

all the more condemnable because of the fact that the target of attack happens to be the children. We do not have all the details. So we will have to get all the details and thereafter we will be able to inform the House. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Though the incident took place pretty earlier yet its details have not come to the Government as yet. The Government claims that the situation is improving there and election will be held there. And even then this incident took place... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : I think, it will not be possible for me to give all the details unless I get it from the State Government. And, thereafter, certainly, the House will be kept informed and public at large also will be kept informed.

I also appreciate the point raised by our esteemed friend Shri Sharad Yadavji that we have to consider very seriously one aspect of the political life in our society. The criminalisation of politics which is going on in a very big way is one of the issues which we would like to discuss with all the political parties as to how we should bring this about and what kind of action is called for. And this is not merely an academic issue now. It has become a reality. Unless very effective steps are taken, it is bound to spread and create conditions which will be very unhealthy for a democratic set up in this country. So, we are serious about it and would like to discuss it with all the leaders of the political parties.

12.14 hrs.

[Translation]

RE : MPs' LOCAL AREA
DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been stated that for the sake of MPs' local area development....

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg your pardon. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs has already accepted that he does not have the details, therefore, he cannot give any information to the House in this regard? But as today is the last day of the session, my humble submission is that it would be better if the august House is informed it before it is adjourned.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN) : We will try our level best.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to submit that it is certainly a matter of our heavy responsibility.

MR. SPEAKER : We want to hear poetry and not the prose.

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA : Sansad Sadasyon ko vikas par diya naya akash,

Parantu abhi tak dharti par nahin utri hamari aas,

Isko pura kaise karenge ek karod rupye ka diya hai jo vishwas,

Ham ise pura karna chahte hain, yeh apke madhyam se kaise hoga,

Hamari bhavanaon ko kaise karenge sakar, isliya isko mila akar,

Aap hamein batayen janta ke beech kaire jayen,

Yeh sab aap hamen samjhayen.

MR. SPEAKER : I meant to say that it should have been comprehensible and terse.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura) : He has raised the issue and Shri Rameshwar Thakur is sitting here....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have received a letter saying that Shri Vidyacharan Shukla wants to make a statement. But, before that, I wanted to hear your agony.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Rameshwar Thakur is sitting here and you must know that he is still in the cabinet. It would be better if hon. members express their agony.....

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you for your concern and giving me opportunity to raise the issue here. Actually this scheme was accepted as a model scheme and the confidence with which Prime Minister has exhorted people has built confidence in them. He has stated in the

Commonwealth meeting that certain effective measures will be taken to benefit the rural people by implementing MPs' Local Area Development scheme.

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed you to raise this issue here. Please come to the point and do not furnish historical facts.

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to point out the basic point which is the essence of the issue. I would like to state that the reply given to question No. 143 on 3rd August, has put us in dilemma.

MR. SPEAKER : The doubt is being dispelled now.

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: In his reply the hon. Minister has stated that there is no provision of allocation of Rs. one crore each to the Member of Parliament under MPs' Local Area Development Scheme. Sir, through you I would like to hear its explanation from the Government

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : Sir, I would like to clarify that it has been decided that a separate fund would be constituted for MPs Local Area Development Scheme in order to streamline its implementation and to remove the difficulties experienced by the hon. Member of Parliament. Suitable amendments would also be made in the Guidelines in this regard. (Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : This is not going on record.

*(Interruptions)**

Mr. Speaker : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Sometimes your silence speaks and sometimes all of you speak and the Government understands that. I think you wanted to know about the word used 'would be', which should be clarified as to when it would be done.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : We would like to know whether the Finance Minister has approved it or not because he can override everybody else. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, in your statement, you have said that it has been decided that a separate fund would be constituted. Very good. Thank you. Then, you have also stated that a suitable amendment would also be made. Very good. Thank you. But when?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Just one corrective clarification Sir, the hon. Minister is yielding with your permission and thank you very much. As he has chosen to clarify, I would like to make just one submission.

MR. SPEAKER : He wants to do everything that is necessary and possible.

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : The improvement, which the Government

contemplates to bring about in the Scheme, should be brought in such a way that the responsibility entrusted to the Members of Parliament could be discharged by them properly and promptly. Eight months have already elapsed. If the position is clarified by the hon. Minister regarding schemes formulated by the Government, funds credited to the State Government or separate head of account created for this purpose then we would also feel satisfied.

