, I think and he thinks on this issue of Punjab, the solution to the Punjab problem will be there.

SHRI. V.S. KRISHNA IYER : The Punjab issue is not an issue for Punjabis alone. The whole nation is concerned. If the situation there is improving, the whole na-

tion will be happy.

I would like to know what has happened to the Punjab Accord? Mr. Bhatia did not throw any light on this. The House, the nation, has given the approval for that. Now I do not know whether it has been kept in cold storage.

My friend, Mr. Reddy, who has initiated the discussion, touched two points. One is with regard to Chandigarh. Of course, it is a sensitive matter and it is an inter-State problem. But with regard to canal, I think, there has not been any progress at all. It has been kept aside.

The Government has not done anything at all with regard to the implementation of the Accord which created confidence in the minds of the people of Punjab. Time and again, we from this side, have been urging that the Government must take the opposition into confidence. Of course, there has been some talks with the local opposition leaders in Punjab. I would like to know from the Government whether at any time after the last Budget session, after the promise made by the Prime Minister, the opposition leaders of Parliament have been consulted in the matter. Why do you not consult them? We are also interested to see that the Punjab problem is solved. It is not the concern of Akalis only. It is the concern of everybody. So it is a lapse on the part of the Government. I do not know why they are avoiding the opposition parties. For the last 1/12 years, neither during session nor during inter-session the opposition parties have been consulted. It is possible that the State level leaders of the opposition might have been consulted, but no national leader has been consulted. With regard to the situation in Punjab it is very unfortunate that even today we have been hearing in the newspapers about killings in Punjab. These killings are confined not to Punjab alone but these have been extend to border States like Haryana where very recently we had very ghastly murder of about 30 people. So, this is a very serious matter. Now we are given the impression that the administration is very

strong. I am very sorry to say, as Mr. Reddy has said, that the Governor has not been able to contain the situation and all is not well with the State of Punjab. It is not the question of terrorists alone, it is a question of containing terrorism also. I would like to know from the Government why did the DIG of police, Mr. Chaman Lal resign from his post. What prompted him to resign from that post? Everybody knows that he was an efficient officer and he was doing very well. So, these matters are very important and should be considered. I earnestly and strongly urge upon the Government that they should take the initiative. Of course, whenever we raise this issue, the Prime Minister or the Home Minister will say: "When should we talk to in Punjab?" I say, talk to Mr. Bhatia who is a representative of the people of Punjab, who is a Member of this House. Talk to Mr. Ramoowalia. There are so many Sikh Members. You have not even talked to these people from Punjab. You cannot say that there is nobody to whom you can talk. I would urge the Government to take unilateral decision. Of course, we are happy that after the Operation Black Thunder we thought there would be some normalisation which would clear the Golden Temple of terrorists. The whole nation knows that at that time an assurance was given by the Prime Minister to the nation that a plan of action is ready for Punjab by which the situation in Punjab will improve. After that a few Jodhpur detenues were released and then afterwards there was full stop. Nothing happened after that. This is a continuous process. They should not stop there. A permanent solution of the Punjab problem is a continuous process. We should not take rest till that is achieved and it must be achieved urgently, immediately. so, sir, I hope that the Government of India will take it seriously and give earnest consideration to see that the Punjab Accord also is implemented and a permanent solution also is found to this problem.

Coming the budget, of course, there are only two main items which, I am glad, Mr. Bhatia has explained because in the explanatory note it was not forthcoming. Nobody has opposed the Demands. Even

[Sh. V.S. Krishna Iyer]

Mr. Ramachandra Reddy did not oppose it. He only wanted the details. I am glad that he has given the details. So, obviously there would be no objection to the Supplementary Demands.

I know very much what should be done in Punjab. I have not visited Punjab recently but I understand, as Mr. Bhatia has said, it contributes seventy percent of the foodgrains to the national pool. We are all happy. We are proud of Punjab. It is doing very well in agriculture. Even during the drought period, it contributed sixty percent to the national granary. But what I was given to understand was that industrially it is going from bad to worse. During the last General Budget time, I pointed out that the provision under the head 'industries' had been reduced by Rs. ten crores.

We find a number of unemployed youngsters. In one of the Reports I found that nearly seven lakh youths were unemployed nearly three lakhs in the urban areas and another four lakhs in rural areas. The youngsters were frustrated. Of course, there is unemployment everywhere in the country but particularly Punjab being a developed State it is not a backward State still we find unemployment there. Out of the educated youth, I understand nearly fifty percent are unemployed. So, this is a very serious problem and that is why they become frustrated and they have taken up this wrong path. I would strongly urge that the Government of India should not only give earnest attention, they should give up topmost priority to have some major industries there and also they should see that the agriculture is diversified. Of course, dairying is an important industry and I learn that even with regard to dairying, it stands first in the country. They contribute nearly ten percent of the milk to the country's milk pool. But that can be further strengthened and also you can take up food processing employment in Punjab, though we are not agreeing with your view in so far as the multi-nationals are engaged in this activity. The country sent them out once.

I do not know when they have been brought in the background again for production of Pepsi Colo, etc. They say that it is in the interest of the country but we are not convinced about it. However, I leave it at that. But the processing is an important industry and it is agro-based industry and it must be strengthened, it should be given priorities. Once again, I urge upon the Centre that they should invest more and more funds in the industries in the State of Punjab. Mere establishment of one railway workshop or a coach factory is not sufficient. We should have more and more such industries in the State of Punjab.

Sir, another point is about the security of Punjab. It is a very sensitive of the country. It is very important. But we have not heard anything about the fencing of the boundaries of the Punjab State. We do not find any funds provided for the scheme. At whose cost the fencing will be done? I do know whether the Government of India will provide funds or the State Government will provide funds for this work. Therefore, I urge upon the union Government that fencing must be done and completed very soon. Now, politically, I would say that a democratic Government has been set up in Pakistan. The activities of terrorists may go down in Punjab. That is the hope of everybody because it has been proved beyond doubt that Pakistan had been aiding the terrorists. Now, the new Government has come into existence in Pakistan and the Government also made statements on this matter. So, sir, I hope that terrorists' activities may not repeat in Punjab and it will also be much reduced because of the democratic Government set up in Pakistan. Last time also I have said and many members from the ruling party also said that this would be the last occasion for discussing budget for Punjab in this House.

Sir in this connection I would like to point out one thing. When there is the President rule in a State, it is the practice that we will have a consultative Committee comprising of the members of the parliament of that State. For instance, there is one like that in Tamil Nadu where President's rule in exis-

tence. But I do not know whether you have got such a Committee in Punjab. Even you have not consulted the M.P.s. of Punjab in regard to the matter connected with Punjab budget. Then I talked to one of the MPS of Punjab State, he said that they had not been consulted in this matter. So, it is a lapse on the part of the Central Government. It is very necessary to have a consultative committee for Punjab because it is more than two years now that Punjab has been under president's rule. If I am not exaggerating it is the duty of the Government to constitute the committee for Punjab. It is the responsibility of the Centre and it is now looking after the administration of the State. It is the care-taker Government and the Governor is there as the head of the state. He must have a good rapport with all sections of the society there Mr. Arjun Singh helped in arranging a meeting with Sant Longowal with the then Government. The then Government did something. I do not know whether the present Government has been meeting all the people in the state very often. I do not know whether the Governor consults the MPs of the State. In a democratic set-up it is very necessary. I hope it will be the last occasion that we are discussing the budget of Punjab State in this House.

(Translation)

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI (Satna) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support these demands. Whenever we talk of Punjab, its whole history comes before us. The land of the brave warriors, where songs of peace and harmony used to be sung, where even today the love stories of Heer-Ranjha, Soni-Mahiwal, Shashi Punnu and Vijay Sahiba are immortal and unique, where today the right path of the life is shown and peace and harmony is taught, where people have remained unaffected by all communal forces, is today immersed in a pool of blood. We have been hearing it since childhood that Punjab is such a land where during peace time the farmers plough their fields, and supply foodgrains to all the states and in the war-time turn into warriors to face the enemies and sacrifice their lives for the cause of

their nation. These were age-old things but today it is regretting that all our faiths and beliefs have been belied and the land of Punjab is bleeding.

