

Regarding Zero Hour, the Members shall have to give notice between 9.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m. to raise a subject in Zero Hour and only such of those names which are listed between 9.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m. come before the Presiding Officer, the hon. Speaker. Then, their names will be called. Today, all the names which were in the list were called.

Now, the House stands adjourned to meet again at 3.10 p.m.

14.10 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till ten minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.

15.17 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Seventeen Minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

GENERAL BUDGET, 1995-96 DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

Ministry of Defence - Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now we shall take up discussion on Defence.

MAJOR D.D. KHANORIA (Kangra) : I stand to oppose the Defence Budget of Rs. 25,500/- crores for 1995-96.

For the second successive year, the Budgetary allocation for Defence shows no increase in real terms, contrary to Finance Minister Shri Manmohan Singh's assertion that the Rs. 25,500 crore proposed outlay for 1995-96 had been worked out "keeping in mind national security imperatives." The Defence allocation in the current Budget (Revised Estimate) stands at Rs. 23,544 crore.

The proposed Rs. 1,956 crore step up comes to 9 per cent as against the present inflation rate of 11 per cent.

The Army accounts for Rs. 12,432.81 crore and Navy for Rs. 1,534.91 crore. A sum of Rs. 43.07 crore has been proposed for Ordnance factories while capital outlay for the Defence Services together is estimated at Rs. 7,354.49 crore.

The Navy emerges as the principal gainer in the sectoral break-up of capital outlay, with relatively substantial augmentation of its resources for reinforcing its fleet as well as the aviation arm. The outlay for the naval fleet has been increased from Rs. 1,132.97 crore to Rs. 1286.71 crore. Correspondingly, the Air Force is a loser under this Budgetary Head with its allocation for 'aircraft and aero engines' reduced from Rs. 2,232.10 crore to Rs. 1,963.24.

The break-up of the 1995-96 Budget allocation is Rs. 12,432 crore for the Army against Rs. 11,340 crore Revised Estimates for 1994-95; Rs. 1534 crore for the Navy as against Rs. 1439 crore in the Revised Estimates and Rs. 4135 crore for the Air Force as against Rs. 3,771 crore in the Revised Estimates.

Allocation for ordnance factories has been reduced to Rs. 43 crore from the Revised Estimates of Rs. 59.43 crore for the current year.

The Army which is the largest of the three services, gets the major share of the budgetary nine per cent of Rs. 12,432.81 crore against last year's Revised Estimates of Rs. 11,340.17 crore, as increase of Rs. 1,092 crore.

The Defence Budget marks an increase in allocation for modernisation and induction of spares by earmarking a sum of Rs. 4,422 crore for stores, as increase of Rs. 397 crore over last year's Revised Estimates of Rs. 4,025 crore.

The Air Force allocation has been increased by Rs. 363.15 crore to Rs. 4,134.91 crore as compared to last year's Revised Estimates of Rs. 3,771.76 crore. The major share in Air Force Budget has again been given to stores. The Air Force for over two years has been pressing the Government for induction of the Advanced Jet Trainers.

In Kashmir, a sustained drive by the security forces has resulted in the elimination of a large number of hard core militants and foreign mercenaries. This has lowered the morale of the terrorists and their foreign masters. A perceptible change is coming about in the attitude of the people of Kashmir. The growing inter-gang rivalries among militants and their apparently sagging morale has also led Pakistan to increasingly take resort to infiltration of mercenaries. There is no let up in vigilance on the borders and effective operations against the militants in the hinterland.

Pakistan's unrelenting material and other forms of support to Kashmiri terrorists and separatist militants have highlighted the security needs in India's Western flank. Pakistan's low-cost proxy war through a sustained propaganda offensive, as well as its attempts to internationalise the Kashmir issue by focussing on alleged human rights violations, is a function of its domestic political instability and ulterior political/territorial objectives vis-a-vis India.

Pakistan continues to maintain close ties with China. The latter is a major source of weapons, particularly of combat aircraft, missiles and tanks. The sale to Pakistan of M-11 missiles and allied technology by China is a cause of concern. Lately, Pakistan's effort to improve

bilateral relations with Russia and other CIS countries is noteworthy. Russia's response to Pakistan's overtures, especially in regard to supply of weapons, has so far been subdued.

The revelation by Shri Nawaz Sharif, the former Prime Minister of Pakistan, that Pakistan possesses a nuclear bomb, has added a new dimension to security in the region. Equally distressing has been his other disclosures implicating the Pakistan Army and the ISI in funding covert military operations against India through illegal narcotics trade.

About the Defence services, the most difficult challenge currently facing Defence planners is the task of reviewing programmes in the context of the changes which have taken place at the global level and the nature of the specific threats in our region. The planning for Defence requirements during the coming period is being considered against the backdrop of the changes at the regional and the global levels. The endeavour of Defence planners is to balance the inescapable minimum maintenance requirements of our Defence forces and the need to modernise them, without unduly straining the national economy.

Our Armed Forces are widely regarded - and rightly - as a valuable and prestigious national asset. The possession of such an asset is not a luxury; and it is not something we could surrender without grave injury to the security of this country. We aim to retain the present strength of our front line capabilities. We will achieve this by ensuring that we get the greatest military budget from all the three Armed Forces so that we buy the latest type of equipment to face the threats from the neighbouring countries.

Sir, a few words about the Ex-servicemen. Each year, as we know, about 60,000 people retire from the Armed Forces and their rehabilitation is very important. Everytime there is a question of their demands but the Government of India is not hearing it. The following are some of the major and very burning points. Interim relief to pensioners; a proper National Pension Policy; parity in pension to past pensioners; restoration of 'one rank, one pension' to Defence pensioners; revision of family pensions; proper medicare of pensioners; institution of Pension Fund; pension scheme for EPF and public sector retirees; revision of Pension Act, 1871; ex-grantia pension to SRPF/CPF retirees.

Categorically, I feel that there is no justification in applying civil pension formula to Defence pensioners. It therefore belies the oft-repeated argument of bureaucracy that if Government grants 'one rank, one pension' to Defence pensioners, Civilian pensioners will make similar demands.

Sir, we are aware that during the British days the Armed Forces personnel were considered superior to civilians and were given preferential treatment. Very able and efficient young men were attracted to the Defence Services by offering them good pay, perks and pension. This system continued for several years even after Independence of our Nation. This special treatment is justified as they had to be discharged at an early age and they were not allowed to serve up to 58 years of age. A discharged jawan in prime manhood may have to seek his fortune in agriculture, self-employment, re-employment in Government agencies. When they are re-employed they would not be able to earn full pension at the time of their superannuation because the period of qualified service would be less. Therefore, the special pension scheme for the jawan was thought of and it was based on "standard years of service" and "Rank Pension" based on maximum of the scale of pay prescribed for the rank as different from the civilian scheme based on actual length of service and the actual emoluments last drawn. The Government realised the importance of the special treatment for the Armed Forces and continued the same even after Independence. The First, the Second and the Third Central Pay Commissions also found the justification for the special scheme as valid and recommended its continuation.

However, the pension structure was liberalised by the Government with effect from 1st April, 1979 as was the practice then, the regular pensioners who had retired prior to the cut off date of 1st April, 1979 were denied the benefits. The Civil and Defence pensioners approached the Court with a plea for extension of the benefit to them. The Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court in their judgement dated 17th December, 1982 ordered that the benefits of liberalisation should be extended to all pensioners including those who had retired before 1st April, 1979.

There was no mention in the judgement that Civil and Defence pensioners should be treated alike ignoring the special army pension scheme of 'one rank, one pension.' However, in the guise of extending liberalisation orders to all alike, the Government ordered that civilian pension scheme should be applied to Defence also. There is no basis for this unjustified change for Army pensioners. The protests from Army pensioners even from 1982 onwards could not succeed.

In 1992, Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao constituted a High Power Committee under the Chairmanship of the Defence Minister Shri Sharad Pawar for this purpose. Shri Pawar also left the Government soon after and the recommendation submitted by the Committee resulted in the new scheme of "One Time Increase" covering only a few sections of

Defence pensioners. A majority of ex-Servicemen were excluded from the proposed OTI benefit. The objective of "One Rank Pension" to pre-1986 pensioners was given a go by. However, as several anomalies were noticed in the OTI scheme, an Empowered Anomalies Committee was formed and a few more categories of ex-Servicemen were given the benefit of OTI, but again left out substantial sections of ex-Servicemen from the OTI benefit.

Nevertheless, there is no justification for replacing the pension scheme of "One Rank One Pension" with civilian pattern. Even the Supreme Court judgment of 17.12.1982 did not envisage or suggest any such change. Thus great injustice was perpetrated by the Government for no reason at all and all attempts to redress this injustice have failed. The Defence personnel cannot organise on trade union pattern and press their demands. The army men have therefore reason to feel humiliated and neglected which is not desirable when we want to keep up the morale of the Armed Forces.

Therefore, to attract young men to Defence Service and keep up their morale, the Government should restore the "One Rank One Pension" scheme to our Jawans as announced by the hon. President of India during his address to the Parliament in 1989.

There is one organisation in our country, that is the DRDO, headed by Dr. Kalam. I personally feel that this Department is doing a very fine job in the country. They are experimenting various things in our country. It is really a proud thing for our nation. I personally feel that whatever budget we allocate to them should continue and we should give them more, so that our country stands on her own feet in this field.

I would like to highlight one more thing. In Himachal Pradesh there are thousands and thousands of people who have retired from the Services and are settled down there. They have formed a union over there. They have purchased some trucks. Their trucks are attached to the Barmana Cement Factory. A few days back there was a problem between the management of the factory and the ex-Servicemen. The Government of Himachal Pradesh came out, they were badly treated by the police over there at Bilaspur. They were put into the prison. Some of the people are still there in the prison. They have also initiated false cases against them and they are facing courts miserably, with the result that the Himachal Pradesh Ex-Servicemen are really not happy with what all is happening in Himachal Pradesh. I personally feel that this situation should be rectified and the Government of Himachal Pradesh should be asked as to what steps they have taken about the thing which had happened against the ex-Servicemen in Barmana Cement Factory.

With these few points that I have brought out, I feel that the budget of Rs. 25,500 crore should be increased for the three Armed Forces, so that they can really face the fury and threats for the security of our nation.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Your waiting yielded good result.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY (Arunachal East) : Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence.

Sir, I know that among all the Demands for Grants of the various Ministries, the Demands for Grants of this Ministry is the most important. It is very sensitive also. I have opted to participate in this debate to raise certain matters which are very much relevant to my State and to my constituency, which has international borders on three sides. However I would like to touch upon certain important aspects.

There has been a lot of criticism about meagre allotment in the Budget and failure to acquire sophisticated weapons in the last four years. But I think that under the circumstances in which this Government came to power, it would have been suicidal to have joined the arms race at the cost of the nation's economy. According to me, the building of the economy is the most important task. I am very happy that the hon. Prime Minister has taken a drastic decision to liberalise the economy. And under his leadership, the hon. Finance Minister has done a very excellent job by restoring the prestige of our nation in the international arena. This deserves a hearty salute. By liberalising the economy since this Government came to power four years back, we have improved our economy tremendously. We have a comfortable foreign exchange reserve position.