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane) : New guidelines should be sent to the constituencies.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : As you have said, there was a need for a separate head of account for this amount and we have done that. There are about 769 or 779 Members in total, both in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and we have made provision for that much of amount. We have initiated the process for opening the head of account for this purpose. This amount will directly be sent to the Collectors and not through the State Governments. Shri Rameshwar Thakur and myself are more concerned about it than the hon. Members. I would like to tell you that we also share your concern. There were so many difficulties in it. As you know that the Government procedure is very complicated and a lot of efforts have been made to remove those complications. It is a new type of scheme and you know that it has been done at the initiative of the hon. Prime Minister and under his able leadership. Since it was a big scheme and there were many difficulties in it and there could be delay in it but we should thank the hon. Prime Minister that he took initiative and got it completed. A separate fund has been set up for this amount to the Collectors immediately. The hon.

Prime Minister has directed Shri Rameshwar Thakur to monitor its day-to-day progress to avoid delay in it. He has directed that this amount should reach the Collectors at the earliest. His directives would be adhered to strictly. All the difficulties have since been removed. Some points were also not clear in the guidelines.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not like that. There are many ambiguities in the guidelines as a result of which these things are happening despite your hard work, willingness, grant of funds and the directives given by the hon. Prime Minister in this regard.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : Some parts of the guidelines, which were creating difficulties in the implementation of this scheme, have been amended so that no one could have any misunderstanding about them. I would also submit the amended guidelines to you as well as to the other hon. Members so that there may not be any difficulty about it.

I am also aware of the fact that when this amount would reach the Collectors and the hon. Members would start utilising it as per the guidelines, some State Governments would try to make use or misuse of this amount in different manners. I do not say as to which States would do so but such attempts can be made....*(Interruptions)* Please listen to me first. What we feel is that if some States try to do so and our hon. Members face some difficulties in utilising these funds, we would amend the guidelines suitably to do away with such difficulties. I would like to assure the hon. Members that the amount would reach the concerned Collectors not in weeks but in a few days. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune) : He wants to say that there are four districts in his constituency....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. Now there can be no question about it. You cannot discuss each and everything here.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The entire House appreciates what has been done by the Prime Minister, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, the Rural Development Minister and the Finance Minister.

We are very happy that the Minister has said that, not in weeks but in days, the funds will reach the Collector.

The third point which is really very important relates to the rules to be followed. I think, it would be necessary to look into the rules to see that there are no difficulties. The funds are not going to the MPs. Funds are going to the Collector. The work has to be commissioned by the Collector. It has to be completed by the Collector. And yet the suggestions given by the MPs have to be implemented by the Collector. There are certain difficulties. They can be removed by having proper rules. I am sure, the rules framed by the Rural Development Ministry will be shown to me. And on your behalf, I will look into it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Many Members like me have to tour their constituencies spread over two districts.

MR. SPEAKER : That is also to be looked into.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, I have five districts in my constituency. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV
(Azamgarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through
you, I would like to make a submission
within one minute.

Sir, through you, I would like to
seek a clarification and I would expect
your protection also in this regard. The
controversy on the JPC report and ATR,
over which the Opposition parties had
boycotted the proceedings of the House
for a long time, was resolved with your
utmost efforts and a wayout was found.
We wish that necessary improvements
be made in the ATR so that the persons
involved in the scam could be brought
to book. So, I would like to know the
progress made in this regard after that
agreement. According to that agreement,
the Government would take further action
in consultation with the opposition parties.
Since the session is going to end, I
would, therefore, like to know whether
the Government has initiated any action
in this regard and what progress has
been made in this respect and the time
by when the fresh report will be presented.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have received
a letter from Shri Arjun Singhji. He wants
that the Baba Sahab Bhimrao Ambedkar
University Bill which is passed by the
Rajya Sabha may be allowed to be
introduced and passed in this House
also. The Bill, it seems, was referred
to the Standing Committee, and I am told
that all the recommendations made by
the Standing Committee are accepted.
So, what is the wish of the House?
Should we take it up?

SEVERAL MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. SPEAKER : I think, may be
at 2.30 p.m. we can take it up and we
can pass it. Everybody can be ready at
that time.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot
immediately respond to it without
consulting the Government.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You can dispense
with the lunch hour.

12.30 hrs.

RE : BOFORS GUN DEAL

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA
(Midnapore) : Sir, with your permission
I wish to raise a matter which is pending
for a long long time before this House
and on which no conclusions have been
drawn yet.

Sir, I am referring to the fact that
in the last Session, an assurance was
given in this House by the Minister that
the papers relating to the Bofors Arms
Deal and those papers which relates to
the secret bank accounts in the Swiss
bank, are going to be made over to the
Government of India by the decision of
the Swiss authorities and as soon as
those papers are received, we will be in
a position to throw some light on the
identity of those account holders as well
as on those people who received part of
these monies through these Banks.

Sir, after that, nothing further is
heard on this subject. There is a sort of
a veil of silence and the Government
appears to be a party to this kind of