

**(viii) Need to declare Nagapattinam - Gudalur - Mysore State Highway as National Highway**

DR. N. MURUGESAN (Karur) : Nagapattinam - Gudalur - Mysore State Highways is a very important road covering Nagapattinam, Thanjavur, Tricity, Periyar, Coimbatore districts. It is more than 600 km. in length.

I urge upon the Central Government to take appropriate steps to convert it as a National Highway so that Nagapattinam Port may get significance.

13.19 hrs.

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

14.35 hrs.

[English]

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Thirty-Five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair)

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL),  
1995-96 — Contd.**

**(i) Ministry of Defence - Contd.**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav will continue his speech.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have a feeling that there is a complacency like situation in our Defence Ministry and I have reason to say so. The burning example of this is what has happened recently in Chrar-e-Sharief in Kashmir Valley. It is admitted by all that whatever we may say, that there is a large number of presence of army in Kashmir Valley, it is a fact. It is rightly so because there is a serious threat from across the border and therefore we have to take every care and we have to prepare ourselves to meet any kind of threat. But one example of the complacency and lack of imagination is that Pakistan has been able to send terrorists continuously to the religious shrines in Kashmir Valley. What has happened in Hazratbal? We did not take any lessons from that. The terrorists came in spite of the presence of our security forces, in spite of our armed forces all along the border; they captured the shrine, they burnt the whole village. And what message has gone? The message that has gone is that in spite of a big presence of armed forces, people can come, challenge our armed forces and get away with that; they burnt the whole village, they burnt the shrine and the leader of the terrorist group has also escaped. In spite of surrounding by the army, they entered into the shrine, remained there, they burnt it and they got away

with that. It is one burning example and it is a serious thing. Does it not give this message that there is lack of imagination on our part, there is lack of alertness on our part or there is lack of cooperation on our part or there is lack of threat perception on our part and we are not fully geared up to meet this kind of a situation. Now, when we are being surrounded, every time we are saying that there is a threat to our sovereignty, there is a threat from across the border. But how is our preparation? I would like to quote from the Report of the Standing Committee on Defence. What have they said? Sir, I am also a Member of the Defence Consultative Committee. The Minister is sitting here; I do not want to bring the names of the officers, but the officers have to be truthful; they must give the correct picture to Parliament, to the Parliamentary Standing Committees, to the nation. This is their duty and they have not lagged behind in performing their duty. But what are we doing?

Sir, I will say it is a matter of shame that for the last ten years our Defence Ministry has not been able to provide Advanced Jet Trainer, what is called AJT. We have not been able to provide and the Ministry and our army has said that we have to provide it at a very high cost; our pilots die because they could not get proper training at proper time.

We know that Pakistan has four to five Advanced Jet Trainers. We call Pakistan our enemy. We call that Pakistan is a threat to our sovereignty. The point is that Pakistan, which is a small country, can manage to have Advanced Jet Trainers but India fails to get them and fails to perform its duty so, I charge this Government of complacency. It is not that inadequacy of funds is the reason. How is it that in this most vital thing, you have failed? Today, we know that the Air Force is playing a most important role. What we saw in Iraq? Electronic warfare is there. We are in the era of electronic warfare. We are in the era of nuclear weapons. But our preparation is such that we cannot provide Advanced Jet Trainers to our Air Force Pilots. It is a serious thing. It is not only this. The Committee expressed its anguish on another issue over the manner in which the Defence Ministry had handled the matter regarding the replacement of the ageing Aircraft Carrier Vikrant. It was obviously for the past many years that there was a gradual erosion in operational viability and that the life-span of Vikrant could not be stretched beyond mid-1992. The year 1992 was over. We are in the midst of 1995 now. Will the Minister tell this House how they are going to deal with the situation?

Sir, the Navy is also becoming an important factor. What is happening? Take the case of China and Burma. China is trying to enlarge its Navy. It has already entered into an agreement with Burma. It is going to help them to have a new Port where its Navy will be stationed. What is happening in Pakistan? Are you not aware of this fact that Pakistan has enlarged its Navy, has modernised its Navy and it is still going on modernising

its Navy and Air Force? How is it that the Vikrant cannot be replaced? Are we so poor a country? Has there been any kind of an obstruction from any part of this House that necessary budget amount could not be given to our Defence Budget? Everybody said that whatever we need, our Defence Ministry must get that. Is there any kind of a priority? I say that the lack of priority in the Defence Ministry, which is at the cost of our national sovereignty and security, is a serious matter. This Government has not been able to perform its national duty. This is one serious thing which I would like to bring to the notice of this House.

Now, I go to another point. Today, we are living in an era of what is called coercive diplomacy. You can also call it coercive security perception. We know how we were pressurised on the cryogenic rocket deal with Russia. Who were those who pressurised Russia, who pressurised India also? Why did it happen? So, you have to take note of that. We know that on the NPT issue, there is a continuous pressure on India. There are certain nuclear powers. They are becoming a kind of nuclear over-lords. They want to impose their overlordship. They are trying to impose their overlordship on all those powers which are non-nuclear or which are the developing nuclear powers. India is in the second category of the developing nuclear power. We have made it absolutely clear from the very beginning that we have no intention of using nuclear bombs. Rather our national policy right from the very beginning, from Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's era is this. India was the first country to take this initiative in the United Nations and in all other forums to say that we want total disarmament.

We are for peace. We are for friendship. We are for co-operation. We want lesser and lesser allocation on Budget. We want that development activity should get priority. We are a poor country. We have been pleading for total disarmament and I am glad that our Government is still taking a stand for peace. It is a good stand. It is a commendable stand. But we cannot close our eyes to what has happened recently. NPT has been extended for an indefinite period. Now the nuclear development, research and nuclear weapons manufacture have been legalised. There have been demands for it. They have been legitimised. They can use them. Whatever they want to do, they can do it. I am glad that at least on this issue the Government of India has taken a firm stand which is our national policy and I hope that we will continue to take that stand.

I feel that today the Government must take into account the fact that development and defence go together and, therefore, our late Prime Minister Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, in the most challenging, difficult times, when he gave the slogan, Jai Jawan Jai Kisan, that was hailed by the people of this country. It was a right slogan. It was a correct approach. Without development, you cannot strengthen your defence. Without development, you cannot have peace also. Therefore, development, defence and peace should go together.

This is a lesson which we have to take from Kashmir. This was made absolutely clear there. From the Treasury benches, one of the Ministers was saying 'Why are youth revolting against us?' It is Shri Salman Khursheed who is going out on some other important work for him. Shri Salman Khursheed raised this issue and it is a valid issue which we should ask ourselves namely, why the young people of Jammu and Kashmir are angry with us. Why have they been alienated? Why have they been joining the rank and file of the terrorists? Why have they fallen into the trap of Pakistan? Why? It is because development of Jammu and Kashmir was neglected. Jammu and Kashmir is one of the most beautiful parts of the whole world. It is a paradise on Earth. You go to Jammu and Kashmir. I have seen it with my own eyes. I am a great admirer of Kashmiri people. I have been very often going to Kashmir. I could see the poor people, those who produce the best things. They are the best artisans. They make beautiful things. But there are no houses, no good shops. There are unemployed people. They are totally neglected. Then they raise their voice like young and angry people on a justified issue. They were dubbed as pro-Pakistan.