In this connection our colleagues from opposition have made some points regarding the solution to the Punjab problem. I would like to ask them with the due respect as to what extent they themselves or their parties are sincere in solving this problem? I do not say that all the Parties are alike but in general the Opposition Parties have tried to defame the hon. Prime Minister "Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the Congress Government by exploiting the feelings of people on the Punjab issue. They have no soft corner for the victims of terrorism. Their policies are just before the people.

The masses in India are very well aware of this. Just now a Member from the Opposition party said that the Government is not taking any steps to implement the accords signed for the solution of Punjab and Chandigarh problems. My submission is that if a solution is found out or an accord is signed amidst bloodshed, riots and violence then it is not a solution. Before we arrive at any solution it is essential to have peace, harmony law and order as well as the people's faith that they may lead a peaceful life. Action should be taken thereafter to find out a solution to maintain the law and order and that solution will be a lasting one.

I personally feel that we are prepared to hand over Chandigarh to Punjab but, sir, I would like to submit with the due respect that you should ask your colleagues in Lok Dal as to whether they are prepared to hand over Chandigarh to Punjab. You should make declaration to this effect in the House. But you say one thing here in the one House and the other outside this House and yet another in the public. You have been simply exploiting the masses but the Indian masses are not going to be exploited any more. They will retaliate. *(Interruptions)*

If you are bold enough say something about Chandigarh, and ask Shri Devilal to

[Sh. Aziz Qureshi]

do so. If you have the courage, you should say this in the House. (*Interruption*)

(*English*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't disturb please. If you want to speak, you give your name.

[*Translation*]

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI: The second point that I would like to make is that no solution can be a permanent one if Akali Dal is not a party in the deliberations. We will, therefore, have to create such an atmosphere that all the members of Akali Dal participate in finding out the solution. Then alone will this be a permanent and a concrete solution.

There may be a difference of opinion regarding more achievements in Punjab but I feel that a person even with the little intelligence will not deny that this is the result of hon. Prime Minister's policies for 4-5 years and of the policies of the Central Government that the people in Punjab have decided to create an atmosphere of peace and face terrorism. I feel that this is a big credit for which our Government and the hon. Prime Minister deserve to be congratulated.

Allocations for Local Government for Housing and Development works have just now been criticised. I would like to submit that there can not be any bigger achievement of the Government than paying compensation at current market rates after getting the Golden Temple Complex vacated. In this way the importance of the Golden Temple will increase. The people would like to go there and it will be helpful in maintaining law and order problem there; moreover this area will also be beautified. People would like a healthy and beautiful planning. I would like that fund should be increased for the purpose because I have received some complaints which I have sent to my senior colleague Shri Bhatia. Some of the shops were acquired there but the owners have not

been given shops in return. One such case is of Dr. Mrs. Madan Pal who is a very gentle lady. I talked to her. I took her to Shri Bhatia and requested him that such cases should be considered. If it is felt that the funds should be increased, it should be done. Besides, I feel that the amount earmarked under the head Revenue and Rehabilitation is very small. This too should be increased.

If we go to the past history we find that Punjab has supplied foodgrains for the whole country and filled our godowns. In the hour of need it has provided foodgrains at the cost of their own need. In view of the sacrifices and the contribution they have made this amount should be doubled.

Just now it was said that what Pakistan has to do with the problem of terrorism. One of the Members said that it is mere a propaganda of the ruling party but I am happy that another Member said that Pakistan has a hand in it. I do not think that there is any doubt left that Pakistan is fully responsible for encouraging terrorism and assisting the terrorists. Our leaders have said so with full proof. Last year during the discussion on the demands of Defence Ministry I had suggested that our Air Force should go in action to wash out those terrorist camp in Pakistan where terrorists are being given training and from where money and weapons are being infiltrated into India. If we have to cross the international border we should in order to maintain peace and ensure security to the people in our country, we should not hesitate from doing so. The conditions have changed now. After 11 years, democracy has been restored in Pakistan, and Shrimati Benazir Bhutto is the Prime Minister there. We are sure that under the changed circumstances, the new Government of Pakistan will pay attention in this regard. On behalf of the Indian masses we request them with the faith that they will do away with the problem of terrorists' training and will not give us any chance of complaining that the terrorists are being trained in Pakistan and they are being sent into India equipped with arms and money. Now the circumstances have changed and we will be able to establish new

and friendly relationships with Pakistan.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to make another point. There was a reference made regarding clash between a Police Commissioner and a lady officer. I do not feel that the matter deserve a debate in the Lok Sabha. This should not have been referred to. But now since it has been referred, I would like to say something. I am not going to say as to who is right and who is wrong. The victim's husband has filed a suit in the court. But I am doing to point out another thing. The position of Police Commission or an I.A.S. or an I.P.S. officer in Punjab is just different to that of what it is in the rest of the country. My submission is that when an average citizen of Punjab will come to know such a clash and that the matter being taken to the court what impact will it have on the morale of those citizens. The Government should keep this thing in view. I feel that the Punjab Governor and the Government have been wrong in not taking steps to see that the matter ends. The matter has been taken to the court. I feel that strict action should be taken and the case should be concluded otherwise it will have an adverse effect on the morale of the common man.

With these words I support this.

[English]

SHRI AJOY BISWAS (Tripura West). Mr. Chairman, for the last two years, Punjab is under President's rule and without the representatives of the people, it is not possible to fulfil the aspirations of the people. Now it is the duty of the Central Government to fulfil the aspirations of the people and to look after the development of the State. There is an accord between the Prime Minister and Mr. Longowal. Some political and economic aspects are there in that accord and for the last two years, the Central Government is practically controlling the State. The hon. Minister will definitely tell this House what the Central Government has done during these two years in regard to the development of the State. Punjab problem is not an isolated problem. We cannot say that

Punjab is only a political problem. We cannot also say that Punjab is only a social problem. It is a combination of both social and political problems. If you have no good intention to solve the economic problem of the State of Punjab, definitely you will help the extremists to win over a big section of the people of Punjab. Punjab is advanced in Agriculture. There is no doubt about it. We are proud of that. But, industrially, definitely Punjab has not come to such a position where we can say that it is an industrialised State. In the Accord, you have clearly agreed that some economic and industrial measures are to be taken in Punjab. But, we see for the last two years, that the Central Government did very little to set up new industries to solve the problems in the industry viz. the industrial sickness. The Central Government has not done it. The Central Government has no policy to counter this industrial sickness or the industrial problems.

Sir, in Punjab, there are seven lakhs of unemployed youth. Definitely, this is a big problem for the State of Punjab. On the other hand, the extremists are utilising these seven lakh youth to suit their purpose. What is the policy of the Government to solve this unemployment problem?

The Central Government has taken up the scheme with regard to Ropar and Bhatinda plants. But, up to what stage that scheme has been implemented? Secondly, there is the Integral Coach Factory. That is another scheme of the Central Government. So, I want to know to what steps this Government has taken to complete or finalise this Integral Coach Factory. I would like to know the present stage of implementation of this scheme.

Further, the Central Government has brought in the Pepsi Cola project in the State of Punjab. There is no doubt about it. As far as Agriculture is concerned, Punjab is an advanced State and we can utilise the agricultural produce for the development of industrial sector also. I am in favour of setting up of agro-based industries but it should not be done by inviting the multinationals in the

[Sh. Ajoy Biswas]

State of Punjab because Punjab is already a complicated State. You are aware that there are some foreign hands working in Punjab. They are trying to exploit the present situation and problem. Pepsi Cola is a multinational concern. You cannot say for certain that through this concern, the foreign hands and foreign agencies will not work inside the State of Punjab. So, we are not against setting up of this type of agro-based industries. But, in doing this, we should not invite the multinationals and take their help. That will endanger the security of the country.

16.00 hrs.

Another point is that without finding a political solution or without solving the present political situation, you cannot expect a conducive atmosphere for the economic development. The economic development can be done if there is political solution in Punjab. In the Accord, some decisions were taken to solve the Punjab problem. But we do not see that the Government is bringing forward any solution for the Punjab. It is clear to us what the intention of the Central Government is to solve the Punjab problem in the near future.

16.02 hrs.

[SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM *in the Chair*]

For the last two years, Punjab is under the President's rule. Definitely you must see towards the problems of the Government teachers and their demands should be accepted. I know, even in this situation, there are some basic problems of teachers and employees in Punjab. They are demonstrating and agitating to have their demands met. Thousands of workers are still working as muster roll workers or contingent workers. One of the demands of the muster roll workers and the teachers working for the last two three years is that they should be regularised. It should be the wish of the Central Government to see that contingent workers and muster roll workers should be regularised. There are other problems of the

employees and teachers connected with administration. You must rule the country with the help of employees and if you don't accept their minimum demands, then how will you run the administration? My appeal is that you must see towards the problems of the Government employees and teachers of Punjab. With these words, I end my speech.

[*Translation*]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): Sir, I support the supplementary Demands for Grants for Punjab presented in the House by the hon. Minister. I hope the situation returns to normal in Punjab and elections held there as soon as possible. This will be a great achievement for our country. Punjab is the heart of the nation. Punjab is a State whose people have sacrificed themselves for the nation before and after Independence. Even today the people of the State are fighting against terrorists, and many have sacrificed their lives in the process. The citizens of India are grateful to the people of Punjab and this House congratulates the latter for the sacrifices made by them. While we are discussing the Supplementary Demands for Grants. Let us also congratulate the newly-elected Prime Minister of Pakistan Mrs. Benazir Bhutto. As Pakistan is Punjab's neighbour, her Prime Minister shall certainly help India by not supporting the Khalistan Movement. I do believe that Pakistan will help India in its quest for an early settlement to the Punjab problem thereby paving a way for the progress of that State.

Although hon. Shri Krishna Iyer's speech had a political tinge, he did make some constructive points. For this, I congratulate him. I support him on the point that Opposition parties should be taken into confidence on the Punjab issue. A number of meetings have been held with the Opposition on the Punjab problem. But elections cannot be held there until the situation returns to normal. We do not have any political interest in the matter. For us, interests of the public is more important. It is true that elections have to be held there but we have to

consider the position of the public in the State. For this too a dialogue with other political parties is necessary.

The Government has solved a number of grievances of Punjab, approved a number of projects for economic growth in the State. Punjab is an agriculture based State where the Green Revolution has had an exemplary success and we take pride in mentioning its example everywhere. In States where President's Rule is imposed, there is always a Consultative Committee of M.Ps. But there is no such Committee in Punjab. To solve the grievances of Punjab I would suggest that setting up of a Monitoring Cell or a Monitoring Committee consisting of M.Ps. As discussions cannot be held in the State, the Assembly having been dissolved suggestions can be sought from M.Ps who are the public representatives. A monitoring cell consisting of M.Ps should be set up which can give suggestions for economic growth, removal of unemployment and restoring normalcy in the State. Punjab has 7-8 lakh unemployed youth. Even though Bengal has 52 lakh unemployed youth the situation there is different from that of Punjab. The Report also says that these youth are taking part in terrorist activities. To solve the unemployment problem, heavy industry should be set up in the State and for this an increase in the budgetary allocations is needed. Notified vacancies should be immediately filled up after withdrawing the ban on recruitment to Central Government posts. This will solve the unemployment problem in the State to some extent. The people of Punjab should be congratulated for having isolated the terrorists. Police officers working in the State also deserve praise. It is not good to make them target of criticism all the time. Shri Rebiere deserves congratulations once again as he continues to work for the good of Punjab in the same way he has done in the past in the face of threats to his life. Hon. Shri Reddi said many things against the Punjab Governor. Although I come from Bengal, I do not want to say anything political. Hon. Shri Reddi is not present here, he was saying that the Punjab Governor should exchange

place with the Andhra Governor. But will it solve the problem? Speeches are more political.... (Interruptions)

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: If a lady Governor has to go, let the hon. Member go herself.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: All right. Hon. Shri Ramoowalia should have been asked to speak first. He is a member of the Akali Dal and is seen as a representative of the people of Punjab.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Thank you.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Shri Bhatia rightly said that the morale of the people of Punjab has been boosted. Today the situation in Punjab is such that people are not thinking of leaving the State. For this, I congratulate the Government. More attention should be paid towards rehabilitation. 17 leaders of our Party and a number of police officers sacrificed their lives. Political leaders are always ready to lay down their lives in the service of the nation. The Government should formulate a scheme under which if one member of a family is killed, one person from that family should be given a Government job. There are many families who have lost one or more members. Children of many families do not get proper education of even two square meals a day. If the Government provides job to a member of the victim family, the people will feel that the Government does care for them.

Religion does not teach us to have enmity with each other. We are Indians and India is our country. Many people asked me as to what I would speak on Punjab. When Rabindranath Tagore wrote the National Anthem he wrote: "Punjab, Sindhu, Gujarat, Maratha, Dravida, Utkala Banga." Punjab has a relationship with Bengal. That is why a Bengali has been posted as Governor in Punjab. I thank you for allowing me to express my views.

SHRI RAM NARAIN SINGH (Bhiwani) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, It is our misfortune that we have to discuss Supplementary Demands for Grants time and again here. We had hoped that such an occasion would not arise as Assembly elections would be held and a representative Government formed in Punjab. Regrettably, this did not happen. It is said that elections will be held in Punjab when the situation returns to normal. In the absence of a favourable atmosphere in Assam, elections had to be held there with the help of military and para-military forces. And there was a lot of bloodshed in the process. Anyway the elections were held and a Government was formed. Similarly a Government was formed after elections were held in the Eastern and Northern Provinces of Sri Lanka. The efforts of the I.P.K.F brought some peace to the island. Otherwise the situation there is far from normal, terrorists are active there too. In spite of all this, Presidential elections are going to be held in Sri Lanka. To postpone the Assembly elections in Punjab on the pretext of atmosphere in the state not being conducive is certainly not proper. The Government can make its own arrangements for holding of elections. After a Government is formed, the Punjab crisis, which has assumed national proportions, can be solved. It seems the Government is not interested in solving the Punjab problem. Hon. Members of Parliament Shri Bhatia and Shri Dhillon are veteran leaders of the Congress who have been serving the Party for the last 40-45 years. Even they were not associated with the Advisory Committee. All the Opposition Parties wanted the Central Government to consult them in finding a solution to this problem. But what to talk of the Opposition when even the veterans of the Congress were not consulted. A solution can be easily found out if the Centre works jointly with the Opposition. The Governor and other officials of Punjab works according to their own whims and fancies. An Advisory Committee consisting of M.Ps from the Congress (I) and

the Akali Dal would certainly have found a solution. It is not as if there is no solution to this problem. Punjab is the arm of the country. When Punjab and Haryana were united, 50% of our servicemen came from there. They were honoured with many Victoria Crosses in the wars before Independence. These two states not only feed the nation but also supply recruits to the armed forces at the time of war. Why did this problem arise? Because the sons of farmers in Punjab do not get jobs. There are very good schools in Punjab but still they do not get jobs. It is the boys studying in public schools in cities who later go on to dominate the job market. So out of desperation the youth of rural areas have taken up arms and have turned extremists and joined the company of bad elements. Only the Government is responsible for the indiscriminate killings being resorted to by these people because they are not even aware whom they are killing. In 1984, when the Hon. Prime Minister was on a visit to Simla as the General Secretary of the Congress, he had described Bhindranwale as a noble and great saint in response to a question regarding his views about the latter. In the elections to S.G.P.C, Congress contested with the support of Bhindranwale and again in the general elections, sought his help. With the support of Congress, Bhindrawale the man who worked for ransom and extortion, later on became an extremist and killed several innocent persons. Had the Congress been serious to resolve the Punjab tangle, it would have sought the advice of veteran leaders on it as they could give better suggestions.

Secondly, with the restoration of a Representative Government in Punjab, everything can be got settled through dialogue and also elections can be held in the State.

A little while ago an hon. Member stated that Lok Dal is opposed to Punjab Accord. But with the installation of a popular Govern-

ment in place of the present President's rule in the State, after the Assembly elections the two State Government i.e. Government of Punjab and Haryana Government can solve the issue amicably on their own.