Now, the time has come when we must divert our attention towards national security. There has been only about seven to eight per cent increase in every Budget in the last four years. This year also, there is a mere 8.3 per cent increase, which is not justified when we have a high inflation rate and also when the rupee value is decreasing day by day.

Sir, rumours are in circulation that the Government has not only failed to meet the demands of the three Services for modernisation of the Forces, but also have not provided sufficiently for purchase of petrol, oil and lubricants, as a result of which mammoth military machines are getting rusted. It may be a rumour, but it is a fact that there have been cuts in all the three Services, in their expenditure on important areas to save money. Therefore, it is imperative to increase the allotment in the Budget for the Defence Ministry.

We are happy that this Government is trying its best to have good neighbourly relations with our neighbouring countries. But unfortunately, due to its internal politics, the threat is continuously coming from Pakistan by acquiring sophisticated arms.

We will be happy if we can take advantage to having a big and great nation like China as one of our neighbours. Our relations with China are improving.

I do not know whether the border issue figured in the discussion between our Prime Minister and the Chinese Premier during his visit to India. Our delegates keep on going to China. But I, being the representative of Arunachal Pradesh, would like to make it clear, here on the floor of this House that unfortunately there has been a tension which is building in the border between India and China, near Arunachal Pradesh; because China keeps on claiming Arunachal Pradesh. I would like to tell this august House that never in the history of Arunachal Pradesh it was under Chinese domination or Chinese occupation. Of course, Arunachal Pradesh, before its contacts with the Indian mainland, had its trade with Tibet; but after annexation of Tibet with China, China started claiming Arunachal Pradesh, the then NEFA. But of course, in our approach, the Government of India has also done a gross mistake, that is, when we took over power from the Britishers, the Government of India started administering the tiny but strategically very important State of Arunachal Pradesh, the then NEFA, through the Ministry of External Affairs. That was our grievous mistake. So, my request to the Government is that in future discussions with China, we must make it loud and clear that it is not a disputed land, not a disputed territory; but it is a part and parcel of India. We will have to make it clear; there no dispute, about the territory of Arunachal Pradesh. I, as a representative of the State of Arunachal Pradesh, would like to make it clear here because I understand that many of our friends may not be knowing the fact and may have apprehension that it is maybe, they may have that apprehension. Once we has due this border issue and establish a good neighbourly relations with China, at least we need not worry from one side; and do not have to unnecessarily build our Armed Forces to meet the challenges that were coming from across the border, from the East.

However, I would like to mention that although we may have very cordial relations with China now, let us not be complacent with our present relations because we must remember the famous "Panchsheel Agreement between our first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and the then Premier of China, Chou En Lai, within five years of this agreement they had attacked our borders and that they were trying to annex our territory. In the

war we lost to them very badly. But unfortunately, I must tell that even after 33 years of the bitter humiliating defeat of 1962 war we have not done anything to improve the conditions of our forces staying in those border areas and to improve the morale of the people, the civilians who are living in those border areas as sentinels of this country.

Sir, there must have been many reasons but one of the most important contributing factors for our defeat was that we did not have good road communications. The communication network was not that good due to which tanks and artilleries could not back our forces in that war. Even today, after 33 year of that war, many important parts and administrative headquarters which went to the aggressors in those days could not be linked by road till now. There are many other most vulnerable places but there is no proposal for roads regard. Even if there is a proposal, the work and its progress is too slow. There are vulnerable points like Jimithan, Mechuka, Gelling and Kibithu. These places are not linked by road till now and the roads to Tawang via Bomdila went to the hands of the aggressors during 1962, is very narrow and it is only one way in many places. It cannot be used during emergency.

Another important place in my constituency, an administrative headquarters, which went to war in 1962 was Walong. Only very recently, it has been linked by road but it is not all-weather road. We cannot depend on this road in times of emergency. Anini is another important place from the strategic point of view as well as for the civilians because it happens to be the district headquarters of Dibang Valley District. Unfortunately, the road going to Anini is under the Ministry of Defence and the proposal in the Defence Ministry is just to link Anini. But the road which is constructed is *kucha* and very narrow. Buses and lorries cannot ply on it. So, the civilians are finding it very difficult. I have written to the Ministry and I talked to them also. In case they cannot maintain or cannot widen the roads, they could hand them over to the State Government or to other agencies. It can be given to the Ministry of Surface Transport.

Another very important road is National Highway-52 which passes through Arunachal Pradesh. It is passing through three districts which are in my constituency. It is passing through the foothills of these districts. It was started in 1981 and it is hardly 365 kilometres and in most of the places, they have taken over the existing road from the State PWD but the progress of work is so slow that the Ministry has written to me that we will not get this road in this century. It is very unfortunate that all these border roads are connected to this National Highway. It is supposed to be connected with this National Highway. In case there

is an attack in our border today and if there is an emergency, I think, we will have to suffer again. So, my request is, due to resource crunch, if the Ministry of Defence could not take up this National Highway, it can be transferred to the Ministry of Surface Transport.

But they have not done so and there are many roads and bridges which are to be constructed. They have not touched them at all.

I am sure, our hon. Minister of State for Defence will kindly note down these things. Besides acquisition of all the sophisticated arms, roads and communication network are also equally important for the security of our country.

Sir, at the end, I would like to touch upon another aspect, i.e., about the welfare of the Armed Forces. When many veteran ex-Army officers are participating in the debate and contributing their valuable points, even then I feel it is important from my side also to contribute some valuable points because I have also come across so many ex-Servicemen who are running from pillar to post for justice. We are getting information everytime about the Army excesses in Jammu and Kashmir and in the North-East. We cannot deny the fact. There have really been excesses. But we have not, perhaps, tried to understand, why they continue to commit these excesses. Maybe they do not see any security after their retirement. There are many organisations already working on it. But even those organisation which have originated from the Forces themselves also have not been able to deliver justice to them. Lot of corruption is going on. This has to be checked with sincerity.

My last point is that I do not want to make any controversy on such a sensitive issue. But I think I must mention that when our sportsmen play for our country, we all Chair him and feel for the country. When the Armymen or the Defence people fight the enemy, in the Defence we feel that they are there to fight for the security of each and every individual of this country irrespective of caste, creed and language etc. But unfortunately, when these personnels after retirement decide to join the communal forces, that shows that there are factors which encourage them to resort to such things. They should get such honour and respect in the Army itself during their tenure as well as even after retirement so that they can lead a respectable life without resorting to anything. But unfortunately, probably, we do not have any such arrangements. After their retirement, they must be seeing that if they do not resort to all these politics, they will not get the honour, respect, and dignity that they deserve. The sacrifice their prime life for the country. I think, we will have to seriously think about the accommodation of our own forces after their retirement.

I do not want to speak much. With these words, I would like to conclude. I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Padrauna) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you for inviting me for speaking on the Demands of the Ministry of Defence.

Sir, what is the position of India today from security angle; if you look at India's map, you would find that it is surrounded from all sides. In the North, China has occupied 38,000 kilometres stretch of land up to Kailash and Mansarowar. Not only that

15.56 hrs.

(Shri P.C. Chacko in the Chair)

It has built a road near Kashmir border in collaboration with Pakistan. It is also building defence bases in Burma and Bangladesh and augmenting its military strength in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Its naval force is also very powerful. Thus, it is setting up military bases all along the border right from Kashmir to Andaman and Nicobar. Side by side, Pakistan is also increasing its activities. Today, Pakistan is concentrating on its military capability to avenge the defeat it faced during Mrs. Indira Gandhi's regime when one lakh of its defence personnel surrendered in Dhaka. But what is our position? Just now, my friend has rightly said that during Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru's rule, a slogan of Hindi-Chini Bhai-bhai was given but what it resulted into? China committed aggression against us and occupied 38 thousand square miles of our territory. At that time, U.S.S.R. was ready to help, and we remember, when it had said that 'if India is our friend China is our brother'. But today we have no friend. Our armed forces have high morale, but in this scientific age only high morale and physical strength would not work. Have a glance around our neighbours. China possesses atom bomb, Pakistan has the capability to manufacture it and they are thus, augmenting their striking strength. But what is our position versus these countries? We are in a pitiable situation. Russia used to say that any aggression on India will be deemed an aggression on Russia. But no country can stand such guarantee today. Sir, as far as budget allocation is concerned, China has a 7570 crore U.S. dollar defence budget, while our defence expenditure amounts to a meagre figure of Rs. 25,000 crore. It means China is spending on its armed forces eight times more than what we are spending. Even Pakistan is spending more compared to our expenditure on defence. As far as striking capability is concerned China is developing weapons capable of striking upto

a range of 18000 km. It has already deployed chemical and atomic bombs capable of striking a range of 100 kms. Even Pakistan is deploying Chinese weapons along its borders with a striking range of 150 kms. But what our Government is doing keeping all these things in view.

16.00 hrs.

We had entered into a defence treaty with Russia but under the pressure from America they are refusing to supply us the technology capable of launching missiles. Recently the USA has proposed amendment in Pressler Law as a result of which Pakistan's Military strength will increase to a great extent. The Former Prime Minister and a Former Minister of Pakistan have stated that Pakistan possesses atom bomb but what have we got? Our scientists developed 'Agni' and 'Prithvi' Missiles but Government is not pursuing this technology further under pressure from US and the World Bank. What will happen to this country? Our history is full of evidences that we never lacked physical strength. We were devoid of weapons and therefore continued to face defeat. In the history of India a war took place between Lord Rama and Ravana in which Lord Rama won. The second war took place over Bangladesh after lakhs of Bangladeshi refugees had crossed over to our country. At that time; Pakistan had made a mark in various world force but we remember the day when Mrs. Indira Gandhi went around the world and impressed upon the World leadership that we were being discriminated and Pakistan wanted to commit aggression on us. However, the war was won by us. But today our position is pitiable. Our independence is in jeopardy. It is not proper to trust China because as my friend who spoke earlier has said, the slogan 'Hindi-Chini, Bhai-Bhai' given during Jawahar Lal Nehru's regime did not work. Today China has encircled our borders and occupied the whole Tibet. This Government is not taking appropriate steps for the security of the country. We still recollect the day when Indo-Pak war was being fought. Sh. Lal Bahadur Shastri had declared that we would miss our food for one day but would not surrender. Mrs. Indira Gandhi had also said we would give up our meals or we would take only half meals for defending our country but would not like to be enslaved by anybody. The present Government is doing nothing and is sitting with its fingers crossed.

Pakistan is manufacturing Atom Bomb and China has acquired unlimited defence capability, America is a super power. Israel is a very small country but nobody can dare raise its finger against it. Though we are a large country yet we are the weakest militarily; Then why our scientists are not being allowed to have their say in the matter of development of strategic weapons.