I remember in 1972 when this terrorism was on peak, when the people thought that all Kashmiri youth are pro-Pakistani, when nobody was daring to go and meet them, I went to the Kashmir University in Srinagar with the Education Minister at that time Shri Lone, who is now one of those who is a rebel, rather. I went with him and gave an address in Kashmir University and then I invited questions. I said 'If you are raising your voice that bus fares are raised and if you revolt against that and if you go on strike, you have the right. It happened in Aligarh. It happened in Allahabad University. It happened in Delhi University. Benaras University and Lucknow University. You have the right to say so. If you are unemployed and if you are demanding a change in the economic policy or if there is corruption, you are raising your voice like any Indian citizen and you have the full right to raise your voice. I must tell you this is important from the Defence point of view.

Nobody asked any question. I was requested to speak. The Education Minister pressed my hand and said, 'please do not invite questions.' He whispered in my ears saying, "this meeting is attended fully by pro-Pakistani youth". Then I said, 'if you are not asking questions then please give them to me in writing.' And I got forty questions in writing. After my reply, they sought an appointment with me the same evening in the Guest House of Srinagar. They said that they did not stand up because they knew that immediately after that police would be after them and they would be in jail. I met some of the young people who had spent eleven years in jail. But they were not pro-Pakistani people. They were the angry young people of Jammu and Kashmir. Because they were ignored, they were neglected, they were discriminated, they thought that they had no equal

right as other young people of India. What I am saying is, if you neglect development, there will be resentment. We have not been able to pay attention to those living in the border States. They had demanded about railway lines; they had asked for opening up of factories and they had asked for schools and colleges. But unless they revolted against it, the attention was not paid towards them. What I am emphasising is that India has entered into a new era. This is an era of the common people. This is an era of the exploited Indian masses who have been exploited economically, socially, culturally and politically for thousands of years. If they raise their voice for the uplift of their backward regions of the country, you should pay heed to their voice, treat them with sympathy and give them what is due to them. Otherwise, this will create serious problems. The enemy does not fight with our Army. The enemy also adopts different tactics. He takes advantage of our discontent, of our dissatisfaction and operates on that basis. In my opinion, enough care has not been taken in this regard. This should be kept in mind.

I also say that India should take a lead from the larger point of view in the formation of a South Asian Common Market. We have faced a lot of difficulties in the SAARC. We should ask this question to ourselves some time as to how is it that China has been able to create a better situation in its own region, how is it that the fear from China to ASEAN countries is no more there? They are forming a cooperation. They are meeting together. They have also succeeded in having a kind of a common market. Their relationship is improving. How is that that only India, another great country in this continent, has not succeeded in this? Therefore, our Defence should not be seen only by the number of soldiers we have through the development of modern weapons of our country, but our Defence should also be seen in the larger perspective, which is nowadays very very important. Once we succeed in this, I say that India will be able to fight out its poverty, its backwardness. And India will succeed in creating a friendly atmosphere in this continent. Lack of faith and suspicion should be removed. India must pay greater attention to this aspect also.

Now France and Germany, the historical enemies, have come together in the entire Europe. They have not only formed a common market, they have succeeded also in forming a European Union. They have already followed it. They are already discussing it seriously to have a good relationship.

They are already discussing to have a common Government. After all, there were deep-rooted suspicions among them for centuries, but they have been able to handle it in a proper manner, create an atmosphere of mutual understanding, identify issues of common interest and then go ahead with them. We have not succeeded. You cannot get away by saying that Pakistan is creating hurdles all the time. Maybe Pakistan will create, but the people of Pakistan will not create. Let the people of

Pakistan understand that these policies and programmes will ultimately help us; let the Government and the people of Nepal, Maldives and Bangladesh understand this. I am mentioning only a few names. Let them also feel that 'No, India is not a threat to us.' India is what Indian initiative is, which is going to help us. It is in our interest also. I think that these things were pushed to the second and third positions. These were not our priorities.

Therefore, I will say, Sir, that the Defence Ministry must have, what you call, a think-tank. I do not know whether you have a think-tank formally or not, but you should have a think-tank, not only the Army Generals, not only the Defence officials, but some intellectuals, some people with their vast experience, some people with some imagination who understand the changing world scenario. We should have a formal think-tank in our Defence Ministry.

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling) : Are you recommending a National Security Council?

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV : This has been on the agenda for a very very long time and I think that this is high time that we should have this. If you start always with suspicion thinking that this may happen or that problem may be created or things may be laid down, if you start creating a doubt, well, I am not raising that issue.

Therefore, I am saying that it is worth considering to have a proper National Security Council, but besides that I am also saying that it is worth considering to have a think-tank concept, which should go in all these areas, which I am raising, I am not raising the issues only in very technical terms or in terms of the number of soldiers or the modernisation of weapons, etc. What I am saying is that gamut is very large. We should have a proper understanding and we should also identify our friends and our foes. It is not necessary that you should go on telling from the top of the hill that this country is our enemy, but at least priority should be there; efforts should be there. One effort in which we have succeeded is that the relationship between India and China after a long time has improved. It is a major strength to us. I am glad that because of certain political factors, our relations with the former Soviet Union after its disintegration for some time was very uncertain. Now it has come back again on the main rails. It is very good that our relations with Russia and our relations with China are good but that is not enough that we should have friendship only with big countries and we should not care for small countries. This will lead to a dangerous situation. Therefore, I am saying that our neighbours may be small.

I know, Indira Gandhi used to say that today we are in a new era; a country may be a very small country, but they have got their own personality; they have a kind of self-prestige; they want to be honoured; they want to be treated on equal terms. Therefore, I am saying that these things also form part of our Defence Policy, if not Defence preparations.

15.00 hrs.

Defence policy and Defence strategy are very important things, besides modernisation of our weapons and strengthening of our army.

I do not want to take much time of the House. Shri Inderjit Gupta is here. I will mention some of the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Defence, which he is heading. These are very obvious aspersions in the sense that we are not paying necessary attention. I will quote one recommendation or observation and then finish.

The Committee note that in the Budget Estimates for 1995-96, only 60 per cent of the amount projected by the three Services for modernisation for the year has been provided.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence has recommended adequate funding to overcome the vital deficiencies observing that only 60 per cent of the amount projected by the three Services for modernisation has been provided for in Budget Estimates for 1995-96. It is only 60 per cent on the issue of modernisation of our weapons, where there has been a lack of tanks, lack of advanced jet trainers. We do not have adequate funds for ships. We need perhaps eight ships, which we have not been able to purchase because we feel that we do not have enough money for that. Therefore, I am saying that this thing must be kept in mind.