Initially Haryana was against the award as it was given by Shrimati Indira Gandhi which mentioned that in lieu of Chandigarh to Punjab, Haryana would get 107 villages of Abohar and Fazilka. This announcement caused so much resentment among the people of Haryana, that on this very issue Ch. Devi Lal of Lok Dal won 85 seats in the State, because the people thought Haryana's interests have been totally overlooked. People of the State felt that they had been deprived of their share of water, but were satisfied with the setting up of a commission to settle the two issues. One of water and second of exchange of Abohar Fazilka for Chandigarh. On the issue of water, there was broad consensus over the award given by the Commission and it could have settled the issue, had there been popular Governments in power in the two States. Issue was decided earlier also, but now due to a hesitation on the part of the Congress to consult either the leaders of the opposition or the Congress M.Ps from Punjab, who are completely seized of the facts, it has remained unresolved. In Punjab, undeclared war is being fought because nobody is safe there and daily 20 to 25 persons are being killed even in the adjoining States like Haryana, Situation has become so bad that recently in Kaithal, 25 persons were killed. Such a situation has been created in that State that later on when the Government thought to control it, they found themselves incapable of fighting the terrorists because they were equipped with sophisticated weapons such as AK-47 rifles and Chinese rifles, which are capable of killing many persons within a minute. We do not have such modern weapons and at least the Government of Haryana is not at all equipped with them to deal with the terrorists

menace. Now the hon. Home Minister has given some help to meet the terrorists threat, so the Government should start dialogue with the leaders of the Opposition and also consult the senior leaders of the Congress like Dhillon Sahib and sort out the issue. They will offer concrete suggestions. Ch. Devi Lal intends to settle the issue through discussions with the Chief Minister of Punjab, but there is none to talk to except the Governor. With whom what he can discuss? Now there are chances of improvement in the situation as popular democratic Government has come into power in Pakistan. The democratically elected Government of Pakistan may perhaps stop assisting the terrorists as their Foreign Minister and our Hon. Prime Minister have stressed the need to have friendly relations with each other. It would not be a big thing if they stop imparting training to the terrorists.

Our Government claims that they have sealed their international borders six months ago, but even today it has not been sealed and people do cross over the borders and they meet a little resistance. There is a nexus between the police, the smugglers and the anti-social elements. The life of common man is not safe.

Supplementary Grants need to be approved as there is no other alternative under the President's rule. With these words, I thank and request the Government to discuss the issue with the leaders of all the opposition parties and the Senior Congress leaders of Punjab and sort of out the problem.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to speak only on two-three points. The Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi has announced that there will be Panchayat elections in Punjab and he has also stated that there will be a gradual devolution of power throughout the country and all the power will be vested with the

[Dr. G.S. Rajhans]

Panchayats. However, beginning is being made with the Punjab. It is a very important step and its importance cannot be underestimated as this will bring a sense of fearlessness and participation among the masses and talented persons will be able to come forward. Peace will not return to Punjab without high morale of the people, which can only be raised through increased participation of people in the Panchayat elections.

Secondly and fortunately with the coming into power of democratically elected Government in Pakistan, 90 percent of the terrorist problem will get automatically solved as there will be nobody to support the terrorists. Both Ms. Benazir Bhutto and Shri Sahabzada Yakub Khan have underlined the importance of friendly relations with India. Therefore, we should welcome the retrieval of democratic process in Pakistan by holding the Panchayat elections in Punjab.

Labourers of Bihar have contributed a lot to the prosperity of Punjab. Every year lakhs of labourers from Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh go to Punjab and return to their villages with a lot of money. I don't counter it. I request the Government to go in for compulsory insurance of these labourers and also to maintain records about their whereabouts, as it is difficult to know about their well being. Many persons of my constituency were killed but no information was available about them. The Government of Punjab under President's rule should make some advancement towards welfare of the labourers who have been there working in that State because they have also contributed to the prosperity of Punjab. Therefore, the responsibility of their security and welfare rests with the Punjab Government.

In the end, I would like to say that under President's rule, many things have been

done in Punjab and we hope that the situation in Punjab will improve and it will march ahead.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA (Sangrur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while discussing demands for grants for Punjab many political issues have also been raised. On the analogy of the reply given by hon. Gadhviji to the debates about demands for grant for Tamil Nadu. I was expecting that political issues would not prevail upon the development and financial problems of Punjab while discussing the issue. But I fail to understand why Shri Bhatiaji, who is a very good friend of mine, lost his temper today and started a political discussion. In the very beginning he lost his temper and started speaking against us. I have never thought that a dear friend like Shri Bhatiaji will keep Akalis in such an indifferent footings. But I have decided that by abiding by my traditions, I will not allow myself to be provoked. Therefore, I will convey my feelings politely.

At the outset, I would like to say that I am very much proud of unity and integrity of the country and feeling of nationalism and brotherhood among the people of different faiths i.e. Hindu, Sikh and Christian in India. According to the edict of Shri Gurugranth Sahib, we have been worshipping man and will continue to do so in future also. I also want to say that the mountains may fly, the snow-clad mountains may turn hot and the fire lose its natural quality, but the Akali Dal will never support the cause for Khalistan. The leader of the House, Hon Prime Minister rightly stated that there were two basic factors behind Punjab problem, one is the rise of fundamentalism and the second is the foreign hand. Further, these are attributable to two to three factors. There are some demands pertaining to Sikhs and some pertain to the people of Punjab as a whole. Therefore, on the face of statement made by the Hon. Prime Minister, the accusation

hurled by a person of Shri Bhatia stature loses its relevancy here. I want to convey the feelings of the people who think that there will be no use in coming into senses after losing everything. The five Ex-Ministers of Punjab belonging to Congress Party have been killed, Sant Longowal was murdered and our popular leader and the Prime Minister of the country was also murdered. I would like to ask the Government for how long it will remain blaming others and not taking any decision. Let the people be told that in whose hands we are playing. We are playing in the hands of terrorists. What do the terrorists want? They want that the politicians quarrel among themselves so that they can rule over the people by overawing them. I want to say that Government should try to isolate the terrorists. In Punjab, during the last 8 years there has not been even a single case of scuffle between Sikhs and Hindus at market places, or in the street or at any other public places. Nor has there been any case of assault on each other. There are some handful of people whose number is very few come and start shooting the people. Out of the total number of persons killed by the terrorists, the Sikhs constitute 86 per cent. They are being killed because they are not lending their support to terrorists. I request the Government to see those things from which the terrorists get the talking point. What types of talking point terrorists get? They ask people whether the persons responsible for massacre of Sikhs in Delhi were awarded punishment. The Government should punish them and let this talking be closed. They say that 180 persons have been released from Jodhpur Jail after keeping them in confinement for four and half years. If they were innocent then why they were not released at the very first day and why they were kept in confinement for four and half years and the remaining detenus will also be released by declaring them innocent. If the Government keep the persons under confinement continuously for five years like this fashion, who will get impetus

from these type of things. It is, therefore, my humble request to you that instead of losing temper, facts should be taken into consideration. I would also like to make it clear who is giving support to whom. From the books written by Shri Mark Tully and Satish Jaicob, even a common man has come to know who has given help to whom, of course occasionally and fortuitously for narrow self motives. But this is a naked truth that many persons belonging to the ruling party have also helped those persons who used to talk to kill many as 35 Hindus. Even that time also, on the face of impending danger of guns of terrorists. Ramoowalia openly said that it was a wrong thing. We are proud to say that we are the lamps which keep on glowing in the midst of storms even. We say it now and continue to say like this in future also. I would like to say one thing that Punjab problem should be solved with a sympathetic view in mind. Solution to Punjab problem should be arrived at by discussing it with political parties and the people of Punjab. Hon. Prime Minister himself is of the opinion that this is a national problem, therefore, it should be solved in national perspective. Governor Mr. Ray's fire power cannot be a solution to the bullet of terrorist like G.B. Manochahal. There has been enough of exchange of fires. I would like to say with full responsibility and in all its seriousness that corruption in Punjab police is increasing behind the garb of this terrorism.

