

[Sh. Mukul Wasnik]

Kaul, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the prohibition of employment of manual scavengers as well as construction and maintenance of water-seal latrines and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the prohibition of employment of manual scavengers as well as construction of continuance of dry latrines and for the regulation of construction and maintenance of water-seal latrines and for matters connected there with or incidental thereto.

The motion was adopted

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House now stands adjourned to meet again at 2.45 p.m.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till forty-five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at fifty-three minute past Fourteen of the Clock.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER - *in the Chair*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, Shri Dinesh Singh will make a statement.

14.54 Hrs.

[English]

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

**Dismissal of the Nawaz Sharif
Government in Pakistan**

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI DINESH SINGH): Honourable Members

are no doubt, aware of the political events evolving in Pakistan in recent weeks. On 18 April, 1993, the President of Pakistan, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, dismissed the Government of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, dissolved the National Assembly and inducted a caretaker Government with Mr. Balakh Sher Mazari as the caretaker Prime Minister. The other two Ministers sworn in are Mr. Farooq Leghari of the Pakistan Peoples Party and Mr. Hamid Nasir Chhattia of the Pakistan Muslim League. There have been general indications from the office of the president of Pakistan that elections will be held around the middle of July, after a gap of nearly two and a half months. From the remark made by the chief of Army Staff, the view of the armed forces is that the processes generated by the decision of the President of Pakistan on the 18th of April should be finally resolved either by the courts or by the people of Pakistan.

Developments in Pakistan are basically that country's internal affair. But there is no gainsaying the fact that events in this important neighbouring country always have implications for us both in general and in terms of our security. We cannot thus remain indifferent towards the situation in Pakistan. Being a democracy ourselves, we would wish to see democracy flourish in Pakistan. In the prevailing situation where elected Governments have been repeatedly impeded from striking roots and gaining continuity in their policies, a phase of uncertainty in our relations with Pakistan cannot be ruled out. Government will be closely following further developments.

It is however, our hope that whichever Government is in power in Pakistan, the attitude of reason and moderation will animate their policies towards us, as having a good neighbourly working relationship with Pakistan remains a continuing objective in our policies towards that country.