Another recommendation is :

"The Committee finds this particularly disturbing in view of the Ministry's own admission that to maintain force level commensurate with increased responsibilities and consistent with the threat perceptions, there will be need to commission an average of eight ships per year to sustain the force level."

These are major deficiencies. We are saying we are very happy that our Defence is very strong; we do not need much improvement in these things; we are conscious of all the dangers; and we are taking all necessary steps to meet the eventualities. But I think, it is not the case. This is what I call 'a sense of complacency' and 'a lack of the sense of priority'.

Sir, I will suggest one last thing and finish my speech. I think that the Service personnel need greater sympathy. They do the most challenging tasks. They give their lives. They work in most difficult situations. There have been demands for many, many years but their demands were totally ignored and totally neglected. Ultimately, when Shri Sharad Pawar happened to be the Defence Minister, he formed a High-powered Committee of this House. The Committee had to face a lot of problems from the Finance Ministry. They would not agree to give or to allocate money for Ex-Servicemen, whose demands were very genuine. With

a great hardship, with the intervention of the Prime Minister, the Committee was able to recommend Rs. 100 crore for the Ex-Servicemen. To some extent, that went to meet their demands and also the necessities which they were facing. I will say that the Government of India should have a permanent committee in cooperation with all the State Governments to look after the interests of the Service personnel to help them quickly and in time. Small things should not irritate them. He is away in a difficult situation, in Kashmir, in Nagaland, or in Mizoram and his wife and children are living in Lucknow, in Patna or in Delhi. And she is going from school for admission of her children.

What a shame, I must ask. Sometimes, they get notices for vacating the houses; they do not have proper accommodation. When the service personnel got a working woman as wife, then the wives and the husbands are living in two different cities in different parts of the country; and when they get a posting at a place, they cannot even meet together. There is one case which I know where the officer was serving in a difficult area in Srinagar and his wife was working as a teacher in a Central School in Jaipur. After a year, he came to Lucknow and for two years he could not get his wife transferred to Lucknow. Had it been done, at least for one year or two years, they could be together. With great difficulty, I intervened in the matter and I got her transferred and they were together for a year.

Sometimes small things are irritating. Therefore, I demand that we should have a proper Committee in the Defence Ministry only to look after the interests of the Ex-Servicemen.

With these words, I request that the Government should take necessary steps to strengthen all the three Services in the Defence Ministry. Thank you.

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at what time, the Prime Minister is going to reply?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The reply will be at 4 o'clock.

SHRI ANIL BASU : But, we are told that the reply will be at 3 o'clock.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There are three or four more hon. Members to participate in the debate. Let us give them a chance to speak. Shri Bhogendra Jha.

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would not like to beat about the bush.

15.07 hrs.

(Shri Nitish Kumar *in the Chair*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roserā) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it has just been stated that the time for reply has been fixed at 4 P.M. This is to remind you that our computer class lasts up to 5.30. I would request you to



fix the time for reply at six p.m. so that the Congress Party may ensure the presence of its Members. We shall also be present by six P.M. you may take leave of the House on this issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Computer class runs from 2.30 to 5.30. When you are present here at this point of time it means you are not attending the computer class. Please sit down.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, earlier the world was divided into socialistic and imperialistic camps on the basis of politics and military power. By adopting non-alignment policy, we had been safeguarding ourself politically and militarily in that condition. The last effective president of USSR Shri Brezhnev called for weaponless, warless world in the United Nation Organisation and programmes were also prepared for this purpose. After a long time India's Prime Minister Late Mr. Rajiv Gandhi also had presented a phased plan, to keep the world free from atomic weapons, that if not in one effort the world can be kept free from this annihilator weapon by adopting some measures. At present we are breathing in totally different conditions. Atlantic Treaty that came into existence after second world war, did not defunct. There has been no basic change in the aims and objectives of this treaty. Active efforts are being made to extend this treaty to eastern Europe as well and present President of CIS countries, is trying to participate in that organisation also. I do not know as to how it will affect the world in near future. If the political change takes place in the CIS countries according to our expectations, then the situation will be different but if it did not happen according to our wishes, we will have to face one more new menace as we did face some 300-400 years back. I do not want to say more on this issue. Inspite of this, at present we have to adopt dual policy. We prefer the order of peace and tranquility in the world as well as in Asia, Indian Ocean and in Indian sub continent. Even today there is some hope left on the way of this peace. America has established military bases in Indian Ocean and they have become more penetrative. These bases were used at the time of Iraq war. Unfortunately our territory was also utilised for their destructive planes and after that they got right to get fuel from India to fight against a country which was our friend. This was a matter of national shame. This could have been avoided. Now, we have stepped back from the spirit of our slogan 'Indian Ocean a Zone of peace'. This is not an issue of foreign policy but an issue of security policy. As India's three sides are surrounded by sea and also because our country is centrally located in the Indian Ocean. We have to voice as a spokesman of security of our own country as well as of other countries of Indian Ocean. But alas! the voice has now rendered us ineffective. Our policy for the reign of peace and tranquillity too has lost its fervour.

Then, there is another aspect of the policy that was stated about Parashuram :

'Agratah Chaturveda Prishthatah Shashrodhanah, Idam Shastram Idam Shastram Shapadhik Characharam.' It means all the four Vedas at finger tips and bow and arrow on the back. Wisdom, weapons and curse all the three are to be used. We use wisdom and peace for the fulfilment of our purpose. On finding no way out we are ready for our security. Therefore this situation should not arise when we say that we could not make security arrangements as desired.

Most of the countries of the world signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty for the time unknown against our will, Countries equipped with nuclear bombs, will continue to have them. Only yesterday, our neighbouring country, China made an underground test fire without violating any rule of the treaty. This is an opportunity for us to raise our voice before the world that China has done nothing against the rules of the treaty. Then there some countries in the world will be well equipped with nuclear warheads and some countries will join them with stolen nuclear weapons. It is a matter of pleasure for us but that we denied to be a signatory of the treaty but this should not be taken as ultimate manoeuvre because most of the countries have performe already signed the treaty against their will under economic or other pressures or other compulsions.