I would like to know from the hon'ble Defence Minister, that why 'Prithvi' is not being developed. Does he expect our forces to fight Pakistan or China with 303 guns? We have Bofors Guns but spares are not available for them, spares are also not available for our Mig and Mirage fighter planes. The position of Naval forces is similarly bad. I would submit that if the Government has to levy additional taxes for mobilising funds for defending our country, it should do so. We remember that during Chinese aggression people offered millions of rupees and large quantity of Gold on the call given by our national leaders. Today we are going to mortgage the country under pressure from World Bank, and the USA. I would request you not to do this. In his reply the Honourable Minister must tell us about our complete military capability, about number of latest fighter planes etc. Pakistan is going to acquire superior fighter aircrafts soon after the amendment to Pressler Law. It is also getting Military aid from China and other countries. Do you have any power which could get you a guarantee from any country that will help you militarily. Why are we sitting with our fingers crossed? Pakistan is indulging in proxy war against India. The arms supplied for Afghanistan by Russia and the USA are now being used against India in Kashmir. Kashmir has become a base of militants. Is not it a fact that recently China incited a revolt in Kashmir? The Prime Minister and others say here that they will free the occupied Kashmir from Pakistan. Leave it aside. They should defend the remaining part of Kashmir which is with India. What steps are they taking to retain it? What is happening across our border?

Mr. Chairman, it is surprising that the 90 crore population country is unable to manufacture atom bomb while Pakistan a country of 10 crore people is on the verge of manufacturing atom bomb. When an atom bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan was destroyed. Will our jawans fight with 303 guns? When an atom bomb will be used from other side what will happen to our forces? Will they be allowed to be killed? In this Scientific age, the USA is using our scientists by paying them handsome remunerations and getting latest weaponry developed. So, if we do not manufacture atom bomb, our country will be enslaved by Pakistan, China and the USA. Therefore I shall request the Government to develop 'Prithvi', 'Agni' and 'Trishul' missiles and also make atom bomb as early as possible. What sort of justice is this that the USA, France, U.K., Israel and Pakistan can make atom bombs but India, a country with 90 crore population cannot make atom bomb, only because World Bank aid will be stopped; Are we mortgaged against this debt? If it is declared today that we will use atom bomb, 'Prithvi' 'Agni' 'Trishul' and other weapons, the Government will be greatly

applauded. I would like you to do everything for defending the sovereignty of the country. Take the USA into confidence and declare that India will make atom bomb for the security of the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, our jawans are the only persons who defend us and our country on borders. We can send them wherever their services are sought but we do nothing for them towards providing houses and rehabilitation facilities after their retirement. Their plight is pitiable. There widows are not given adequate assistance. The facilities and amenities provided to them right from a sepoy to the senior officers do not stand comparison in any way with those available to IAS and PCS officers. So Government should consider providing them better facilities to raise their morale.

Many of my friends have brought our several facts and figures but I am a simple villager. We have 90 crore people and Pakistan is a very small country but it has strong military capability. Israel which has a population of only 80 lakh people possesses atom bomb but we are not fully prepared to defend our country which is telling upon the morale of our people. The Pakistani militants are exploding bombs in Bombay, Madras, Kashmir. Why does the Government not entrust the responsibility of dealing with these militants to armed Forces? The Government order the armed forces and give them a free hand. The Kashmir problem will be high. It is a scientific age and if we provide a revolver to an innocent child, he can kill a wrestler. We should provide modern arms, weapons to our jawans. Today people prefer foreign revolvers to country made revolvers. Therefore, we have to increase the efficiency of country made weapons. I will again emphasise my demand that we should tell the USA - clearly that we will not abandon our programme of developing nuclear weapons till all the countries possessing atomic bombs do not destroy their weapons and we will develop atom bomb and nuclear weapons.

It is said time and again that the programme of developing 'Agni' and 'Prithvi' has been shelved under pressure from the World Bank. We have neither advanced fighter Planes nor guns. Then what have we got? The Defence Minister should in his reply tell the country that they have sufficient weaponry and they are always prepared to face any challenge.

As I have already said the Defence budget is insufficient. It was Rs. 23544 crore in 1994-95 and this year it is 25,000 crore. I have given an example that China has a Defence budget 8 times of our Defence budget. The Government may not believe it because India is surrounded by enemies. If we are strong, the enemy will not dare raise its finger towards us. Pakistan

is challenging us. Refugees from Bangladesh are coming to India. The USA is setting up its military bases near Andaman and Nicobar and in Diago Garcia. Under this situation, we have to be very strong and the Defence budget should be increased by one and a half times. We need to encourage scientists and develop technology; make atom bomb and expand the programme of 'Agni' and 'Prithvi', missiles.

With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YAMNAM (Inner Manipur) : Sir, I will be very brief. I shall straightaway come to the points.

India stands for peace in the world. She has been preaching peace and issuing messages of peace throughout the world. Her preaching and messages will be heard only when India is militarily strong and powerful.

Sir, India has reached very high in her ideals, in her philosophies and in her cultures but the world is changing so fast that our richness only in such things will not make us high.

It should have the backing of military powers. That is my contention. So, to become powerful and strong, we have to possess nuclear weapons. This is my strong view. We must have missiles and other sophisticated weapons. In short, we must possess nuclear weapons. Only then we will be heard. Otherwise we cannot bargain. We cannot dictate our terms. We will be heard only when we are strong. That is why I am pleading for possession of nuclear weapons.

Sir, we have this Kashmir front. Pakistan has occupied certain parts of the country. Now, it is known as Pakistan Occupied Kashmir. We must evacuate them. We shall be able to do it only when we are strong. We must prepare for that. That is my very strong view. If we do not possess nuclear weapons, our terms will not be agreed to.

Sir, we should also have a strong North-Eastern front line. I have heard my friend from Arunachal who was saying that the line of defence in North-East must be made very strong. Otherwise, we will suffer the same fate as we suffered when India was attacked by China. Now, we cannot forget the national broadcast of our late lamented Prime Minister, Nehruji when he bid goodbye to that region in a helpless situation. Nehruji bid goodbye to the people of North-Eastern region. We were weeping like anything for day and night when we heard that broadcast. It was very painful to hear that. Since we were complacent with *bhai-bhai* slogan, we

were unprepared at that time. It was because of the negligence of that part. I am one with my friend from Arunachal when he said that the military infrastructures like border roads and other things are not maintained properly. So, I would like to plead that more attention must be given to that region. We must not remain complacent with this friendly or brotherly ties. We have to prepare for any eventuality because our neighbours on that part, Myanmar and China have got different system of Government.

These two countries are unpredictable. Any event or anything may provoke them and may resort to any aggression. So for that, we must be prepared.

For the preparedness we must construct border roads. I am also proposing an airstrip at Moreh, which is now turned out to be a township, bordering Burma. Otherwise, the transportation of military personnel would be very difficult to these hilly areas or hilly tracks which are not maintained properly. So an airstrip at Moreh must be constructed for military purposes.

I am also supporting the view presented by Shri Jaswant Singh, Shri Indrajit Gupta and other hon. Members that we must have war memorials or memorials in the memory of those heroes who have laid down their lives for our country.

The Americans and the British are constructing war memorials at Imphal, Manipur, Nagaland and other places. Even the Japanese have constructed their war memorials in Manipur. Hundreds of Japanese come and pay homage to the departed souls of their soldiers who died in Manipur. Likewise, the Britishers have also constructed their war memorials. But we do not have any war memorial.

If you go to Kohima in Nagaland, you will find the war memorials where it is written, "When you go back, tell them that we gave our today for your tomorrow." How much it is inspiring? It thrills. It inspires even patriotism. So we must have war memorials in memory of our soliders who sacrificed themselves for their motherland. I need not elaborate much on this, but I am very much for it.

My another cut motion is for recruitment of females in armed forces, particularly in the Air Force. Females will be very much suitable to the Air Force if they are recruited.

Lastly, I am bringing to the notice of this House the atrocities being committed by the Army in the regions where they are given special powers under the Armed Forces Act. These powers are given to them to protect the country but sometimes it is misused. Although, I have all the respect for the Army, I have to say that

sometimes these Army people misuse that power and commit atrocities in the regions were they are deployed.

Very recently a civilian officer, that is a Deputy Commissioner, of Senapati District narrowly escaped from an ambush by the Army. There was a misunderstanding. So these things should not happen and that there may be good coordination while combating insurgency. So I would like to bring to the notice of this House these facts.

With these few words I oppose the Demands for Grants.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, in rising to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence, I wish to address myself to only one single point, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. I do so because this issue has come to the fore in this debate when our respected BJP leader, Shri Jaswant Singhji, asked in the course of the opening this debate that by the 10th of May, that is, by today, Parliament should adopt a unanimous Resolution on the question of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty so that a message could go from this Parliament to the Review and Extension Conference on the NPT currently taking place in New York about what the unanimous view of India on this issue was. The House would have noted, Mr. Chairman, that there has been no move from the Treasury Benches to bring any such Resolution before the House. I think, the reason why it has not been possible for us to bring such a Resolution before the House is that there is not, in fact, a unanimity of opinion in this country about the nuclear posture that India should adopt. Shri Jaswant Singh attempted to pretend that there was such a unanimity of opinion in the country about our nuclear posture.

Sir, having read the newspapers and what they had to say about the BJP leader's statement on this subject, from last year and specifically after their very important meeting in Goa very recently, I stated here when I was moving the Motion of Thanks that the attitude of the leading Opposition Party in India to this issue of nuclear weapons and the Indian nuclear posture was an irresponsible one. The word I used was 'irresponsible'. And refuting my use of the expression 'irresponsible', the Leader of the Opposition, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee stated that there was nothing irresponsible about his Party's attitude and that what they stood for was the maintenance by India of a nuclear option. He was speaking in Hindi and he used the expression 'vikalp', which I translate as 'option'. I was intrigued because it seemed to me that Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee's reference to the BJP policy being one of maintaining a nuclear weapons option was at variance as many of Shri Atal

Bihari Vajpayee's position are with the officially stated position of the BJP because the BJP, most recently at Goa, had said that far from maintaining an option open for the manufacture of nuclear weapons, we should go in immediately for the manufacture of nuclear weapons. So, it seemed to me somewhat disingenuous for the leader of the BJP in this House to get up and maintain a position with respect to nuclear options that his Party has not taken. His position is of course different because as I said, in the same speech, that Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who is one of the most able Foreign Ministers under whom I served, knows very well that the country's position is to keep the nuclear weapons options open and he knows that his own leadership is being utterly irresponsible when they want to close the option of manufacturing nuclear weapons by manufacturing nuclear weapons. There is a big gap between the two positions. And that is why, when this debate started and the hon. Speaker was attempting to persuade Shri Jaswant Singh to get on his feet and he was declining to do it says, 'let us start the debate the next day', I, from my position at the back of the House, got up and asked Shri Jaswant Singh to kindly entertain the House to his view on whether the nuclear weapons option should be kept open or whether we should go in for the manufacture of nuclear weapons. He did not reply that day. But, in the course of his two-hour long peroration, he brought up the issue of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review and Extension Conference.

