

MR. SPEAKER: Item Nos. 15 and 16 may also come up. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs may inform the concerned Ministers. Item No. 17 may also come up.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned for Lunch to meet at 14.00 hours.

13.02 Hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.07 Hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at seven minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair)

#### ARREST OF MEMBER

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have to inform the House that the Hon'ble Speaker has the following telex message dated 11 December, 1993 from the District Magistrate/ District Superintendent of Police, Godda, Bihar, on 13 December, 1993:-

"Shri Suraj Mandal, Member of Parliament, has been arrested in connection with economic blockade by Jharkhand Mukti Morcha(s) in Godda District, Bihar, on 10.12.1993."

14.08 Hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE:  
DISAPPROVAL OF THE CHIEF  
ELECTION COMMISSIONER AND OTHER  
ELECTION COMMISSIONERS  
(CONDITIONS OF SERVICE)  
AMENDMENT ORDINANCE AND CHIEF  
ELECTION COMMISSIONER AND OTHER  
ELECTION COMMISSIONERS  
(CONDITIONS OF SERVICE)  
AMENDMENT BILL—Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are two amendments to be moved to the Motion for Consideration. Shri Dau Dayal Joshi - not present: Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava - not present.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1993 is a very important Bill; and it is dealing with a very vital Institution which is vested with the power to direct, superintend and control elections in our country.

Elections are life-line of our democracy and Election Commission is the nerve centre for the holding of elections. There is no denying the fact that over the years, by and large, our Election Commission has discharged its duties in a very responsible and dignified manner. Despite the fact that there were times in the past when many questions had been raised about certain decisions of the Election Commissioner, many a times in this House, we had to debate on certain actions of the Chief Election Commissioner, it was not to cast any aspersions on any individual but this House took up those issues with an attitude to strengthen this very vital institution