Therefore, efforts should continue. Nuclear weapons should be wipped out from the face of the world and China will also be in the front row in it. The Republic of China has repeated it time and again. The countries who have nuclear weapons should reach an agreement not to use the same against anybody. Russia has spoken ditto to China but the U.S.A., U.K. and France are not ready for it. Therefore, our efforts to mobilise public opinion should continue. Rajiv Gandhi ji had proposed for a world sans nuclear strategic weapons and on the basis of it Brezhnev had also envisaged a world of this sort. We should march ahead with our basic policy. We are not to mately accepting the defeat. Whatever has happened will be everlasting since most of the countries of the world will not be able to handle it. In this context we have to ponder over the new dimensions.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, on the issue of human rights, there was a chance to interfere in our internal affairs. Nearly 1½ to 2 years back we have been to China and we had raised this issue in the office of the Communist Party of China. The leadership of China had said that efforts are being made for imperialistic interference in the name of human rights and if India also seconds it then they are with India. They should not make any interference in the internal affairs. A few other countries of South Asia and Africa were one with us on this issue

and to some extent we have made that effort a futile one. Now pressure is mounting on Iran. I am happy that we have improved our relations with Iran. Even when the majority of the imperialistic countries, the joint voice of India, China and Iran, compelled Pakistan to withdraw its resolution of voting on human rights. In the meantime our relations with China are improving and I hope that we will improve it further in line with to our defence policy.

Sometimes, the voice is raised that every neighbouring country is our enemy including China, but China is a very significant country of Pacific Ocean and it is a big imperialistic power. We have been watching that a country has set up its military base in Diego Garcia. In this situation there is similarity in our interests, in our industrial development and in our commercial interests. Efforts are being made to find a solution of our border dispute with China. I would like to submit that its pace should be accelerated so that in today's world, the Republic of India, China, Iran, U.S.S.R. and two other countries of the Central Asia can be able to maintain peace and any other external power would have to think hundred times before launching any attack or waging a war. The U.S.A. is creating the same sort of danger as was created for Iraq and we can very well see it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I had specially said about China that we should try further to solve our border dispute with China. We have to deploy some of our forces on that front but it can be used in some other parts.

In the same context comes the question of resources. In today's circumstances, keeping the modern weapons have been must for us. Modern weapons are must for us. The suggestions which came before the Standing Committee on Defence are that we should go for modernisation. If 60 percent is spent on it then it will be expensive since if we keep old weapons then much will be spent on their maintenance. These will not be of much use while on modern weapons if a little more is spent then in the long run it will be cheap and less expensive and for defence purpose, these will be more reliable. I think that the Government should bring a resolution in this regard and the House will have no problem in passing it unamously.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit that we should go ahead with the useful purpose of the nuclear power. We will have to abide by our declaration that we will not make bombs but we should not lag behind in the capability. We should continuously make progress in this field, so that the country of 90 crore of population may not be helpless at the time of emergency. When there is a security need, our experience and our development in that field can be useful.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, besides there is one more aspect on which I would like to stress. Our soldiers and our army officers should be apt in using modern weapons. They should seized of the situation of our neighbouring

countries and the world also. Political training is must for them. When I raise the issue of political training, many people will not like its since the word politics is very infamous and the people do not consider it good. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit that it will have to be pondered over independently and apart from party, keeping in view the situation of both our country and the world, including our neighbourhood. Our soldiers will have to see, in which world they are countries. A trivial dispute should not snowball into a big controversy.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, recently there had been a dispute. Many things regarding Kashmir have come up. The Kashmir issue is within our internal affair. The undeclared war. Which is going on continuously and the question of security is discussed here. Our soldiers are sent outside. Those who hold weaponry in their hands need to be more patient. When our soldiers are killed in Kashmir or anywhere, then their anger is but natural, but the anger should be controlled and the target should be attacked. In a fit of anger they should not deviate from their target and the innocents should not be killed. Therefore, we should lay stress on desirability of their political training and they should be given the training us to when and where they should use the weapons. These are misused. I do not claim that the same is not done but there is a need to pay more attention in this direction.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Bhogendra Jhaji, please conclude.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Yes Sir, I am concluding.

In this context I would like to submit that the issue of the charge of Defence Ministry and the Prime Minister's Office, being in one hand, has been raised. I do not claim that our hon. Prime Minister is incompetent but keeping in view the number some work load, the Government should have a Defence Minister separately, so that he can pay proper attention. There are many other responsibilities of the hon. Prime Minister and he also has 24 hours in his day and not more than that and so he can not work beyond that. This is also a part of security and the Government must consider it seriously and have a separate Minister for security.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, several times suggestions have been given here for ex-servicemen. Now this is a question involving expenditure. In this regard, Mr. Chairman Jee, my personal suggestion is that most of the ex-servicemen are able bodied. They have got a sense of discipline and tendency to work indeed. So they must be deployed in self-employing industries. They should nor only be given service. Today, people have developed a service mania. They do not want to be masters and on the contrary they want to join service. Our factories may keep incurring losses, this may not boil our mind. We may give facilities to these ex-servicemen for setting up industries; like loan facility. This will encourage them to strive for higher production with more and more efficiency. On today's world, our

country having ninety crore people cannot survive with old technology and we must go for the most suitable technology for our 90 crore and 180 crore people. So I will like...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now conclude. I have given you enough time. Some hon. Members want to speak furthermore. You have already been given enough time.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : With this, I am concluding my speech, on your order and with the hope that the Government will consider these suggestions, I want to speak one more thing. I have not emphasized on corruption, but corruption is an integral part of armed forces.

There should be one table for officers and army men. But that is rank ridden. Their duties are different but they must have a common place to eat. According to my experience, this rank conflict is really very dangerous for them, this is the gift bequeathed by English imperialism, we should bid it a farewell. They must stay together and drink together and discharge their duties with discipline. With these words I conclude.

[English]

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (Ernakulam) : Sir, at the outset, I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence. It is after a long spell of time that this august House is debating the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence. For the last 48 years, our defence forces are doing a very commendable and meritorious service to this nation.

Sir, fortunately, ours is the only country where the general public is interested in the activities of the defence forces. In this nation, we had slogan - Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan. This slogan shows, how intimately the people of this country are interested in the activities of the defence forces. The defence show that their primary duty is to defend the four frontiers of the country. They have shown many a time that our Army, Navy and Air Force are capable enough to face any threat from the enemy.

Sir, in 1962 we had a very bitter experience when China attacked our nation and for the first time in the history in India, we smelled a defeat. From that defeat, our big nation rise to the occasion and we planned our defence policy in such a manner that we could stand on our own legs. Our main thrust was on self-reliance. Today, when I stand in this august House, I am proud that we have got one of the largest armies; we have got one of the modern armies and we have got modern of the missiles - Prithvi and Agni. These are the contributions of our defence scientists to our defence forces.

Sir, after the Chinese war of 1962, we have been preparing our Armed forces in such a manner so that it could deal with different situations. There were two wars with Pakistan. In those two wars, we have proved

that our Armed forces have got enough muscle power. We had an operation in Goa to kick out the Portuguese forces. On those occasions, our Armed forces have shown to the world that they have got enough teeth. Apart from the defence activities which our Armed forces have performed, they have performed other duties also. Ours has been one of the Armed forces which has very often been called by the United Nations as a Peace Keeping Force; we, as a force, have been welcomed everywhere outside the country and also by the people wherever they have gone as a Peace Keeping Force. Even now our Armed forces, outside the country, are doing a meritorious service.