He said here on the floor of the House that, "I presume on behalf of the Bharatiya Janata Party, India should be a nuclear weapon power" - because unlike Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, I think Shri Jaswant Singh actually expresses the opinion of the BJP. Now I am not sure whether I am in order in quoting and unquoting because this is from the document that has been circulated but it says "uncorrected not for publication". It, however, does not say "uncorrected not for quotation". So I am taking the liberty of quoting what is there in the document that is circulated now, in which Shri Jaswant Singh is reported to have said as I have said as I have read it here, that India should be a nuclear weapon power even if simultaneously it should declare that it will never be the first user. It is, as I understand it, the position of the BJP that we should become a nuclear weapon power and if there was any doubt in my mind as to what the BJP's position was, our friend Shri Ram Nagina Mishra has just cleared unambiguously and clearly all our doubts on this issue completely. Since he is unfettered by either the sophistication of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee or by the reticence of Shri Jaswant Singh, he has revealed clearly for us to see the nuclear face of the BJP. If there is one face of the BJP, that is worse than its communalism, it is this desire to join the

evil club of nuclear weapon powers and it is because of this fundamental difference between the BJP and ourselves — and I think, I speak for not only the Indian National Congress but for every other major political Party in this country, be it the Janata Dal, be it the Communist Party of India, be it the Communist Party of India (Marxist), be it the Samta Party, I think I speak here for every major political Party other than the BJP — that while we are in favour of maintaining the nuclear weapons option open, the BJP stands for the immediate manufacture of nuclear weapons. If this is so, then I do not see how this House can pass an unanimous resolution on the subject. Our position is the position of principle. Our position is that nuclear weapons are an evil, that nuclear weapons constitute in terms of the UN terminology a crime against humanity and we do not wish to become a part of this evil nuclear weapons club. If, in fact, we had wanted on our own volition to become a member of the nuclear weapons club, then, we could have done so at any time from 1974 till 1995. For the last 21 years, ever since Shrimati Indira Gandhi ordered the nuclear implosion of a device that took place at Pokharan in 1974, we have had the capacity to translate the technology of a nuclear device implosion into a nuclear weapon and the integration of this nuclear weapon into our defence strategy. We have very deliberately chosen not to foreclose this option nor to undertake this option and the reasons for this are several. First and foremost is that our nationhood is based on the principles of Mahatma Gandhi. Now I know that the BJP and its forbearers, having rejected Gandhiji during his life time, have now suddenly adopted him also as their Father of the Nation. I welcome this change of heart on their part but there was nothing in the antecedents of the Sangh Parivar.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur) : Mr. Chairman, I did not want to interrupt Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar but he tries to express his sentiments in a wrong manner. He is a learned man. The other day, Shri Vajpayee ji had also said that he is a very learned man. So, he must have studied history.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your chance is coming. You have an opportunity to speak ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : I never go ... (Interruptions)

PROF. PREM DHUMAL : You please try to read a bit before you speak... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. You have got a chance immediately after Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar's speech is over. So please listen to him.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Sir, irrespective of whether the BJP or the Jan Sangh existed before Independence or not, we, as the Congress Party are the true inheritors of the mantle of Mahatma Gandhi and Mahatma Gandhi ran an Independence movement against the largest military empire that humanity has ever known.

Mahatma Gandhi ran an Independence Movement against the largest military empire that humanity has ever known and brought this, the greatest Empire that history has ever known to its knees without firing one shot. So, we do not have that faith in the power of the bullet, which people who did not participate in the freedom movement had, people who are now the descendants of the non-participants and have constituted themselves into the Bharatiya Janata Party. *(Interruptions)* I know there are approvers and so forth, but let us not go into that part of the history.

Now, if our foreign policy has to be based upon the philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi and the application of that general philosophy to the realm of foreign policy by Jawahar Lal Nehru, then in principle that is the first reason for which we do not wish to become a nuclear weapon power. But apart from this reason of principle, which is for me the single most important reason, there are practical reasons too. And this I think, the Bharatiya Janata Party is not adequately appreciating. You cannot just manufacture a nuclear weapon and sit back. If you enter the game of manufacturing the nuclear weapons, you automatically get on to a nuclear escalator. The whole theory of deterrence is based on saying that if Pakistan has one bomb, we are going to have two. And since what is sauce for the goose is also sauce for the gander, if we have two, they are going to have four, and if they have four, we are going to have 16, and if we have 16 they are going to have 32.

This is what Shri Rajiv Gandhi in his speech to the United Nations, presenting the Action Plan for a Nuclear Weapon-free and Non-violent World Order called in an inimitable phrase "The Double Healings of Escalation", that you cannot have one bomb, you cannot have even a basement bomb. If you want to be a credible nuclear weapons power, then you have to, at all times, have an overkill capacity. This is the doctrine of nuclear warfare which in the United States of America and the old Soviet Union, came to be known as the doctrine of Mutually Assured Destruction; the three most appropriate letters for the acronym, MAD. It is a completely mad policy, because in consequence of following the theory of

deterrence by the time the Soviet Union collapsed under the weight of a nuclear weapons programme which it could no longer sustain, the United States and the Soviet Union between them had the capacity to destroy the world not once over, not even as Jacqueline Suzan would have wanted twice over, but no less than 61 times over! That is the quantity of nuclear weapons they had with them and after START I and START II, the two treaties that should be resulting by the turn of the century in the reduction of the nuclear weapons arsenals of the two former major super powers, they will still have the capacity to destroy the world 17 times over.

So, when the Bharatiya Janata Party starts advocating that we become a nuclear weapons power, I think it is necessary for them to spell out what this sacrifice indeed is. At the present moment we are spending 14 per cent of our Budget on Defence and 4 per cent of our Budget on Rural Development. Which of them is more important? And if we have a nuclear weapons policy, if we go in for the manufacture of nuclear weapons as advocated by them, you cannot restrict Defence expenditure to 14 per cent. If you increase Defence expenditure from 14 per cent to 19 per cent and make it at the cost of rural development, the amount of money available with you for rural development will be exactly zero rupees and zero paise!

It is essential that if the Bharatiya Janata Party wishes to be taken as a serious national alternative, then they must state much more clearly than they have, instead of this Irredentism, in which they are involving themselves, instead of this chauvinism in which they are involving themselves, instead of this xenophobia in which they are involving themselves, they should tell us what is it they propose to sacrifice in order to go in for the nuclear weapons. This they refuse to do; in consequence of which the entire statements made by Shri Jaswant Singh and the parallel statement made by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee in the course of the debate on the Motion of Thanks, this reeks of a certain kind of hypocrisy.

Do they want to become a nuclear weapons power? If so, that is it in terms of national development that they wish to sacrifice? In pursuit of what? A badge to become the member of the world's most evil club, to become a member of the club which cannot involve itself in genocide without automatically involving itself in suicide.

I heard Shri Mishra telling us how the Pakistanis will not respect us unless we become a nuclear weapons power. I assure Shri Mishra that if we become a nuclear weapons power, within twenty four hours Pakistan is going to become one and then were either of us to use the bomb, if a nuclear weapon is dropped

on New Delhi it will take a matter of hours, perhaps minutes, to reach Lahore and if we drop a bomb on Karachi, it will not be a matter of one day before Bombay gets enveloped in the same cloud. The nuclear weapon is not a weapon like any other weapon in the past.

The other point that is essential to drive into the BJP's mind is that there has been no weapon ever invented in history which has not been used. The only weapon that has not been used for the last 50 years, almost exactly to the day—because yesterday was the VJ day and in August we will be celebrating the VJ day, the victory over Japan—in the last 50 years it is true that despite the enormous increase in nuclear weapons arsenals around the world there has been no resort to nuclear weapons. But 50 years is a wink of history. There was a period of 100 years from the Congress of Vienna in 1915 to the First World War in August, 1914 when there was no major war on the European continent, and yet when that war started, it was a war that began in 1914, was expected according to the Shleepen Plan to be completed in 33 days and actually ended only on the 9 May, 1945. It was a war that lasted for 31 days because the European powers made the mistake of thinking that deterrence is a guarantee of peace. In the course of that more human beings have been killed than in all the wars put together, in all of history including the Mahabharata. This is the foolishness of the doctrine of deterrence and what the BJP wants us to do is to become part of this nuclear foolishness. There is no way in which we will become a stronger power or a better power or a more moral power, if we adopt the BJP's insistence on becoming a nuclear weapons power.

Furthermore, the national consensus that existed until a few months ago on our keeping the nuclear weapons option open but not becoming a nuclear weapons power has now been wrecked by the BJP's repeated insistence on becoming a nuclear weapon power immediately and this makes it impossible for peace-loving people like myself when we go outside India and argue our case for the NPT. Till 1994 I was able to say that there is not one single important political party in India that wants us to become a nuclear weapons power. Now, they sneer at us and say, 'but the BJP does' and then they say that the BJP claims that it is going to become a party of power in a year's time. This is the way in which the BJP irresponsibly is undermining our position in the world built up through a national consensus. That is why I call it utterly irresponsible.

What do we have as a national consensus from 1988 till at least 1994 was the Rajiv Gandhi Action Plan for a nuclear weapons-free and non-violent world order. And although Shri Jaswant Singh is not present here,

distinguished Members of the BJP are present here and today is that date, the 10 May to which Shri Jaswant Singh drew attention and before this House closes its deliberations, we still have an hour and a quarter and without asking Shri Mallikarjun and without asking and consulting Shri Bhuvnesh Chaturvedi and Shri Bhardwaj, who are the three Ministers present here, I, despite not being a Member of the Government, make an offer on behalf of the Government of India. My offer is: 'Are you willing to pass a Resolution which endorses the Rajiv Gandhi Action Plan for a nuclear weapons free and non-violent world order?' That Action Plan dating back to 1988 is the single, most comprehensive statement made not only by any Indian statesman, but the most comprehensive statement ever made by any world statesman on what needs to be done in a world in which there are some nuclear haves, many nuclear have-nots and a few threshold nuclear powers among which we count ourselves.

That Action Plan is the Plan that was the Government of India's Plan from 1988 till December, 1989, when Shri V.P. Singh became the Prime Minister. Subsequently, from June of 1991, specifically when Prime Minister, Narasimha Rao went to the United Nations Security Council Summit and endorsed the Rajiv Gandhi's Action Plan at that Security Council's Summit on the 30th of January, 1992 - Mahatma Gandhi's death anniversary - this Action Plan has been the Action Plan of the Government of India. I have never heard a single voice from any Opposition party opposing that Action Plan.

Sir, we have got still one hour and fifteen minutes. In this one hour and fifteen minutes, I plead with my friends from the BJP to go and consult their leaders and come back here and tell us if Jaswant Singh Ji's offer was sincere offer. If it was, then we need a one line resolution of this House that this House unanimously endorses the Action Plan for a nuclear weapons free and a non-violent world order presented by the Prime Minister of India to the United Nations on the 9th June, 1988. Are they willing to do that? If they are, then all the other concerns that have been expressed by Shri Jaswant Singh Ji, with respect, for instance, to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and the nuclear fissile materials cut-off, both of which he specifically referred to, they are there in this Action Plan. If you look at how Rajiv himself put it, he said, and I quote :

"In stage-I, all production of nuclear weapons and weapons grade fissionable materials must cease immediately. A moratorium on the testing of nuclear weapons must be undertaken with immediate effect to set the stage for negotiations on a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty."