A mention was also made in the House about Shri I. G. Gill and Shrimati Bajaj. It is not known as to what was said by whom during a private party. But that incident did not deserve to be mentioned here. That was not an event. I do not think it proper to repeat it again and again. Later on these officers went to the court. Could the Government not solve this issue out of court? When the Government could not solve such a minor issue, how it will be able to solve the Punjab problem. The Government is too incapable to solve this minor issue. I would like to request

[Sh. Balwant Singh Ramoowalia]

the hon. Members not to raise this issue in the House.

DR. G.S. DHILLON : Why you are mixing the issue of Shrimati Bajaj with the Punjab problem.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : You may express your views when your turn comes. Thank you. I am to say that there must be a political solution to Punjab problem. All the opposition parties should be taken into confidence and a political solution is to be found after having talks with various sections of the society but no dialogue should be held with terrorist. A dialogue should be held only with those political persons who have faith in the law and in the constitution of the country. If any dialogue is to be held with terrorists, it should be held by the State Government and not by the Central Government. This is the responsibility of the State Government. Therefore, we should held talks for a political solution.

Next, I would like to make a mention of Shri Chaman Lal, who was Inspector General of Punjab police and was very popular among the Hindus and Sikhs alike because he was having a keen sense of justness. He has written an eleven pages letter to the Government. Under what circumstances did he say that he did not want to live in Punjab? The Government should tell the whole country about those circumstances and his letter should be taken into consideration.

Now, I would like to submit my views about some demands of Punjab. First of all, I would like to congratulate the Punjab Electricity Board for doing a commendable job. We should not lag behind in appreciating the good work if it so deserves. All of my friends who are present in the House, be it Sardar Dhillon Saheb, or Shri Bhatia ji or Chaudhary Sunder Singh, are in agreement that Punjab Electricity Board has done a very commend-

able job. The Chairman, Shri N.S. Basant and all other officers of Punjab Electricity Board have got full cooperation of all. They have got full cooperation from the Punjab Government irrespective of the fact that it was the government of Shri Barnala or the Governor's rule. But two things have not been done and if these are not done, there will be acute shortage of power in Punjab. The first is that the Ropar Thermal Power Plant is in the third stage. It has been cleared from all stages and now it is to be cleared by the Planning Commission. As far as this matter is concerned, we all are in agreement and through you want to insist upon the Government to clear this project immediately otherwise Punjab will have to face serious power problem. The second thing is about Guru Nanak Thermal plant situated at Bhatinda. The Government have proposed to change the venue of Guru Nanak Thermal Power Plant and have shifted it 12 kilometers away from the existing venue. All of its conditions have been fulfilled. Through you, I would like to request Mr. Gadhvi, who is the only Minister who writes letters to members stating that following issues have been raised by them in the House.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA (Amritsar): I have also received letter.

[English]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: I appreciate this action of yours because you always take into account the views expressed by the Members of Parliament while deliberating in the House. You have also sent a note.

[Translation]

He also informs about the follow up action

The second thing is that Mr. Bhatia has rightly said that permission should be given to export more Basmati rice from Punjab Basmati rice of Punjab is of better quality than that of the Basmati rice of Pakistan. In the matter of export of Basmati rice, Pakistan

has captured the markets of middle east and we are lagging behind for which farmers of Punjab are not at fault rather the Central Government is responsible for this. If the Government gives incentives to the farmers of Hoshiarpur, Kapurthala, Jalandhar, Amritsar districts of Doab and Majha areas in Punjab and earmark these districts for the production of Basmati rice, then the farmers of these districts can earn the foreign exchange worth Rs. 3 crores for the country. If Government fixes the price of rice at Rs. 550/- a quintal and assure the farmers seven per cent annual increase in the price for five years, the farmers of Punjab will make bumper production of Basmati which will earn valuable foreign exchange for the Country

Government is opening Industrial Growth Centres. I am a Member of the consultative committee of the Ministry. In the meeting of the Consultative Committee also I made a demand to open industrial centres at Sangrur, Faridkot, Patiala districts of Malwa region and in three districts of Doab and Majha regions in Punjab. This will give incentive to the industries.

The railways are being electrified everywhere in India but not a single line of Punjab has been electrified so far. May I know the reason? The 70 per cent foodgrains of Punjab is taken by the Government but the Government is not electrifying trains in Punjab. Even the double tracks are not being laid there. I strongly request the Government for the electrification of trains in Punjab.

Mr. Bhatia, Miss Mamata, Mr. Rajhans and Mr. Ram Narain Singh have also said about the unemployment in Punjab. The Governor of Punjab is confidently saying that one lakh employment opportunities would be created in the coming two years. I am to request that 5,000 youths from three districts Gurdaspur, Amritsar and Ferozepur and 5,000 youths from 9 other districts should be recruited in C.R.P.F., B.S.F., C.I.S.F. and other agencies. By this 10,000 people will get employment.

I would like to request Hon. Gadhvi that Punjab Government has an apprehension. The Central government have provided funds to face floods in Punjab. Punjab Government has suffered losses to the tune of Rs. 864 crores due to floods and which you have also accepted. Out of the funds made available by you, Punjab Government is spending Rs. 120 crores for relief and rehabilitation work. This will meet only 20 to 25 per cent of the expenditure. The difference can be met only on getting more relief. I want to request that centre should provide adequate assistance to Punjab for tackling the flood situation effectively in Punjab. Unlike other States, the floods have caused more damages, particularly to tube-wells and tractors etc. The houses are not made of concrete in other states. Therefore, I want to request that in order to maintain the beauty of Punjab and keeping in view its demands full financial assistance should be given.

In regard to the corruption in Punjab Police, I want to submit that a Police Officer there has divulged a secret to me. He said that an officer of the rank of D.I.G. of the State Police gives orders for arrests of persons in the morning and asks a sum of Rs. 15,000 from each of them for their release otherwise they are threatened to implicated in the cases of murder. In this way that D.I.G. has amassed wealth worth Rs. 7 1/2 crores through dubious means and the same things has also been said about an S.S.P., whose identity was also disclosed to me, who has made Rs. 2 1/2 crores by indulging in corrupt practices. It is true that Punjab Police is fighting very bravely. But even if 5 to 7 per cent of them indulge in corrupt practices, it will cause delay in the improvement of the situation. Therefore, attention should be paid in this direction. The Hon. Prime Minister had laid the foundation stone of Govind-wal Project, but doubts are being raised in this matter because the said project has not been fully cleared so far. Someone must have misguided the Hon. Prime Minister. Why the foundation stone of a Project was laid by the Hon. Prime Minister when it was not cleared by the financial institution?

[Sh. Balwant Singh Ramoowalia]

I will suggest that hon. Shri Badal, Shri Tohra, Shri Mann, the Jodhpur detenus should be released. The gullies of the Delhi riots should be punished immediately. It will enhance the good-will of the people. The Punjab Accord which was welcomed unanimously in both Houses and which received much applaud is being side tracked. You are not implementing it in its letter and spirit, as a result of which people are increasingly losing their confidence in the Government. We should implement Punjab Accord in its letter and spirit otherwise its non-implementation will cause resentment in that State.

AN HON. MEMBER: If Shri Badal, Shri Tohra and others are released they may not remain alive and may meet the same fate which Shri Talwandi met.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: With these words, I oppose these demands.

DR. G.S. DHILLON (Ferozepur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Punjab was the subject of discussion a few weeks back and we had participated in it actively. I was hesitant in making my submission today. But I rise to speak to support some of the points raised by the hon. Members and also to oppose some of the points made by them on the floor of the House.