The people of those countries have welcomed our forces because our forces are disciplined. They know their duty well and that is why very often the United Nations has come to India to ask for the help of our Armed forces. In the world we are known as one of the best peace-keeping forces.

Our Armed forces played the role of Peace Keeping Force in Sri Lanka. Our forces, popularly known as IPKF, performed a wonderful job in Sri Lanka. We have seen them sacrificing their lives while fighting with the LTTE. They fought against the LTTE Keeping their both hands at their back and suffered a lot. Today, the time has come when Sri Lanka is again turning to India for help. They have sought the help of India, as a Big Brother, at a time when their Government is facing the troublesome time in the history of Sri Lanka. So, the time has come when we have to again prove that we are like a Big Brother who is always prepared to help our neighbouring country so that democracy prevails there. Some other expert countries are also offering help to Sri Lanka. But India should not lag behind because this being a neighbouring country, we have our own interest also. We had to play a very vital role in Sri Lanka, just because of our interest in Tamil Nadu.

We have also played a very vital role in Maldives when there was a coup in 1989. We have shown them how swift action our Armed forces can take. We have proved to the world that we have got one of the best forces in the world which act in a correct time and correct way. Our Armed forces have also to protect our vital installations. We have got an oil drilling platform at Bombay High. We have got a very large economic zone. These economic zones have to be protected. Our Coastal Guards are doing a very good job. They have to protect our oil drilling platforms, fishermen and also the economic zones. So, our Armed forces are doing a great job in this field also.

At the time of natural calamities also these Armed forces are being welcomed by the people. Whenever there is some natural calamity people are looking to Armed forces for help. Our three Services are really friends of the people of this country. So, these are the four different roles that they have to play. Our Armed

forces are unique in a sense that they are performing a number of duties which no other Armed force in the world is performing. Our javans are capable of performing whatever job is given to them. Whatever job is assigned to them, they do it to their best.

I have some personal interest when I am standing here to speak today. In Kerala since the time of Indiraji, we have been given Ezhimala Naval Academy. Twelve years have passed since then but no progress has been made in this regard though a number of plans have been suggested by the Kerala Government. The Academy has not started the way we thought it will. Due importance has to be given to the Academy so that it starts functioning in time.

Cochin Naval Base is one of the oldest Naval bases of the country which helped in the development of Cochin city. Unfortunately, one of the acute problems that the Servicemen as well as civilians are facing is the housing problem. Proper housing is not there. Enough funds should be allotted so that the naval and civilian personnel in Cochin are provided with adequate housing.

Sir, there is a Southern Air Command which is functioning from Trivandrum. Even though it is in the initial stages of progress, adequate funding has to be given to this project in Trivandrum. There also one of the problems being faced is housing. These three are very vital installations which are in Kerala for which financial assistance has to be provided by the Ministry of Defence.

With these words, once again supporting the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence, I conclude.

[*Transliteration*]

SHRI AYUB KHAN : Madam Chairman, I am grateful to you for having given me an opportunity to speak on this important subject.

First of all, I give congratulation to Mr. Mallikarjunjee the chief of the three services, our Defence Secretary, all the officers and Jawans, from core of my heart, that the borders of our mother land are quite just by virtue of their hard and indomitable spirit. This is less as much we feel proud of our army, our army is one of best armies of the world even its maximum adulations are very less.

I will appeal to you that certain drawbacks are there, they must be removed. Shortcomings are indeed there, but that does not mean that we should talk such things about our army - like corruption in the army, slack training system, this is indeed very shameful for us. Our army is vigilant all the time. Our Jawans are performing their duty at the highest altitude - no sepoy from any part of world could be seen at that altitude and yet the Jawans of India are standing guard and protecting their

motherland. What forces him to go there? I will like to remind you, when I was in army, then some parts of our were on duty near by Chamb Jodiayan, Chamb Jodiyan is such an area where our enemy's are is at greater altitude and compared to that our area is at a lower altitude. Our senior officers had asked whether our troops would manage to come here if Pakistan Launches attack then I had said that you leave aside the case of troops, it is you and our tanks which must reach here. When our tank will come here, then this will destroy enemy's tank or enemy's tank will hurl its grenade at our tanks and then the people of this country, sacred land of this nation will feel that we have discharged our responsibility.

The Jawans of Hindustan protect their motherland in dutiful manner. There, politics and caste are not involved at all. When I was elected for the first time in 1984 to the Parliament, then I had come to know that we are army people, we have got love for our motherland and the politicians sitting here try to defame us. When the Bofors Gun has landed here then people from every party used to talk of corruption in the deal, the Bofors Gun which had come to protect our border, was questioned for its efficiency and it was attested that its range may not be 31 kilometer rather only seven kilometer. It has got shortage of ammunition. What could be more shameful then this.

I will like to draw your kind attention towards the war of 1965, when this war took place, then we had Sharman tank and Pakistan had Patten tank. But what happened at that time? We were aware that the patten tank which Pakistan, were gifted ones, they are made of papers. The Sepoys of Hindustan had blown of them away. If we defame our equipments then what could be more shameful than this. Whatever the shortcomings, it is our primary duty to remove them.

There are so many drawbacks in the recruitment policy of military officers. Earlier officers recruited were given relaxation in qualification through Akademi. What is the reason therefor? Today no intelligent men wants to be an officer in military. He does not want to become an officer in the military because he thinks that an I.A.S. officer becomes a Joint Secretary after 15 years of his service. Joint Secretary in the grade of Major General. One military officer becomes Major officer 15 years only. So you understand that a military officer retired out after attaining his rank of Major in fifteen years and on the contrary to it an I.A.S. officer becomes a Joint Secretary after fifteen years of his service you may understand what is the difference here? I will like to appeal that salary of military officer and a jawan should not be fixed according to the Pay-Commission this factor also must be taken into consideration. Also, we should see where he is working. If they are working in field and critical area then they should be given allowance so that they could come ahead for serving the motherland - When one senior officer goes to collector during his leave or after retirement for his cause, the collector does not pay him due regard.

Even a villager feels hesitated in giving them due regard. This is shortcoming on our part. If we do not give them due regard, it will hurt the feelings of those guarding our long territory. I hope that the State Minister of Defence would pay attention to their problems and revise their pay scales. There are many lacunae in endowment recruitment. Malpractices pervade the recruitment of these soldiers.