The two concerns expressed by Shri Jaswant Singh were anticipated by Rajiv Ji, all of seven years ago, and he put it in these words in the Action Plan Stage-1. Paragraph 2(1)(a)(iv) said : "cessation of the production of nuclear weapons by all nuclear weapon States"; paragraph 2(1)(a)(b) said : "cessation of production of weapon grade fissionable material by all nuclear weapon States"; and paragraph 2(1)(A)(VII) said: "commencement and conclusion of negotiations on a comprehensive Test Ban Treaty". Everything Jaswant Singh wants had already been anticipated by Shri Rajiv Gandhi seven years earlier. All that I am seeking today is that we endorse Shri Jaswant Singh Ji's proposal for a resolution. But subject it to the litmus test as to whether we are passing a resolution in order to become a nuclear weapons power or passing a resolution in order to tell all nuclear weapons powers that they belong to an evil club and that they can only be allowed to come back to the bosom of humanity if they stop this crime against humanity, which is what the production and possession of nuclear weapons entails. This is the challenge that I throw to my friends from BJP. Let us speak with one voice, yes, but let us not pretend that we are speaking with one voice if, in fact, we are speaking with two. Only a snake has a fork tongue and this House cannot be made into a snake. Either you renounce the position that you have recently taken, and take up the position which Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee took here on the floor of the House, which is, keeping the nuclear weapons option. There we are entirely in agreement. But who represents the BJP? Is it Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, is it Shri Jaswant Singh or is it Shri Ram Nagina Misra, I do not know. I fear they do not know either. We cannot run foreign policy and related defence policy in this totally irresponsible manner. Please let us run it as the Congress has been running it from the days in 1945 when immediately after the atom bomb was burst over Hiroshima, Gandhiji cried and said that the world has entered the most evil and the most dangerous stage it ever has. Unfortunately, in this country, as witnessed by the total absence of members of the BJP in this debate, despite Shri Jaswant Singh having started by saying that the irresponsibility of this country is shown by the absence of Members in the House in the course of this debate, I say that it remains a moral duty, a practical duty, a matter of national security and a matter of high national defence, that this country first eschew ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI (Kaiserganj) : Sir, there is no quorum in the House. The Members of our party are not present in sufficient numbers. My point of order is that full quorum should

be ensured in the House before the business is taken up. It has been pointed out that the BJP Members are not present in the House. So, my point of order is that the House is lacking quorum and there are no adequate Congress Members present as well. Their presence should also be ensured and this should go on record.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you asking for quorum?

SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI : No, I am just mentioning this.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL : He is just reminding the learned Member to talk in a sensible manner. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : I am now coming to the conclusion. If you just give me another couple of minutes I will be through.

We, therefore, need to have a single national policy on this matter of vital importance to our country, to our region and to the world as a whole. And until 1994 we did have this national consensus. This national consensus is being broken by one irresponsible political party seeking cheap political advantage by pretending that it desires to have muscles while the Congress desires to tie its back. This is what I call irresponsible.

We have a Defence posture. It is a Defence posture which keeps the nuclear weapons options open by probably the most effective research and development organisation that any Defence Ministry anywhere in the world has. The D.R.D.O. of India is, I think, rated by the world itself as just about the most outstanding defence scientific establishment that there is. This body is concerned with, in practical terms, keeping our options open. At the same time we have had the technology demonstrator of the *Agni*. We called it a technology demonstrator because we need to show the world that if it comes to that we have missiles that go across the vast oceans. Then arose the question as to whether we could deliver a payload near our immediate vicinity and we have undertaken the Prithvi test which has shown the world — and more to the — point, shown our friends all around our country — that we have the capacity, if we wish. The Prime Minister has clarified yesterday and it is there in today's papers that we are engaged in putting the sub-systems together which will enable us to deploy *Prithvi* as and when we are ready for deployment.

The decisions about whether *Agni* is going to be used, and if so, whether it is going to be used with a conventional pay load or it is going to be used by the nuclear weapons payload, decisions about how we are

going to deploy *Prithvi*, against whom we are going to deploy *Prithvi* are serious matters of State that will have to be taken in secret. We cannot fall victim to irresponsible B.J.P. politics over here demanding of us that we state on the floor of the House what the greatest defence secrets of this country are. Do they really seriously want us to alarm the whole world, alarm our neighbourhood and throw our own military establishment into confusion by revealing in details what our plans are with respect to the future development of *Agni* technology or with regard to the production and deployment of *Prithvi* missile? These are not decisions, Sir, that we are going to reveal on the floor of the House. These are decisions that we are going to take in the sovereign national interest, as a sovereign nation and when it is implied by Members of the Opposition that the Congress Government is bending on its knees before the insolent might of the United States, let them not forget that today the Congress Government's knees represent the nation's knees and, therefore, when they suggest this they are insulting this nation in suggesting that this great country, India, will ever bend its knees before any insolent might. We will not do so. And in not doing so we must continue to remain the moral beacon of human civilisation.

Mahatma Gandhi became the greatest revolutionary leader of the 20th century not by adopting the conventional yardsticks of power or glory. He refused all these conventional yardsticks and if India's voice has been listened to in the last 50 years, it is not because we are a great economic giant or because we are a great military power or because we have an ambition of dominating the world. We are listened to because the world regards us correctly as a moral civilisation than any other civilisation.

It is upon the morality of our civilisation that a stain is put when the BJP suggests that we join the most evil club of all. Once we have that nuclear weapon, it will serve no purpose, as Jaswant Singhji said in this House, because we will never use it first. If you are never going to use it first, please do not provoke someone else into using it first against you.

The nuclear weapon is, in some says, the Divinity's retribution for mankind's mad race to find answers to human problems through violence, because the nuclear weapon is in our hands exactly what the boomerang is in the hands of the Australian aboriginal. When a boomerang is thrown, it hits the victim and comes back into the hands of the aboriginal. But it does not kill him. When the nuclear weapon is thrown, it comes back. The victor is as much the victim as he who is defeated. I would, therefore, conclude, Sir, by pleading that the BJP should renounce the policy of becoming a nuclear

weapons power immediately, which is its declared policy and return to this House within the next 64 minutes to tell us that we can pass an one line Resolution here saying that we endorse the Rajiv Gandhi Action Plan for a nuclear weapons-free, non-violent world order.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, just now, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar was trying to blame Bharatiya Janta Party by presenting baseless arguments and was involving the name of Father of Nation Mahatma Gandhi. I would like to remind him that when before the death of Mahatma Gandhi Pakistani forces committed aggression on India, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru was the Prime Minister. He was worried, hesitant and in a dilemma that if he ordered Indian army to fight Pakistani forces what would Gandhiji say. He met Gandhiji and told him that the country was facing such a situation. On that point he perhaps said that most probably Mr. Aiyar has never read, that 'Gandhi's non-violence is not the the non-violence of cowards, it is the non-violence of valiants of cowards, it is the non-violence of valiants and I order you to send your forces to attack Pakistan. This he said, because it was the question of defending sovereignty of the nation ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Rawat, please take your seat. Please make arrangements for translation. The translation has come now. Mr. Rawat, you can continue your speech now.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Sir, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar was vociferously trying to present various baseless arguments and create confusion regarding nuclear policy of BJP. I would like to invite your attention and remind you of a historic event when immediately after independence, Pakistan, by keeping the Tribals in forefront attacked Indian borders in Kashmir. At that time, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru thought, if he orders Indian armed forces to challenge Pakistani forces what would be Gandhiji's reaction since he believed in non-violence. Still, with a hesitant mind Nehruji met Gandhiji and made him aware of the situation and sought his advice. Gandhiji told Nehruji that his non-violence was not a non-violence of cowards. He further said that Pakistani had attacked our borders by keeping Tribals on the front line and Nehruji should sent his forces towards Lahore to fight a war with the Pakistan. This makes it clear that Gandhiji's non-violence was not that of cowards.

17.00 hrs.

Sir, if I do exercise, practise yoga to become healthy and strong, why should my neighbour entertain a feeling that it will pose a danger to him. Therefore, I would like to support fully BJP's nuclear policy. Today, Pakistan has acquired nuclear capability, Germany and other countries have this and other capability. We have to keep this in mind. China might be talking of friendship, but it considers India its first military rival in Asia. So bearing in mind the capacity acquired by Pakistan and China, the civil war in Afghanistan, disintegration of USSR and open market disclosure of nuclear secrets and acquisition of nuclear capacity by small countries, we should be face to face with ground reality and must not live in fool's paradise. We heard the Hindi-Chini Bhai-Bhai slogan but when in 1962 China attacked India, Nehruji said that we were living in fools' paradise, we never thought of this. I want to say the same thing today that as to whether we will dig a well after our home is burnt? It is my firm belief that in view of the position of our enemies and in order to instill self-confidence among our armed forces and making the nation militarily strong. India must go in for an atom bomb. This is also necessary for countering the situation created by Pakistan in Kashmir through its ISI and for dealing with the militants who have taken shelter in Charar-e-Sharief for retrieving the situation prevailing in our eastern region and strengthening self-confidence of our army, navy and air-force.

Similarly, defence expenditure also needs our attention. It has been stated that defence allocation has been increased this year by Rs. 2500 crore, but revised budget estimates indicate an increase of 8.3 per cent as against 12 per cent increase in inflation rate. The hon. Defence Minister is sitting here. The reduced defence budget allocation should not affect development of our defence forces.

17.04 hrs.

(Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

As for Bofors deal, Government have given assurances time and again that Bofors papers would be tabled in the House but no information has been given to the House as to what details have been received from Sweden, who are involved in kick-backs. All these details must be made public.

I would like to make another point that 20 per cent of Defence budget should go to the navy. Our naval forces protect our coastal borders and it should receive full attention keeping in mind the situation of our coastal borders.

Sir, I am the son of an ex-serviceman. I remember when I passed tenth standard, my father was lance-naik

and only ten months away from completing 15 years service. At that point of time, his platoon was wound up and he had to sit home back without any pension. Our financial position was bad and we had to take a loan. No assistance came forth either from his headquarters at Sikandrabad, or from DD 40 or from A.C.O. despite the fact that his discharge certificate contained remarks 'good and exemplary' all through. I have quoted this personal example to draw your attention to the pitiable plight of ex-servicemen. Lands are allotted to ex-servicemen in villages, but possession thereof is not handed over to them; they are not allowed to cultivate those lands. Many widows of ex-servicemen who fought second world war and wars with Pakistani and China and laid their lives for the country, are facing such a situation. These widows are not getting the family pension they are entitled. they are assured that action is being taken, but all in vain. The Sainik Boards should be revamped. Sir, the issue of reservation is much in the news these days. We do not want to raise it beyond 50 percent. How will then be reservations made for ex-servicemen completed? Should we not look into their welfare? Whether they will be given priority in the matter of reservation?