So far as the situation prevailing in Punjab is concerned, hon. Shri Bhatia and Shri Ramoowalia have rightly suggested that Punjab issue should be raised above party-politics. Everyone feels the same but unfortunately, some or the other problem is always cropping up. I joined the Congress party more than 50 years ago but even in United Punjab when the Unionist Party was in existence, the programmes had an economic basis. Subsequently, the Congress Party and the Akali Dal joined it and a new direction was given. But problems arose with the formation of Pakistan and problems which never existed began to emerge and the situation in Punjab became what it is

today. The beginning was so promising but the turn of events have been most unfortunate but how do we get out of this crisis? Hon. Mamata Bannerji has suggested that all opposition and other parties should sit and put their head together to ponder over the Punjab situation. I was thinking that the Congress Party should also participate in it. No one mentions the name of the Ruling Party. You are aware of our position but even outsiders do not mention that we should be consulted, on the contrary everyone should be consulted. Ch. Ram Narayan is an old friend of mine and he included me in the negotiations. I thank him for that. In so far as hon. Shri Ramoowalia is concerned, I said many things last time. I had no intentions of causing your displeasure. You are our brother. If something is said in emotion, you should not mind it. You are aware as to how much efforts we had made for you. I had stated in this House last time that toppling of the Barnala Government was a big mistake. When we say this much why do you become angry?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: I was not angry.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: The position which you have stated regarding Khalistan, I would like to know whether all your party members think on the same lines? You are carrying out negotiations in this regard. Now you are repenting as to why you removed Shri Barnala. You as well as others are aware that we have taken up this burden unnecessarily. I toured the flood affected areas and stayed there for 10 to 12 days. Everywhere the people were saying that if there were M.L.A.s they could have done something concrete. I also cursed the circumstances under which we committed such error. I think that the intention with which it was done, was not fulfilled. I have been reading in the newspapers for the past some time that you people are negotiating for a reconciliation. You have stated that the person who holds number two position in your party has joined them. Will the stand which you have taken towards the Khalistan issue, be maintained after you unity is achieved?

They do not think the same.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOW-
ALIA: What I have stated in support by all.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: If this is the first statement you make, after your unity, nothing else can be more welcome.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOW-
ALIA: If the almighty wills, it shall be so.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: You are following the directions of the Akal Takht in your attempts at reconciliation and you are instructing Shri Barnala to dissolve the Akali Dal. Prof. Darshan Singh should at least condemn the atrocities and killings being committed in the State.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOW-
ALIA: We are not in the SGPC, we were defeated at the polls.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: When you want, you join it and when you do not, you separate yourself from it. I was an elected member of the SGPC even during the British Rule. We had never thought in terms of politics. It was originally constituted to look after the religious affairs. I was its member for several years. The Akali Dal has never specified the scope of the SGPC. Gradually the complexion of the organisation has undergone a complete change. I would say that you should make up with each other. You should also declare publicly what you have submitted in your speech now. When Hon. Shri Rajiv Gandhi wants to know as to with whom to negotiate, you should come forward and assure us that you are prepared to hold talks and whatever decision is taken will be accepted by your side and then we can be able to deal with others. You should make an announcement of these two points. I do not know as to what has been the verdict of the Akal Takht regarding Shri Barnala. If the charges against him have been accepted, he may have been punished. I do not know as to how you will support what you

As regards the economic problems, I agree to what has been submitted about Basmati rice. When I was the Minister of Agriculture, the report of the Agricultural Price Commission was not dealt with properly. I am not aware of the outcome of the cabinet meeting on the subject of Agricultural prices, hon. Shri Gadvi will be knowing it and he may state the facts. I had suggested to hon. Shri Bhagat also to think in long-terms. The middle-east market has been handed over to Pakistan. The people of the gulf region were very fond of Basmati rice. Pakistan set up its own corporation and captured that market. The rates in the market are different from that of the rates declared by the Agricultural Price Commission after due approval from the cabinet. Now you are supplying 1 lakh tonnes of Basmati rice to U.S.S.R. I have heard that negotiations are going on with the European countries and with U.S.A. that you are going to supply about 10 thousand tonnes of rice to them. I had stated last time as well that there should be some organisation to look after the marketing arrangements of Basmati rice inside and outside the country. It should conduct research and suggest way of improving the situation. We talked about diversification of industries in Punjab. The Green Revolution to the extent desirable, is over. Punjab cannot depend on green revolution alone. Therefore I had stated last time also that food processing, milk processing, horticulture and oilseeds processing units should be set up. It is not proper to only increase the production of wheat. Some agro based industries should be set up there. One of the hon. Members was referring to the setting up of the Pepsi Cola Plant. I was also very doubtful about it. When this matter came to the Ministry of Agriculture, we wanted to know the details, and we found that there was nothing to doubt about it. Now he is saying that it is a multinational company. There are multinational companies elsewhere also, but no one raises any question about that, but a lot of resentment seems to exist in the case of Punjab. We know only this much that this will not bring greater degree of adversity than that prevailing at

[Dr. G.S. Dhilon]

and fruits etc. will be processed in the proposed unit. The drinks will, of course, be manufactured. Besides, foreign exchange worth five times the investment will be earned. It is true that it was discussed at various stages, the Planning Commission also accorded their approval, the Cabinet too gave a green signal and the project was formally announced, but you do not see the conditions prevailing in Punjab. Nobody knows what turn the situation will take.

17.00 hrs.

They do not take up any other subject and go on harping on this subject only. Myself Shri Bhatia and some of the colleagues of Shri Ramoowatta talked to the hon. Finance Minister the other day regarding the Guru Nanak Thermal Plant and Ropar Thermal Plant and he gave us assurance. Myself and Shri Bhatia also told the hon. Minister that he should consider this seriously on behalf of the Finance ministry. We are aware of the working of the Planning Commission; it thinks in terms of overall economy and resources. But there are many things which need special consideration. The hon. Finance minister encouraged us a lot and assured us that he would help us by somehow mobilizing resources and providing funds. We are very hopeful that he would keep his assurance.

Regarding the condition of industry too, it was told the other day that out of 126 blocks in the State only 65 have an industry. When I was a Minister in Punjab or Speaker in the Lok Sabha, I used to receive complaints that there was no heavy industry in the State. Such complaints hold good even today. At that time, the reply that used to be given was that State was located on the border. But my submission is that even Lahore is located on the border. When I was a Minister in the Government, I realised that Punjab stood nowhere in the matter of industries. When we compare Punjab with Andhra, or Maharashtra, it looks pigmy. Another reason they give is that the state is passing through a

troubled time. Where should the people go in such a situation? There should be some balance between the industrial and agricultural development. If one sector gets an assistance of 5.7 per cent and the other of 100 per cent, then even a right thinking person will be forced to revolt. I do not know about Gujarat, the Gujarat is are very clever and have swept away everything, but what is the condition in Punjab. I do not want to annoy you.

The fact is that the hon. Governor of Punjab was severely criticised. I had the opportunity to know him pretty closely as a Minister when I was Speaker of the Lok Sabha. He is hardworking and simply outstanding. Even in Punjab, he is the same person. As and when any mishappening takes place there, both husband-wife reach the spot the very same day. I do not know from where all this propaganda emanates that the Governor is responsible for all this. Constitutionally, it is the responsibility of the Governor. Besides, he belongs to a family of patriots. He is the grandson of late Shri G.C.R. Das and possesses numerous qualities of patriotism. All allegations cannot be correct, it is wrong to say that he is afraid of terrorists. The administration has done a lot of work. It is our duty to appreciate a good worker and we feel that he has done excellent work. But the opposition Members have forgotten to put on record what the Governor has done. The Governor called a meeting of the Members of all parties one and a half month back to discuss the situation prevailing there. I was myself present in that meeting alongwith Shri Barnala, Shri Balwant Singh and Major General Kumar. Shri Balwant Singh Charged Shri Kumar of mismanagement of Bhakra which according to him resulted in flood in Punjab. At this stage, Major General Kumar rose and explained every point from a to z. This indeed demonstrated quality of his personality as he defended the administration. Thereafter, we all congratulated him for providing a good management. We even went to his side to shake hands with him. But the report carried by the newspapers gave more publicity to Balwant Singh's statement and I am sorry

that the press behaved in such a manner. On the other hand, the statement made by Major General Kumar was carried by the press three-four days later and that too when they felt that this statement too should be given space. So what was the result of doing all these irresponsible things? The result was that the people were made to believe their version. I feel that had this been the reason for the flood, only Sutlej would have been flooded but how did the Rabi river get flooded? Why were Ajnala and various other places flooded? Was the water of the dam released there too? We are very sad about the death of such an honest and noble person. You cannot blame anybody if such a natural calamity takes place. Still such things were done there.