Jhunjhunu is my native place. Jhunjhunu has provided its maximum sons as soldiers in the service of the motherland and is proud of it. In this condition why do you not establish a military station there? Why do you not open a recruitment office there so that the people of Jhunjhunu may feel that the responsible persons of the country in return to their service to the nation pays due regard to them. At present, most of the families residing there, comprise of awardees, ex-servicemen and widows whose husbands laid their lives for the sake of the country. On January 26, I had written a letter to hon. Prime Minister that one gas connection to each of these widows should be provided on this occasion of pleasure and each of them got a gas connection. I am mentioning this incident here to tell you that when these widows got a gas connection, they felt that they are being cared by the responsible persons of the country and they got atleast something as token of recognition of the sacrifice of their husbands. We should take full care of ex-servicemen. Some sort of parallel service should be provided to ex-servicemen retiring in their young age. In our country various systems have been adopted for the recruitment in police and para-military forces. Why is it not changed? There should be one recruiting centre, one training centre and trained personnel should be posted at different places so that the problem of recruitment alongwith the problem of ex-servicemen can be solved together. An ex-serviceman does not get hospital facility. Neither patients of heart-surgery nor the cancer patients are admitted for treatment in the hospitals. I would like to urge upon you to pay attention to these aspects and they should be given due regard.

Now, I would like to say something about tanks. Keeping in view the vast boundaries of the country, we do not have the sufficient number of the tanks as there should be. We must have more tanks than needed. So far as Arjun tank is concerned, it should be handed over to users as soon as possible. Arjun is one of the best tanks of the world. If we do not use it, the other countries will become more advance in this field and then it will become obsolete. I am sorry to say that Arjun tank has not been inducted in the army so far. Unless it is given to users, we shall not be able to detect the shortcomings of this tank and we shall not be able to remove them. Therefore, I urge upon you to make these tanks available for use as soon as possible. Besides, we have T-74, T-55 and Vijyant tanks. These tanks should also be kept ready for war. Light devices should be

fitted in these tanks. When the columns of tanks move, the traffic police uses dust mosque but the soldiers, recruited in army and tank armed core, do not mind dust since they love their country. Therefore, I appeal that this situation should be changed. I would like to let you know that in a squadron of tanks there used to be two jeeps for a long time, but according to the need of present days, every squadron should have a jeep. By doing so every squadron will have jeeps and these jeeps will be useful and work as advance post. In RCS Gun, these jeeps will work as early warning fire and also will work as casualty evacuation. This jeep should be included in a squadron and in a squadron for R.T. support, SP Gun is very necessary so that Bofors Gun mounted on R T tank with a tank column may give fire support to it. I would like to request that this should be mounted on the chasis of Vijayanta and T-74 tanks so that it may prove helpful to Armed Core.

Armed Core needs some more things too. There should be arrangements for cleaning the ammunition used for firing. The ammunition should be designed in such a way that it does not need cleaning. It is possible only when the ammunition case of the ammunition gets burnt on firing. Same arrangement should also be made for gun-cleaning. At the time of war, will the soldiers rest in the night of clean the machines and guns? Therefore such a technique should be developed that when we fire the gun, it may cleaned automatically and in that case our crew will be able to fight as well as take rest.

We have different echelons alongwith tank columns like-F echelon, A-1 echelon, A-2 echelon B-echelon etc. These echelons help in supply to tank. In Rajasthan area, B-echelon is not capable to give proper supply to tanks. Therefore, for the first line ammunition which is very necessary, tank carrier ARV should be arranged, so that some ammunition may remain with tank. If the tank does not have ammunition, it will be destroyed. When I raised this question in Committee of Defence, I was told that our Trawlers could carry heavy trucks. It does not mean that Trawlers should carry second line ammunition but there should be first line ammunition also so that there is no chance of danger. Keeping in view the war-fare of today, induction of it in the crew, is very necessary as Rajasthan is a desert area and if the battle starts here, the vehicles should not get jammed and ammunition supply for tank should not be held up. I urge upon you that a lady soldier must be recruited in Jhunjhunu so that the residents of that place may feel that you have cared a bit for them. A military station should also be established there. I would like to thank our scientists for developing missiles like Prithvi and Agni. These missiles are not for show but to protect our country. We should use not ask a responsible person whether we would use the Prithvi missile or not. If we feel it necessary, we must use it. We need not clarify whether we would follow NPT or not.



Our policy, today, is not to initiate attack on any country but it does not sound that we will sit idle. We have to keep ourselves ready to the maximum extent. If our forces are strong, the other countries will fear to come before us. If our forces are strong and training is perfect, even the most powerful nation will fear to violate our border but if it is weak and training is imperfect, even the smallest nation will cast a threatening look towards our country.

Therefore I request you to take care for the well-being of our soldiers. Some of the members in their speech have just made a mention of corruption. To say that corruption prevails in our forces, does not sound good for such a big and dignified force. If any hon. Member gets in touch with any such information, he may write to Defence Minister. He may also write to the heads of these three forces - that I have learnt such and such thing. But by disclosing these informations in the House we should not bring disrepute for the soldiers because when our soldiers go for war they have a mine field before them to cross. They are well aware that 60 to 70 percent casualty must occur. The soldier knows that the casualty may toll any number in reaching to the desired objective, still he reaches there. He is fully aware that the moment he puts forward his step, he will set on mines, but he does not care for that. The love for the country makes him over enthusiast and without caring for anything he crosses the mines. He leaves no stone unturned to achieve the objective.

The army of our country is full of passion, there is no place for caste and creed. It is disgusting that Members belonging to BJP say such things about soldiers.... (Interruptions) Everyone in army lives there with a feeling of brotherhood. There is no question of caste and creed in the armed forces.... (Interruptions) He serves the entire nation....(Interruptions)....I would like to submit that when Pakistan attacked our country....(Interruptions).... They are shouting in this way but please ask them whether any of them ever joined the army? (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You had been applauding the army, where have you entangled yourself? ... (Interruptions)

SHRI AYUB KHAN : Has any of them ever been able to receive award? I would like to advise them to respect the army since it is the army that protects our country.

[Translation]

They live in brotherhood. There is no casteist or other factor prevailing there. They identify themselves as soldiers only and their sense of duty in such that if a member of the crew dies or attains martyrdom, his body is not left behind, some other member brings it on his shoulders without considering as to which religion or caste the martyred soldier belonged to. The sole

consideration is that the dead soldier in his brother and he is doing his duty towards his motherland. I am a Muslim and our religion says that a Muslim is not a true Muslim if he is not loyal to his country. That is what we are taught of. A soldier of India takes the oath of defending his country on land, in air and on the seas wherever he is posted to. Our soldier never feels tired.

I appeal that all the shortcomings, including those of the equipments etc. whether in our different forces should be removed.