I belong to Ajmer district and every family there has given two to four jawans to our armed forces. If you happen to visit or Beawar railway stations you will find people sending off their jawans with pride. All of us express our gratitude to the jawans whether they belong to Army, Navy or Airforce. But when political leaders sitting over their tables return the territory conquered by armed forces how cheated jawans feel, only they can tell. I would like to tell our political leadership that weak hands cannot run administration. The strong never takes obligation, he does do what he is determined to do. The world bows only to strong and never to weak. So, I shall call upon the Government do not show complacency in making our borders strong. We know talks are being held with China and many rounds have already been held. What talks, took place over border issue and the outcome thereof? Whether China has made its position clear about McMahon line; whether this line has been accepted, accorded recognition? Whether China has charged its stand in over Arunachal Pradesh and made its stand clear about occupation of Ladakh territory, or about 4800 sq. mile territory of Kashmir given to it by Pakistan or about 14400 sq. mile Indian territory in Aksaichin occupied by it? A resolution was adopted in this House about getting these territories vacated, which said that we would not sit in peace till every inch of this territory is recovered from occupation. The enemy has captured the territory. What efforts have been made to free this territory? The nation should be taken into confidence.

I would like to say a few words about so-called human rights commissions also. Today, there are people who preach pseudo secularism and put baseless charges on our security forces for Charar-e-Sharief and Hazratbal incidents, who are always ready to sacrifice their lives for defending our motherland; who defend our borders, guard snow-clad Siachin terrains, Ladakh, NEFA and Himalayan peaks without caring for their lives and leaving their families behind in villages. Such baseless allegations affect their morale. Doubtlessly, one who has defaulted, who has committed excesses should be exposed. How far is it fair to appease a particular community by entertaining nations' enemies with biryani in the name of pseudo secularism, in the name of so-called human rights organisations and to neglect the interest of jawans? The ISI agents are responsible for setting Charar-e-Sharief on fire for which our security forces are blamed. We should avoid indulging in such talks. Our jawans feel sad when they come to know such things. They are fully devoted to the cause of defending our motherland. How can our national leaders make assessment of their work? The reports of such human rights commissions should be thrown in dust-bin. We should not hesitate to sacrifice our dearest one for the security of our nation. We must maintain high morale of our security forces.

The military recruitment centre in Ajmer is infested with corruption. Earlier, a recruitment 'mela' used to be organised there but new form system has been introduced. Now recruitment process involves many stages; filling of forms, taking tests, medical examination, etc. The Rajasthan Government has made a request to the Union Government and the Ministry of Defence to lower the essential educational qualification for the post of soldier from matric to 8th pass in respect of Rajasthan keeping in view its educational backwardness because of geographical conditions. This minimum qualification has been lowered for a particular community 'Gurjar' but for the other people howsoever backward they may be it remains the same. Such a discrimination should not be done to the people of the same district. We have written several times to the Directorate of Estates here for the development of Cutak Division and Nasirabad cantonment Board, but nothing has been done. This should be looked into. The competent local authority or Brigadier In-charge there should continuously monitor the development of civil areas, roads and drains etc. Local people want end of unauthorised occupations there, but nothing has been done, legal manoeuvring is going on. I shall, therefore, request the Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence to look into all these things. Effective steps should be taken to deal with the rampant corruption in the recruitment centres. Recently, a jawan came there for being recruited and a tout demanded

thousand of rupees which were given by he was apprehended red-handed and the money was recovered from his pocket and he was jailed. But there are many other aspects which need attention.

Sir, while concluding, I shall demand constitution of National Security Council appointment of Defence Minister of Cabinet rank as has been the practice since 1947.

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad):
Sir, I want to express my views on the Demands of the Ministry of Defence on which discussion is being held.

I have been listening the debate for many days, and I find there are two schools of thought so far as these demands are concerned. The hon. Member who spoke just before me expressed his views that what the Government should do about security affairs, but he must appreciate that we are a peace loving nation. It transpired from what he said that the nation is weak in the matter of defence which is a wrong nation. We are a very strong militarily. The first and foremost thing is that we want to protect human rights, but we are not lacking behind in this aspect compared to any developed country. Some years back two super powers—the USA and the USSR had emerged, but we had been the leader of non-alignment which proves that we believe in protecting small nations. The plea for making atom bomb is worth consideration, but it should be made when we require it. We cannot make a declaration beforehand. We talk about protecting human rights. If we accept the plea that we should spend entire money on defence affairs, because we are surrounded by Pakistan and China, what will happen to our national development programmes. The Defence Ministry's job is to defend, to protect the country from external threats and its sovereignty. We have many internal problems. They have to be looked after. If we slow the pace of our economic advancement, and remain involved in our internal problems, how will we be able to protect our nation from external forces? Some of our friends apprehend Third World War which is just hypothetical; still, I maintain that our defence should be strong. Our defence forces are strong and are discharging their duties with courage. People are advancing hypothetical arguments. But we must meet defence demands. We should be self-reliant in defence matters and must not entirely depend on other countries.

We must acquire latest technologies available in the world, we are capable of developing latest weapons. Sir, some years ago, a movement was started for destroying such nuclear arsenal which can wipe-out humanity from earth, in order to establish peace in the world and protect human rights, but this was pursued

only till the USSR was in existence as a Super Power. Atom bomb was not required when we liberated Goa, Egypt occupied a canal which was not in its occupation; Dr. Fidel Castro the Cuban leader liberated Cuba, a small country, from USA; Vietnam, which is not as large as our one state taught a lesson to America-Vietnam which was divided into two countries is now one integrated country. All this had been possible because one Super Power, wanted peace. This Power is now disintegrated and so India's anxiety is natural and a feeling has developed that some big aggression is going to be committed in India. We must admit that USSR's disintegration has caused great loss to India. Today, USA is dominating the whole world. We agree with those who say that India has gone in American grip because it has become World Power and all are following its dictat. There is no power now which may check it. But India will defend peace loving non-aligned nations. India is a vast and strong nation which it has proved in many wars it fought. Pakistan had the latest and sophisticated American weapons still it was disintegrated and Bangladesh came into existence. Pakistan could not maintain its national integrity. So, it is not that the country will not disintegrate if we have the latest arms. If we are unable to administer the country efficiently there are all the chances that country may disintegrate even if we have all the sophisticated weapons with us. If economic development process is slowed down and steps are not taken to remove unemployment among backward classes and unemployed; rural areas are not developed; farmers are not given assistance for improved cultivation and workers are not given better facilities then how long you can run the nation like this? Can we save our nation if we make a nuclear bomb? This is only for external threats, but how would you deal with the internal threats? We have many tested missiles and the other day our friends were talking about 'Prithvi' missile and the Minister said that the process is on and we would complete it. We must not doubt it. We should not propagate through print media that we are so weak. We must be secretive in some matters. If a war takes place, one will see what we have.

A war took place 33 years ago in 1962 and do you think that India is the same as it was then? No, the war material we imported from America was outdated, America deceived us. So, we must be vigilant about America. Our forces have not learnt to retreat; if a war is forced on us, every Indian citizen, woman and child will remain prepared to fight the war in the way the people of Vietnam have fought. 90 crore people of this country are ready to be soldiers, then how can anyone dare fight such a huge army?

Hitler had the atom bomb, but he could not save Germany from being destroyed; he himself disappeared, one who possessed atom bomb was destroyed, his country was destroyed. So, we cannot build our nation with atom bomb. We can forge ahead only if development process is accelerated process is accelerated, if we are economically sound.

Pakistan was mentioned. We have large and heavy industries whom Nehruji turned as temples of modern time. Does Pakistan have them? Today we are self-reliant but Pakistan has to import even a needle.

Defence Ministry is important and is the pride of the nation. But it has also been invaded by corruption which is the creation of the Congress. It has developed into a demon. It is congress's child and it has to think how this demon can be destroyed. Many people have become millioners by indulging in corrupt practices in the matter of recruitment. A person who enters services by borrowing 18-20 thousand rupees for giving bribe will naturally try to make this loss good by corrupt means. Today, there is rampant corruption in various defence departments. There is corruption in the matter of ration and medicines for the defence forces. How is this happening? I had met Pantji when he was Defence Minister with all the proofs and told him how medicines were sold in the market, how other corrupt practices were indulged into. I had placed all the facts before him. Corruption in defence departments is a very serious thing. Bofors deal is there with you with all the details. So, I shall request the Defence Minister to deal with this aspect firmly and clean the department of this filth, because it is the question of security of the nation. This department should be free from the sting of corruption.

My friends from BJP said that the country is facing serious threats, it is in danger. But then there is no danger; we can make atom bomb if need arises, we will not ask them. If at any point of time, the people of the country lose their mind, lose the power of discretion, or any other calamity takes place and these people come to power, only God knows what will happen to this country, but our thanks go to the people of this country that they have so far not voted them to power, otherwise nobody could save this country. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK (Bolangir) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I fully agree with the proposal which Shri Mani Shankar Aiyer has put forward in this House; and I think, the Opposition Members also support that proposal.

Sir, I congratulate our beloved Prime Minister for his bold stand on Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. In view of the current security environment, there is an urgent need to upgrade our defence capabilities and services. With the privatisation, the defence sector should be further opened up, to boost export of products and services. In order to utilise vast surplus land in Cantonment areas, it should be commercially exploited to generate revenue. The ordnance factories should be revamped to make it viable. The defence forces should be restructured. It is heartening to know that our Armed Forces have played the role of the United Peace Keeper in troubled areas of the world.

Coming to the missile technology, there should be further expansion of the programme in view of the lurking threats of our neighbours. There should be more allocation of funds for their programme during 1995-96. The defence forces doing a good job in J&K to fight militancy amidst a difficult situation. The pay and promotional avenues of defence services should be examined to attract more talents.

In view of large concentration of defence establishment in Orissa, an Army Cantonment should be set up in Orissa. This is my request to the hon. Minister. The Naval Training School at Chilka Lake should be expanded, keeping in view the changing needs. There should be a territorial Army Unit in Orissa. The Defence Ministry should examine the possibilities of introducing a programme to promote spirit of nationalism among the civilian of this country. This is the most important thing.

In connection with my Constituency, I would like to say this to the hon. Minister. In 1984, Mrs. Gandhi has set up an ordnance factory at Badmal in Bolangir District of Orissa. In view of the educationally backward condition prevailing in Bolangir District, around 1,000 youth who are having 'displaced cards' are unable to get suitable jobs in ordnance factory.