Some of the other colleagues have made another point. I still doubt as to where do we stand. If the Panchayat election are to be held, do we have to see the barometer to chalk out our plan of action? I feel that there is a big misunderstanding in this regard. It would have been better had they not attributed any motive to holding Panchayat elections. Panchayat elections are held every year. Let them take place. We sent the party nominations neither for the local bodies nor for the panchayat election. I feel that making such irresponsible statements only worsens the situation. At least to me, the picture is still not clear and you will see what happens in future. I think that the politicians should not interfere in the Panchayat elections. Let the people decide among themselves what type or representatives they want for Panchayats. We should not interfere in this process.

17.09 hrs.

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

About the outstanding issues between Haryana and Punjab, I had said the same thing last time what Shri Ram Narayan Singh has said now. In 1970-, when Shrimati Indira Gandhi was the Prime minister and myself the Speaker of Lok Sabha, a decision was arrived at in a very comely atmosphere,

according to which Chandigarh was to go to one State and Abohar and Fazilka to the other. I think that had this decision been implemented at that time, a number of issues which cropped up later on could have been avoided. 13 years have since passed and neither the Ruling Party Members nor the Opposition Party Members bothered to ask as to what happened to that decision. I think it was 12-13 years back when Shrimati Indira Gandhi said that a meeting of the Congress Party leaders of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir was being held in Kurukshetra and that talks must be held on this subject there. Shri Bhajan Lal was in Kurukshetra at that time. I told him that this subject has to be discussed but he could not do so as he was otherwise busy. Had this been discussed even at that time, a decision could have been reached, but now it is too late. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the house in which I am living these days used to be the venue of the meetings of Venkataramaiah Commission earlier. It was allotted to me after that Commission was wound up. The peon living there requested me for an extension of stay there. One day he told me that the hon. Judge used to walk restlessly from one corner to another till 2'o clock at night. At the dead of night, he had a heart attack and had to be taken to hospital. Thus, you people have created a lot of problem for him. Thereafter, a second and a third Commission was constituted. Now the issue has become all the more complicated.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: The problems increased due to that side.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: The problems are certainly there, whether from your side or our own side. Choudhary Devi Lal had been in the Congress Party and was with me in the same jail. At times, I feel that I should visit him and persuade him. But I have heard that he has changed. If Choudhary Ram Narayan somehow brings him to the right track, then this can be discussed once again, and the issue can be solved. I myself feel that the present statement is unnecessary. Last

[Dr. G.S. Dhillon]

time, Shri Ramoowalia was very much annoyed at this issue. I would like to submit that one or two of their leaders are in jail for their own security and for this you should be thankful to us. I have the evidence with me that they themselves said so and I presented that evidence last time. But we are happy that you are joining them. You should bring them on the right track. Why should they remain in jail. I am sorry for having taken so much time of the House.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY (Gopalganj) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Supplementary Demands for Punjab submitted in the House. While associating with the sentiments expressed by all other hon. Members, I would like to submit a few points.

Whenever there used to be a discussion on Punjab, all the hon. Members whether from ruling party or opposition parties mention about Pakistan's hand in spreading terrorism in Punjab. The people of India now hope that there will be some change in the situation in Punjab after Ms. Benazir Bhutto takes oath of office of the Prime Minister of Pakistan. I would like to submit that every one praised operation 'Black Thunder' and the masses congratulated the police officials of Punjab in unequivocal terms. But the atmosphere created at that time was shortlived and the situation started deteriorating. The definition of law is same for everyone, howsoever a big officer one may be. In I.P.C. also, it has nowhere been mentioned that law will be different in the cases of high officials and other ranks. Some days ago, there was discussion in the House about the atrocities committed on women. I would like to submit that on behalf of the House, all the hon. Members praised Shri Ribeiro for his devotion and doing good job, when he was relieved of his duties in Punjab. At that time we also felt that no other officer in India will be able to provide such an administration, which could be that much effective. After that Shri K.P.S. Gill became the D.I.G. of Punjab and his efforts were also praised by the masses,

but now-a-days there are certain fears in mind of the people about Punjab police. First of all three days ago, we read in the newspaper about the escape of a terrorist who was caught after much effort. This is not the first incident, 12-13 incidents of such type have taken place in Punjab when the terrorists got themselves from the police custody when they were being taken to the court. There is no indication of any shots being fired, but even then terrorist escaped from the grip of the police.

The Government should look into the matter concerning Shrimati Bajaj, if the law has to be enforced properly and if there is a *prima facie* case against Shri K.P.S. Gill. The prestige of Punjab police had reached new high after Operation Black Thunder, but the same is now dwindling. I would like to submit that when the law is same for one and all, then it should be enforced properly. I am not levelling allegation against any one, but if something happens in Punjab, the people of the entire country looks towards the same. In my view action should have been taken in this matter in accordance with provisions of law. You could have got a better officer than Shri K.P.S. Gill. When Shri Ribeiro was relieved of his post, Shri K.P.S. Gill came in his place and he has also done a good job. This incident happened in a party at Home Secretary's residence, where drinks were also served. Shri Dhillon said about Siddarth Shanker Ray that every one knows him from the time when he was the Chief Minister of Bengal. As an independent Member, without any prejudice, I would like to submit that any Member who levels allegations against Shri S.S. Ray, further complicates the issue of Punjab. When these allegations and counter-allegations will stop. These can be stopped only when one would have humane feelings.

I would like to submit one more point. Some Jodhpur detentus were released. The problem is that we take steps by entering into agreements with some people. Such accords lead nowhere. Only some detentus have been released from Jodhpur Jail. If the allegations were not correct, than why were

they not released earlier? It was declared earlier that Jodhpur detentus will never be released. The policy of the Government is not proper. Some people are released from jail after five years, being affirmed as innocents. Dinkar says:

Prem nahin kartvaya marg se nar ko
Kabhi digata hai,

Prem sudha pee kar he manav sheesh-
dan de jata hai.

The Punjab problem cannot be solved unless sentiments of love and affection are inculcated in the minds of the people. So far the progress of Punjab is concerned, some new industries are going to be set up there. There are 7 lakh unemployed persons. Wherever there is unemployment, crimes take place. The incident of Jeharabad in Bihar is a glaring example. The number of crimes will rise in accordance with the unemployment figures in any State.

Poverty and unemployment are at their peak in Bihar. Earlier the labourers of Bihar used to go and work as labourers in Punjab and in this way, lent a helping hand in Punjab's progress. But now labourers belonging to Bihar or any other State, do not want to go to Punjab. I have supported all the legislations introduced here. Emergency Bill was also brought here. But in spite of these Bills, terrorist activities are on rise in Haryana also.

With these words, I thank you for the time given to me to express my views.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K.GADHVI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I am obliged to all the 11 Members who have participated in this discussion. These are very small supplementary demands which I have presented before the House. The Members, while participating, have mostly adverted to the political situation presently obtaining in the State of Punjab. The entire

nation is concerned with the political situation as it is today in Punjab. But it may be appreciated that the Government is doing its best. If I am to give you the figures as to how the terrorism in Punjab is being combatted and tackled, then you would be happy to note that it is showing signs of improvement. A very good feature, which is emerging, is that all communities and people of Punjab are gradually isolating the terrorists. Therefore, police action is becoming a little more effective in the areas of arrest, in the areas of killings, in the areas of seizures of caches of arms and ammunition.

I am very happy that Mr. Ramoowalia has made a very categorical statement that they do not approve of the Khalistan, that they always seek the solution of Punjab within the framework of Indian Constitution and that Punjab is a part of India and it will remain a part India. Dr. Dhillon has given a very appreciable and laudable reply analysing the whole political situation presently available in Punjab. It is quite in the fitness of things that if we want to talk with anybody then the tow pre-conditions, which have been set out by the Prime Minister, that violence should be abjured and given up and another that every talk must be within the framework of the Constitution to consolidate and strengthen unity and integrity of the country, must be met within this framework, the House is aware that many accords have successfully been signed and implemented. We were hopeful in the past, when the Punjab Accord also was signed, that perhaps it was bringing about a solution to the whole problem. But unfortunately as the destiny had it, Shri Longowal was murdered and so many other events took place. Presently, to go back and cast aspersions on this side or that side, and that projection was done by Mr. 'X' and Mr. 'Y', is just crying over the spilt milk and would not yield any result. Therefore, I don't want to dwell upon those areas very much. It is not my job also. Perhaps Home Minister would better reply to it. But I definitely and the entire nation and this House appreciate the efforts put in by the people of Punjab in the development of Punjab and in the contribution to the national

[Sh. B.K. Gadhvi]

pool so far as the foodgrains are concerned. Government has taken care of Punjab in the best possible manner. We know that Punjab is undergoing financial stress and difficulties; we know that because of the law and order situation and the terrorism, the exchequer has to bear a very heavy burden. But at the same time, you would be pleased to appreciate that time and again, whenever Punjab problem has come before the Government of India, Government of India has not retraced its steps in providing financial and other sorts of assistance to Punjab. Therefore, today the performance in regard to agriculture last year, year previous to that and this year is quite good. This is not only in the area of foodgrains, but other areas also.