Lastly, with the hope that the suggestion I have given with regard to the ex-servicemen will be paid heed to, I support the demands for grants of the Ministry of Defence.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is my privilege to take part in this debate today and pay my rich tributes to the brave soldiers of India. The Indian army can be termed as a world victorious force. It emerged victorious wherever it was deployed and never showed its back in a battlefield. India has a proud history of making 90,000 strong-army surrender, with their hands up, in the Bangladesh war for the first time in the world in such a large number. That speaks volumes about the combat capacity of the brave Indian army, but it is quite unfortunate that there is nobody in the Cabinet to monitor and plan things with regard to India's Ministry of Defence today. I fail to understand what is the problem with our Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao. Is not Shri Ayub Khan competent enough to be assigned the responsibility of the Ministry of Defence? Maj. Gen. Jaswant Singh, Maj. Gen. Khanduri or Capt. Drona of our party cannot be assigned this portfolio because they do not belong to the Congress Party but somebody should be entrusted with this responsibility. There should be decentralisation of power and division of work by entrusting the charge of the Ministry of Defence to some other ex-serviceman if there is some enmity with Shri Ayub Khan.

15.59 hrs.

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

But, the hon. Prime Minister is concentrating the charge of all the Departments in his own hands by and by. It is the most unfortunate situation that no one has been given the charge of Minister of Defence. My submission seems to be a cry in the wilderness. Though somebody is noting what we say but that is of no use unless a responsible person who may listen, consider and take action on it is present here. The country cannot become a dignified and glorious nation in the absence of a Defence Minister. Shri Rajesh Pilot was dealing with the Kashmir situation but a murderous attack was committed on him.

16.00 hrs.

Shri Rajesh Pilot toured through the length and breadth of the valley of Kashmir at the risk of his own

life, yet the Department of Kashmir Affairs was taken away from him, probably because it did not suit Shri Chavan Sahib. Now, the country's Prime Minister has himself taken over the Department of Kashmir Affairs after divesting both Shri Pilot and Shri Chavan of this charge. The hon. Prime Minister is expected to expand his Cabinet after the current Lok Sabha Session. He should choose a person from amongst his Party Members for this purpose because he is already overburdened with the charge of the Prime Minister, the Minister of Defence and many other Ministers. The strange part of it is that he is also shouldering the charge of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare since the earlier incumbent was asked to resign. I would like to know why should not the portfolio of the Ministry of Defence be assigned to an independent Minister? Just now, Shri Ayub Khan was narrating the predicament of ex-servicemen. There are a large number of Jawans in my area Hindoli. I want that soldiers should be chosen on the basis of martial communities. 90 percent people of Hindoli get recruited in the army but it is a matter of concern that the condition of the ex-servicemen is very pitiable. Some effective arrangements must be made for ex-servicemen and the widows of the soldiers. It is said that land will be given to the ex-servicemen but a soldier is neglected after he retires and comes home on the plea that he has got lakhs of rupees as retirement benefits. I request that some assistance and grant should positively be extended to him. The Jabalpur factory that used to manufacture high power trucks for the army and which were considered the best trucks, has been closed today. Its closure has rendered thousands of people unemployed. Attention should immediately be paid to it.

The Scientific calibre of our country is second to none. Our forces are reaching new heights and are making inventions. Recently, two new missiles, the Agni and the Prithvi have been developed to enrich our armed forces but our enemies are calling for banning these armaments. Can our Prime Minister say assertively that Angi and Prithvi will definitely be inducted into the army. Pressure is being mounted on us against this move of inducting Agni into the army. Equipping army with this missile will add to our glory and prestige.

Another issue widely talked about by many parties including Janata Dal is that of peace. Let the Government of India tell us that why we should not manufacture the atom bomb when Pakistan is already in possession of it. The other countries of the world will keep on browbeating us until we become a powerful nation by manufacturing the atom bomb. Have you ever thought as to what will be our fate the day this bomb is dropped on our soil? Who will come to our rescue when we will be flooded with the bombs? Pakistan will not dare launch an aggression against us if we also possess an atom bomb. Therefore, the hon. Prime Minister should muster enough courage to declare in

the House today itself that we will manufacture atom bomb at any cost. It will help arouse the country's self-esteem and India will emerge as great power. We will also be able to emerge as fifth or sixth power in the world. No country can dare stare at us.

I would like to throw some light on the situation arising out of deployment of the army at many places in India. This Government is showing a great disrespect to the army personnel. Yesterday, a comprehensive debate was held over the Char-e-sharief situation. The Indian army stood a mute spectator there. This indecisiveness and policy of uncertainty is not going to work. The Government will have to formulate a clearcut policy because its policy of indecision is taking the toll of our army men in the Valley of Kashmir. During my visit to Baderwah and Kishtwar, I witnessed that army jawans were posted there with instructions that they are not to attack unless there is a frontal assault. They do not retaliate even to a bomb attack, attempted from the window of a house even if their lives are at stake or they get killed but they cannot shoot down the person sitting at the window in self defence. The Government is talking in terms of filing suits and prosecuting the army men in the name of human rights violation whereas nobody is bothered about the situation regarding human rights violation in Pakistan. The Hindus are living a miserable life in Pakistan even today. Nobody complains about that whereas it is alleged that human rights are grossly violated in Kashmir. No Indian will allow Kashmir to part with the rest of India. I toured Kishtwar. Saffron is produced there and the valley of Baderwah is so beautiful as would invite the envy of Gods but Doda, Kishtwar and Baderwah are in crisis today. Two years ago, I had stated in this House that Pakistan is looking greedily at these areas. She wants to annex these flowerbeds of Kashmir. She is hatching a plot against India. The Government of India should deploy the army at the borders instead of posting here and there and should issue clearcut orders to the army to take whatever steps it deems necessary in a particular situation and should not stand as a mute spectator.

The way army is being abused due to political circumstances prevailing there, is really a matter of concern.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are many cantonments in Nasirabad in Rajasthan and Mhow in Madhya Pradesh. A town area development board has been constituted there for which elections were held and no army personnel or people's representatives have been included in it. Years have elapsed since these elections were held. Today in township, area, besides army men civilians too would have got civil facilities, but these facilities are not being provided to them. Cleanliness work is not being carried out largely because of this chaos at Nasirabad. Even army men could do this work, besides civilians. This aspect, too must be considered. Mr. Speaker, Sir, finally I will like to urge that the Government must make atom bomb. It should not be

afraid, nor it should create a fear psychosis as to what will happen to the world. Power is with the person who has atom bomb if we have got atom bomb, then we exist and if not, then we do not exist. We have to make an atom bomb. Today, the Prime Minister must make an announcement while delivering his speech that we are capable of manufacturing atom bomb and we shall manufacture it and we shall stand to the world.

With these words, I finish my speech.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharsa) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if power is needed for establishing peace, then we must manufacture a bomb I welcome it.

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI (Shimla) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the demands of Defence Minister. I feel that the Prime Minister and officers of all the three services and young army men deserve congratulations, who have left no stone unturned for protecting their country in the wake of the crisis. Since, Mr. Prime Minister has to reply to this discussion, I will, therefore, like to submit certain points.

Dogra Regiment personnel used to be recruited from Himachal Pradesh, Kashmir and Garhwal, now this practice has been stopped. I feel that they are not being recruited in the strength. Civilians reside in army cantonments and they have raised their shops there. They are faced with problems because they cannot build their houses there unless they get the permission of the cantonment authorities. I want to request that this should be considered and they must get permission to build up their own house.