I, therefore, request the Government to relax the eligibility conditions so that the displaced and the local unemployed youth can be accommodated. It is unfortunate that the project is running behind schedule. It started in 1984 and now it is 1995. Eleven years have passed thereby increasing the cost. Therefore, I demand and request the hon. Minister that the project of the ordnance factory at Badmal should be completed during the current year. I earnestly request the hon. Minister that he should look into the matter of displaced persons of Badmal area of Bolangir district because for the last ten years, they have been leaving their lands, home and everything. The Central Government have deposited all the funds with the State Government but for the last

four years, the State Government has not done anything for these displaced people. Even today, they are suffering like anything. Students studying in fourth and fifth classes are prepared to work as labourers in that factory but they are not able to get any job in that factory. So, I earnestly request the hon. Minister that he should think deeply about the living condition of the people of this area.

With these words, I support the Demands for Grants for the Ministry of Defence.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are discussing demands of the Ministry of Defence and each of us wants maximum allocation for the security of the country. It is unfortunate that the service charges we pay on foreign debts are almost twice the amount allocated for defence budget this time:

Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar raised the issue of Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty but what he said was only hypothetical. The communist member Shri Ramashraya Prasad Singh who spoke after Shri Aiyar supported him. Shri Singh was speaking in the language of a Congress Member. When I go back to the History, it comes to my mind that whichever Government during emergency or during 1962 Chinese aggression, got the support of Communists, did not last long. So, this Government is also likely to go soon.

Sir, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar raised a point that we are spending 4 percent on rural development as against 14 percent on our defence. He did not like this 14 percent. We are not against rural development. I come from a more backward village but each family of this village has given a jawan to our armed forces. Mani Shankar Aiyarji, I would like to say that if we are spending only 4 percent on rural development it is because of inefficient Congress rule of last 48 years. You cannot hold anybody else responsible for it.

He has made a comparison between these two departments and put a question whether we should allocate more funds for rural development or for defence. If I have to opt between the two I will definitely prefer more funds for national security. If nation survives, the villagers will be developed. His hypothetical arguments are not going to help rural development. I know he is a learned man and he can put his false and wrong arguments in a lucid manner but he must be admitting in the core of his heart that if we fail to defend India then which village we will be able to develop. So please do not make such a comparison.

He has invoked Gandhiniji's name many times but there is no other example of the extent to which Mahatma Gandhi has been maligned because of Congress. Only Congress can adopt dual policy. I do not know what message you want to convey by praising Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and abusing rest of the Bhartiya Janata Party. But this party does not produce Arjun Singh. Sometime V.P. Singh deserts this party and sometimes Arjun Singh. Shri Narsimha Rao and Shri Arjun Singh can quarrel but it is impossible to create dissensions among BJP at his instance. It is we who have to take note of the activity of our leaders; nobody else should have any misconception in this regard. He is a learned man and in spite of that, if he has this misconception, nobody can help. I can understand his compulsions. Everybody knows what situation they are facing in Tamil Nadu. He needs Prime Minister's blessings and the Prime Minister has also said today ...*(Interruptions)* I had some other points to make but it is my duty to refute what he has said. Shri Venkata Swamy ji, you should also bear in mind that Prime Minister has said that there would be new faces in the council of Ministers in June. This has aroused new expectations among all. He may advance any argumet but it is the firm opinion of BJP that if we need atom bomb for defending the nation we must go in for it. We need funds for defence...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : He should be very specific whether we need it or not. If it is needed say so in clear words as Shri Ram Nagina Mishra has said. He should not put Shri Atal Bihari's words in his mouth.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar, whatever you want to speak, if it is within the rules and procedure, you can speak. Do not assume that he will be in a position to answer all these things.

[Translation]

SHRI PREM DHUMAL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar is again playing the same game. He wants to create a distinction between Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and BJP. I have already said, we stand to what we have stated. I would again emphasize necessary allocations should be made both for rural development and defence forces. Do not mingle these two subjects. He is conveying a wrong message with his argument that we want greater allocation for armed forces and not for rural development. Do the jawans come from cities? No, they come from villages. We all know the plight of soldiers.

Sir, the school I studies in, had forty-eight students and all of us passed matriculation together and out of them forty-five students joined army and today some of

them are commissioned officers and some are Junior commissioned officers. Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar, some of them entered the services at the age of 18 and retired at 33 and are getting pensions. They were retired after 15 years of service at a point of time when their wards were receiving educations, their daughters were marriagable. They were given pension but efforts were not made to rehabilitate them.

Sir, in Himachal Pradesh there is a cement factory in Varmana in Bilaspur district, where ex-servicemen have formed a union. They were operating trucks and tran sporting cement but I am sorry to say that the truck union had two groups, one owing alligience to Union Communication Minister Shri Shukh Ram and the other was the favourite of State Chief Minister and these two groups were fighting with such other and the Police had to Lathi charge them. I personally visited that place and met those ex-servicemen. I had submitted a report to you, to the State Minister in the Ministry of Defence. An ex-serviceman whose leg had been amfuted during war was thrown from third storey of that building during that police lathi charge and it was a coincidence that he fell on sand and did not lose his life. He has six daughters and a male child. When I visited him his wife was weeping. The Government did not help them. They purchased trucks from their own source. Still they were lathi charged. Shri Sukh Ram ji also visited the place and had demanded a judicial enquiry. Today it is Congress Government there, but that judicial enquiry has not taken place and the Chief Minister gives a blank reply and says nothing will be done. If they are to face such situations, the prime period of youth devoted by them in defending the country goes unawarded. Moreover, they get very meagre pension on their retirement.

I am happy that honourable Prime Minister has arrived. He also has the Defence portfolio. I had written to him also that the ex-servicemen of Bilaspur district of Himachal Pradesh were misbehaved. The State Chief Minister ordered lathi charge. The Union Communication Minister has himself admitted that excesses were committed, so a judicial enquiry is taking place. The former Speaker also had demanded judicial enquiry. The ex-servicemen were hospitalised for many days. One got his back bone fractured. If such a treatment is meted out to ex-servicemen what help would you extend for their rehabilitation...*(Interruptions)* I said you have not taken any action.

One rank-one-pension is an old demand of ex-servicemen for which they have been continuously struggling. Mr. Prime Minister you sanctioned one time increase but many discrepancies have remained therein. I have raised this issue here many times. You had

constituted a committee under the chairmanship of Defence Secretary. Those persons were not covered under the terms of reference of this committee. Many people have been left out and I am receiving several letters in this regard. Those who fought second world war have been deprived of increased pension. Something must be done for them. Just now, Rasa Singh Rawat ji was saying that only six months were left in completing 15 years of service by his father. He did not take voluntary retirement. But we retired under demobilisation scheme. If the tenure of an M.P. falls short of the prescribed period, rules are amended. Then is it not unfair? The person who served Armed forces for 14½ years should get this concession. I would request the Government of India to constitute soon a Parliamentary committee to go into the question of providing increased pension to those categories of ex-servicemen who have been deprived of it. Those who fought during second world war are at the fag end of their life. I receive many heart-rendering letters which say that they have completed 75 years of age and how long they will remain alive. Will the Government do justice to them?

As I have said, you must take steps for the rehabilitation of ex-servicemen. It is a matter of delight that time bound promotions have been provided for officers but such a provision has not been made for other ranks. One who joined as second lieutenant would definitely get a few promotions but similar chances of promotions are not available to other ranks. This has to be looked into.

Housing facilities have been emphasized by all the speakers. I urge that housing facilities should be increased for jawans. My Parliamentary constituency boasts of highest number of jawans. A J.C.O. of the army came to me and told that he got Government accommodation after 24 years of service.

The honourable Prime Minister is sitting here. The defence personal face great difficulty in getting their wards admitted in Central Schools. You have allowed us to recommend two cases for admission. Other Government employees also want their children to be admitted in Central School. We represent about 16 lakh wards and which of the two children we should select for recommendation. You withdraw this facility but give admission to their children.

A person who remain posted in Nagaland for 5 years and is now in Doda who has three children and he is facing problem in getting his children admitted. An inspector of ITBP came from Sri Nagar who also faced similar problem. He was transferred nine times during a period of three years. You have

publicised that an M.P. can do everything and so they come to us and quarrel with us saying that their wards have not been given admissions. All other Members will also agree with me on this point because all of them face such a situation. So I request that at least the wards of serving Defence Personnel should be accorded priority in the matter of admission. They hardly stay with their families.

Similarly, there is the question of LPG connections. One morning I was reading news paper wherein it was stated that the Government has taken a decision that the ex-servicemen who got themselves registered five or seven years ago would get gas connection on priority basis provided they deposit Rs. 5000. What sort of concession are you giving to them? Such type of decisions hurt the feelings of ex-servicemen. I would like that they should be given minor facilities such as admission in Central School, LPG connection on priority basis etc.

There was a proposal for setting up cantonments in Una and Hamirpur under my Parliamentary Constituency. It was taken up with a great enthusiasm, a survey was conducted, decision was taken to shift the local inhabitants but that proposal is eating dust and has been put in cold storage. I request the Minister of State for Defence to note this point and furnish a reply to me. Honourable Prime Minister might not have heard it but I would like to be informed in writing as to where that proposal stands now.

An espionage case known as Samba espionage case took place. Officers and jawans of Army were suspended and jailed. The Supreme Court gave a judgement, the former army General termed it a wrong case and said that the officer was falsely implicated. The officer Capt. Rathore belongs to my Constituency. He was imprisoned and now he has been absolved of charges. This case continued for many years. I would like to know how Government propose to rehabilitate the Officer, who was implicated falsely, he spent his youth in jail, the patriot was termed as traitor. When he first came to me, I reprimanded him that he has defamed the country, the State, he was involved in an espionage case and I could not support him. Ultimately, he fought the case in the court and won the case. Now the Government should give him full compensation and rehabilitate him fully. I would say that corruption in politics has entered into such cases. You must take steps to put an end to such things.

In the last, I would like to say that our Forces work in hard conditions. The decisions taken in respect of these forces are political. The Government, in power take decision as per their policy. Sometimes no decision

is taken. When we talk of Hazratbal or Charar-e-Sharief incidents, issue of human rights is raised in an exaggerated manner. The forces deployed there are also human beings. They are protecting the country. They are working for the nation. So while taking any decision we should bear in mind that morale of officers and jawans working under difficult situations is not affected. If we are unable to do anything for them at least we should refrain from criticising them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, you gave me time ...*(Interruptions)* I was about to conclude but hon. Member when you say ...*(Interruptions)*

PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : Now please conclude.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL : If you say, I conclude. But members of your party do not obey you.

I wanted to say that the Honourable Prime Minister is here and I have raised some relevant issues. I hope you will cover them while replying the debate.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay South Central)*: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I would like to speak in Marathi. Even after so many years of independence, we have not been in a position to evolve our Defence Policy. In 1962, the situation in our country was that we did not have requisite armed forces and arms and ammunition. We were only chanting 'ahinsa' all the time. Pandit Nehru was the Prime Minister at that time when our jawans were attacked, they did not have sufficient clothes even. many of our jawans were killed in that attack. Then we were awakened and felt that we should become efficient and develop our capability. After the attack, the Government realised that we should be prepared to fight a war. Then came war with Pakistan. In fact, Pakistan has been bothering us since 1947. It has always declared a war against us since that time. Sometimes Pakistan has a direct war with us or at some other time, they wage a war against us through terrorists.