A mention was particularly made about industries. Presently, in Punjab, the total number of small scale units is 141207, medium and large scale units are 396. Apart from the equity and the contribution by the promoters and other people, the IDBI help in 1986-87 was Rs. 157 crores, in 1987-88 it was Rs. 183 crores. IFCI help was Rs. 50 and Rs. 87 crores respectively.

As regards unemployment, I would say that under the self-employment scheme also, the credit goes to Punjab and our financial institutions that while the target for 1987-88 was 7500 units, the targets for 1988-89 had been enhanced to 15000. Out of this upto now for 1988-89, 7718 cases have been sanctioned and loans of Rs. 12.71 crores distributed.

Apart from this employment generation, it is not only the job opportunities or the employment, there is rural employment under RLEGP, NREP, IRDP. In all these areas also, you would be happy to note that in IRDP, the achievement is more than 135 per cent, in NREP, it is 105 per cent, that is 7.65 lakh mandays of work has been generated. In RLEGP, the achievement was upto now 106 per cent, that is 20.73 lakh mandays have been generated. Surplus land distribution has gone up to 125 per cent. In other

areas like immunization, sterilization, scheduled caste family assistance, improvement of slums etc. there has been a lot of progress. I would particularly give you the figures in respect of improvement of slums; the achievement is 232 percent. For want of time, I would not go into other figures.

I may tell you that in the areas of combined attack on poverty both by opening up new avenues of employment and combating the poverty by poverty alleviation programmes, the Punjab progress is quite appreciable. And we are hopeful that by the end of the year, the figures would be more heartening and bright.

There is another important factor which has been mentioned by Shri Ramoowalia and that is the area of power. You would be glad to know that the techno-economic sanction for Ropar Thermal Power Station has been cleared, coal linkage has been granted, environmental clearance has been granted. Rs. 24 crores have been spent during 1987-88 and orders for some machinery and other things are already booked with the BHEL and the Steel Authority of India. With regard to power stations also, we are hopeful that we shall be in a position to take the investment decision very soon. Therefore, Punjab would not be a sufferer on account of power in the coming two years and the apprehension of some of the members in this regard is rather unfounded.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: How much more time will you require Sir?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I will conclude in just five minutes. I will not take more time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We may extend the time by another five or seven minutes and later take up the next item on the agenda. Is it the consensus of the House?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: Sir, in the area of diversification, etc. I quite appreciate the points made by Dr. Dhillon and others...

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOW-ALIA: Mr. Minister, You have not taken the financial clearance for the Thermal Plants at Ropar and Bhatinda.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: When I said just now that we would soon be taking an investment decision, I meant only that.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOW-ALIA: Okay, Sir.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: There are certain other aspects regarding green revolution, optimum level of production, etc. referred to by Dr. Dhillon and Bhatiaji. We quite appreciated it. And I think that the criticism from the opposition Benches is rather unfounded. Last year, it was their demand that the Pepsicola Project should be cleared. I am so happy to tell them that this project has been cleared. There is going to be a lot of benefit in the fields of Dairy Development, more milk production, fruits, orchids and other things. Another very important point is about the Basmati rice. Shri Bhatia referred to it and he said that we must explore the possibility of setting up an export cell on Basmati—rice in Punjab. We have impressed upon the Minister of Agriculture and the other concerned Ministries about these points.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOW-ALIA: The levy on Basmati rice should be abolished.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I will try to see that all your points concerning various developmental projects including this point are properly attended to by various concerned Ministries. I have taken note of them.

Now, I come to the subject of fencing. I may tell that Punjab is not spending anything on fencing because it is the responsibility of the Government of India. We are hopeful that we shall be in a position to have a little more progress. There was a little slowness in the progress of the work because of the floods. But I believe that right now we have covered a little more than 80 KM and further development is on.

Of the supplementary grants of Rs. 70 crores and Rs. 100 crores that I have asked for, the first one is to clear the Golden Temple area and to make it more beautiful and safer and to prevent it from becoming a den of criminals. This project has already been taken up and it is presently on. If there are any individual complaints that somebody has not been paid and so on, we shall certainly try to look into it and take necessary action. Shri Bhatia has mentioned that some of the premises are not cleared. The total number of buildings that are to be acquired is 461. The number of the demolished buildings is 447. 12 have not been demolished due to security reasons and six are being denotified as they are beyond a distance of 30 KM. In the case of two buildings, we have to decide whether they are of historical importance or not. So, this is the present position. The oustees of the buildings will be rehabilitated as done before and their cases are still to come up for hearing. The last date given was 28th November 1988.

Now, I come to floods in Punjab. Punjab faced a very unprecedented flood situation. I do not think anybody has ever witnessed such floods in his living memory. Perhaps, even Dr. Dhillon might not have witnessed such floods earlier. The floods have caused a colossal loss to the farmers. Irrigation tubewells were destroyed, houses were demolished and even the tractors were washed away in the floods. Even the fertile lands were covered with sand dunes and a lot of damage was caused. Government of India are aware of the situation and we have given about Rs. 150 crores towards flood relief.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: During the tour of our Prime Minister, when we all accompanied him, he said, Rs. 100 crores or so was just an initial fulfillment. He is ready for still more. I think you can go after the demands which the Punjab Government is making.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: That is what I said. What I am submitting is that, we have already given Rs. 150 crores but we would see that in any case by way of finance or some-

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thing like that, the Punjab situation is restored back to normalcy and the farmers and distressed people are helped.

With regard to relief and rehabilitation to the flood affected people, I should go on record that Punjab Government's work is quite appreciable. We have not received even a single complaint of leakage or corruption in that. The assessment, the scrutiny and everything of the damage to property is being done by collecting the entire village people. In their presence only, everything is being done. So far, we have not received any complaint.

But with regard to complaint of corruption against the police officers which mentioned, the Punjab Government have set up a Committee to screen the record of the officers. But apart from that, I would very much wish to say that you kindly furnish the information in confidence about the particulars of the officers and everything. I assure that we will certainly investigate the matter and see that if there is any currency of truth in that, then we will take action.

There was a suggestion about taking the Opposition into confidence or a political solution. These two phrases have become quite in vogue today. Everybody says — for every small or major issue a political solution or something like that. The most appropriate thing for all political parties is to cooperate with the Government in tackling the Punjab problem. We would be the most happy people, if we had not to come before the Parliament for getting the sanction of the Punjab Budget. It would be an ideal day when Punjab have got their own Government for sanctioning their own Budgets and doing their own job. The House and the entire nation is aware that presently it is very difficult. But still the situation is improving. The local autonomous bodies' elections the Punjab Government is trying to organise. They have already organised some elections. Electoral rolls have been finalised.

District and Tehsil Panchayat elections would be held on schedule. Then the people would be in a position to give the aspirations a little tangible shape.

With these few words — I hope I have satisfied all the Members — I once again assure you that if any point has remained unattended, I would certainly go through the script of the speeches of the hon. Members and try to see that they are attended to by various Ministries and concerned officers in a positive manner.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Punjab) 1988-89 to vote.

The question is:

"That the Supplementary sums not exceeding the amount on Revenue Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Punjab to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the financial year ending the 31st day of March, 1989 in respect of heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 17 and 22."

The Motion was adopted.

17.39 hrs.

PUNJAB APPROPRIATION (NO. 3)
BILL*, 1988-89

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will now take up the Appropriation Bill.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out