I recall the words of former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastriji, since Hon. Prime Minister is present here, I would recall the words of Late Shastriji. He had said :- "Pakistan is abusing us. But we will retaliate not by abuse but by bullet."

Our brave jawans attacked Pakistan at that time. Under the leadership of Gen Chaudhury, we attacked Pakistan. Even in the past also, when our country was attacked, we were busy in fighting among ourselves. But, Shastriji was the first Prime Minister who led the attack against Pakistan.

We have got major enemies around us. China is our foremost enemy. China advocates Communism. But actually, those who call themselves Communists follow policy of imperialism. During the period of 1960-70, we did realise imperialistic designs of countries like Poland, Vietnam, Korea and Afghanistan.

Pakistan continued to create trouble for us. But, I must appreciate the steps taken by former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. We might have had differences with her. But eventhough she was a woman, she took firm steps and set up 'Mukti Vahini' and ensured victory of Bangla Desh. Pakistan was keen on attacking our country. It attacked us in 1971. But late Mrs. Gandhi thwarted that attack and as a result of that Bangla Desh came into being. Large number of our jawans laid down their life on our border. But we lost on political front. We defeated Pakistanis on the border. But from other borders we allowed one and half crore Muslims of Bangla Desh to enter our country. Even today we have to look after one and half crore Muslims of Bangla Desh, for no reason at all. We have not yet been in a position to deport them. There are Bangla Deshi nationals. There are Pakistani nationals in our country. But we have not yet deported them. We have to fight with China, Bangla Desh and Pakistan all the time. That is why, it is necessary for us to develop defence preparedness and strengthen ourselves. In this connection, former Member of Parliament and eminent Parliamentarian Shri Madhu Dandavate had made very valuable suggestions. He had said that we should watch international situation and try to solve some of the problems in our neighbouring countries. Unfortunately, we have not been in a position to solve any of the problem. We intervened in Sri Lanka. Unfortunately, 14,000 of our jawans were killed in Sri Lanka and unfortunately, Rajivji was also killed in the bomb blast.

The Government's policy failed in this matter. At one time, we supported LTTE. We sent our jawans for training them and for humanizing their cadres. But the same LTTE went against us and unfortunately former Prime Minister Late Rajiv Gandhiji was killed in an attack.

Another suggestion made by Shri Dandavate was that we must have long term defence strategy. The situation in the country is not the same as it obtained in 1947. The neighbouring countries have developed. China has developed. Pakistan is getting ammunition from so many countries. That is why we require a comprehensive defence strategy. There should be participation of people also while implementing this strategy. Just now one of my colleagues rightly pointed out that we remember our jawans only when a war breaks out. We should not remember them only at the

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Marathi.

time of war. Those of us who are Members of Parliament and the people of this country should always remember that it is because of our jawans who are protecting our borders that we are alive and sitting here in Parliament. That is why good schemes for the welfare of jawans must be formulated and implemented. Our Defence policy and defence plans must be constantly monitored by the Parliament. Unfortunately, the situation in our country is such that we have to send our army to solve many problems in the country. This may lead to a situation where people may think that army may go against them. This may create rift between army and the civilian population which may have feeling of hatred for the army. We should see that such feeling does not develop in the minds of people in future.

18.00 hrs.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty is sought to be extended. Is it the monopoly of a few developed nations that they can manufacture nuclear bomb while we cannot do so? We have seen the high-handed behaviour of these countries. Either Iran or Iraq may be committing a mistake. But they can bombard anywhere they like and eliminate anybody they like. It is a case of racism. That is why I would like to demand that India should not sign Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Rawale, just a minute.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): On Monday, the Prime Minister will be replying. Whatever names are there in the list, you can cover them today. You kindly extend the time and see that all the speakers are covered.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shall we extend the time by one hour? We have only four names in the list. Shall we extend the time of the House up to 7 o'clock?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Sir, after Mr. Rawale's speech, you can adjourn the House. If you have one or two more Members, we can continue on Monday.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We have hardly four names.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : As you please. I am saying this because if we go on like this, we will not be able to finish it. We will leave it to you. If the House feels that four Members can finish within some time viz., in about half-an-hour's time or whatever it is, it is all right.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : I suggest that he finishes his speech, we will adjourn the House. On Monday, we can take half-an-hour or so and finish it.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : In that case more members should not speak.

[Translation]

*SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, some years ago, there was Bofors Gun scandal. Bofors guns which we purchased from Sweden were balck listed. Why did India then go in for Bofors guns? The enquiry of this scandal is still going on. We have not yet known as to what is the outcome of this enquiry.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, our Prime Minister, Home Minister and Chief Minister often say that Pakistan is behind the terrorists. Pakistan created a problem in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir, It had a hand in bomb blasts in Bombay. In Pakistan, there are 110 Centres. Out of these, 25 are in Pakistan and the rest are in Pak occupied Kashmir. Training is given to terrorists in these Centres. At the time of bomb blasts, this information was obtained that if these training Centres are not destroyed, they may erect concrete walls and convert themselves into army bases.

Sir, in conclusion, I would like to refer to bomb blasts which took place in Bombay. In Bombay bomb blasts, 257 persons were killed. 713 persons were permanently handicapped. The total loss due to this blast ran into several crores of rupees. Invaluable property was gutted in this blast. Bomb blasts in Bombay had been caused by I.S.I. The Government had a report to that effect as pointed out by Hon. Minister Shri Rajesh Pilot. When an enquiry was conducted, it was revealed that I.S.I. is behind this blast. I.S.I. is indeed a dangerous organisation. It became suddenly active since Operation Blue Star in 1984 and since then it has been working in a planned manner to cause Bomb Blasts in Punjab, Kashmir, Bombay, Ahmedabad and Calcutta. In Bombay, 321 kgs of high power explosives were used and it is learnt that deposits of several kgs of unused explosives are still around the city of Bombay. Two organisations namely, Khalistan Liberation Force in Punjab and Hijbul Mujaheddin in Kashmir have been legitimately owned by I.S.I. as their organisations. Some of the office-bearers of I.S.I. had written a letter to the then President of Pakistan, Jia Ul Haq. Atinder Pal Singh, a terrorist from Punjab had a discussion with officers of the Special Intelligence Wing of the Pakistani Army in December, 1984 at Rawalpindi. There is a reference to this meeting

* English Translation of the speech originally delivered in Marathi.

in the letter. Hijbul Mujaheddin was in constant touch with the President Jia Ul Haq. When this Organisation, Hijbaut Mujaheddin, faced shortage of funds, he came forward to help this Organisation. I.S.I. took the help of some persons in Bombay and caused bomb blasts in Bombay. Sir, I would like to highlight the sequence of bomb blasts in Bombay. The bomba blasts were caused in Bombay on 12th March. Bombay is the only city in the World where serial bomb blasts were caused at 12 places in Bombay within a period of one and a half hour. On 12th March itself, the car of Tiger's sister-in-law was found in Bombay which contained 7 AK 47 rifles, several detonators and explosives. When police visited Memon's house and conducted search imprint of his shoes were found. Similarly some other evidence was also available there 340 KG RDX was also offloaded there. An enquiry of this case was conducted. On behalf of CBI, it was deposed before the Special Court that these blasts had been caused by I.S.I. Intelligence agency of Pakistan, I.S.I. Caused the bombblasts. CBI prosecutor Mr. Natrajan said this in Bombay and announced that a Proxy war had started. Those who cannot side with Pakistan openly, tried to destabilise Indian economy and share market of Bombay. The basic objective of causing a bomba blast is to see that people lose their faith in the Government. Alongwith this objective, there is also the objective of killing people in a large unumber and sharterting the economy of the nation.

As far as the Government is concerned, I feel that there has to be a proper co-ordination between the Home Ministry, External Affairs Ministry and Defence Ministry in dealing with this case. Prime Minister is heading the Ministry of defence. Mrs. Natrajan had said in the Court on behalf of the Government that the bomb blasts in Bombay were on act of treason. How is it that this charge was later withdrawn? It was said that certain prima facie evidence was available. Why it was withdrawn later on? I had raised the issue that several containers were found at the Kandla Port. At Gandhidham also, 9 mini machine guns, large number of cartridges and 9 metric tonnes of explosives were found on 27th March, 1994. I would like to ask the Prime Minister whether he can say it with certainty that no RDX is ther now. Or can you specify the quantity of RDX available now? The situation is such that anywhere bomb blast can take place. There was bomb blast in Kashmir on Independence Day. In Brahmputra Well, there was bomb explosion where 29 jawans were killed. In Bombay city 17 bomb blasts have taken place from 1989 to 1994.

The Government always says that Pakistan is involved in the bomb blasts. Why do not we then destroy that country? Our jawans are killed on the border. Arms are smuggled in from Pakistan. Many arms found in Punjab have Pakistan markings.

In conclusion, I want to make only one point. I have with me a letter written to me by Hon. Prime Minister. I had said that cloth manufactured by NTC Mills should be purchased by all Government Departments. Prime Minister has given such directive to all the Departments. I have also received a reply to that effect. But, so far no Department is purchasing cloth from NTC mills. I had asked a question when Mr. Ashok Gehlot was the Minister. I was told that Defence Ministry had not ordered NTC mill cloth. If Defence Ministry purchases cloth from NTC, it will be possible to start some of the closed NTC mills. Defence Ministry will get good quality of cloth and it will put an end to corruption.

I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak. On behalf of my party Shiv Sena, I oppose the demands for grants of the Ministry of Defence.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, the world was hoping that the post cold-war era will be an era of peace and tranquility but unfortunately it is not so, at least in our region, in Asia, Africa and this part of the world where we see that conflicts, tensions and a kind of arms race is developing. This is a matter of great regret and a matter of great concern also.

I think that in this situation, all our hopes were belied that there will be an era of negotiations, an era of understanding and not an era of confrontation. But we find that at least all around our country this is not so. We find confrontation, we find that some of the leaders of our neighbouring countries going all over the world and deliberately creating a situation of confrontation and also threating war. This presents a very serious situation, so far as the defence and security of our country is concerned.

I was unfrotunately not present that day but I read in the newspapers that the Prime Minister in his brief intervention perhaps said that in such a situation the Prime Minister should be the Defence Minister. I think that whatever he said - and perhaps it is presumed - what he presumes is that Defence needs our top priority and our top attention. There can be no objection that the Prime Minister takes the Defence in such a situation. Nobody should object to it because it needs top priority and top attention.

The only thing I want to say is that there seems to be a kind of complacent situation in our Defence. I do not want to develop tht point right now, as you have suggested, I will develop this point when I continue my speech. But I am saying that there is a situation, a complacent situation prevailing in the Defence area of our country, which is not good.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav will continue his speech on Monday, the 15th of May, 1995.

Now the House stands adjourned to meet again on Monday, the 15th May 1995, at 11,00 a.m.

18.13 hrs. .

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, May 15/Vaisakha 25, 1917(Saka)