Cantonments are there in the required number for the army. In my area 'Chapatu' in Jatam district and Solan in Shimla have got cantonments which are faced with problems. Shops are auctioned every year for the people of these area; this is done by cantonment officers on annual basis. This aspect should also be considered and permission should be granted or continuous allotment of the shops so that their business does not suffer. In addition to this, the condition of cantonment roads in the mountainous regions are very bad. It is urged upon that more money should be sanctioned for this purpose. We must provide facilities for army men's widows. We must have a special arrangements for the army men's widows who stay in remote areas and special attention should be paid to ex-servicemen.

There is a Soldier Board from whom call letters for interview in different Department are sent but they are not selected. Special measures should be taken to ensure that ex-servicemen and their children may get employment facilities so that soldiers may protect the country properly.

It was said about Kashmir that our army men kept standing one and half kilometer away. I want to say that we must not talk these kind of things here. We should talk about the things that may strengthen the unity and

integrity of the country. We must talk about as to how the nation will go ahead. You people just talk that the Government is doing wrong things. What suggestions you have given to check the forces that want to disturb the unity and integrity of our country? Everywhere the people of India have given sacrifices. The nation remained united during the war of Bangladesh, and as he has said about 80 thousand soldiers laid down their weapons there. Whose work was this? This was the work of Congress. Even today I think that our leader is committed to take the nation forward. Then what is your problem and why do you say that Prime Minister can not run this Department? We all are one with the Prime Minister. The army is very strong; then what is the threat? Is the threat emerging for Prime Minister or for you? I think that you should set aside political things and talk about unity and integrity of the country. Army men's children should have proper educational facilities and more and more children should be admitted in the army schools. I will request to Mr. Prime Minister to remove the threat to them for ever so that peace could prevail in this House. They do not allow this House to run for days together. Mr. Speaker, Sir, what can you do? You keep sitting here and keep giving us directions to sit down and not to do such things. But they make such moves that the House is unable to work for the entire day. They are interested only in making speeches. We all must act together for the unity and integrity of our country, only then our country could go ahead. We should not humiliate each other. People have sent us to work here. We have to strengthen our forces and keep their moral high. If you demoralise them and talk about Hazrat Bal and Bofors, then the moral of our forces will go high? You should always think that you have to take the nation ahead.

I will not speak longer because you have rung the bell twice, I therefore, conclude.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this debate seems to have been completed by several instalments. It is possible that something of what was said on the first day has been forgotten by today. But I have got all the notes and I find, Sir, that most of the factual details, whatever was asked for, have been given by my colleague, the Minister of State, and if there is anything which is still to be furnished to the hon. Members, we will certainly do so.

I would only confine myself to a few matters, a very few matters impinging on the defence policy of the Government and I would like to take the House into confidence and explain these things to the best possible extent, to the extent I can.

Sir, the first criticism has been rather an extraordinary kind of criticism to say that we have no National Defence Policy. I would like to submit very respectfully that this is not true.

We do not have a document called India's National Defence Policy. But we have got several guidelines which are followed, strictly followed and observed and those can be summed up as follows :

- (1) Defence of national territory over land, sea and air encompassing among others the inviolability of our land borders, island territories, offshore assets and our maritime trade routes.
- (2) To secure an internal environment whereby our Nation State is insured against any threats to its unity or progress on the basis of religion, language, ethnicity or socio-economic dissonance.
- (3) To be able to exercise a degree of influence over the nations in our immediate neighbourhood to promote harmonious relationships in tune with our national interests.
- (4) To be able to effectively contribute towards regional and international stability and to possess an effective out-of-the-country contingency capability to prevent destabilisation of the small nations in our immediate neighbourhood that could have adverse security implications for us.

A mention was made about the recommendations of the Estimates Committee suggesting that the Government should articulate a clear and comprehensive Defence Policy. It may be noted that the Ministry, in its Action Taken Notes on the 19th Report of the Estimates Committee, explained the position very clearly to the Committee. The reply was accepted by the Committee and was treated as acceptance of their recommendations, as mentioned in their 41st Report. This Policy is not merely rigid in the sense that it has been written down, but these are the guidelines, these are the objectives, these are the matters which are always kept in view while conducting our Defence Policy. I think no more explanation or elaboration is needed than this. And particularly in the context of our own Estimates Committee having accepted it. I do not think that any further question can arise.

A question was raised about the National Security Council. It is true that we had a National Security Council, first established in 1990 and it had only one meeting. After that nothing happened. When this Government came into office, the question was raised both in the House and outside. In the Government, a lot of thinking has gone into it meanwhile I had occasion to promise a National Security Council or some body which takes into account the questions of national security and we have examined the entire gamut of possibilities and options available to us.

I have referred to this important subject earlier and indicated that we were reviewing the orders issued on the subject by the Government in 1990. It is not because a new Government has come that we wanted to change everything. It was because the experience of the National Security Council as it existed from 1990 was found a little unworkable. A Strategic Policy Group headed by the Cabinet Secretary and including the Service Chiefs, Secretaries of Ministries concerned like Defence, Home, External Affairs and Finance and heads of agencies was also set up to consider the strategic policy papers. Now, according to the decision at that time the National Security Council was to comprise of the Prime Minister as Chairman and Ministers in-charge of Defence, Home, Finance and External Affairs as members as well as some others including Chief Ministers as and when needed. Essentially, it was, what is known as the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs, plus one or two added.

It was a kind of mechanical addition. It was not a functional addition. A fairly large advisory board comprising experts, academics, scientists, journalists, former Government officers, some Chief Ministers and MPs was also constituted to enable interaction with non-official resource persons. It is this big body which was found to be a little unwieldy and its deliberations tended to become a little diffused in the sense that we could not in matters of national security come to a particular decision or particular conclusion after deliberations in this big body. The Board was to assist the NSC in providing a broad range of informed views and options. My opinion is - after examining the working and whatever happened in that meeting - that this objective cannot be achieved by a body of that size and composition. We have undertaken a thorough review of the above mechanism and come to the conclusion that a number of changes would be required. For one thing, the National Security Council as set up in 1990, as I have just submitted, is not much different from the CCPA. Secondly, the advisory board as proposed in 1990 appears to be somewhat unwieldy. Discussions in such a body, large body, would tend to lose focus and make the whole exercise blurred and confusing. Consultations with experts outside the Government including Members of Parliament and experts in academic and other institutions are important and advantageous. But such consultation is best done in small well-knit groups with persons having specialised knowledge or expertise of that specific subject concerning national security.

National security is a very wide subject. It consists of so many items and it is better to concentrate on each item and while discussing that item, it is better to have experts in that particular item, in that area, rather than having every expert in a big body and losing focus. This is the idea and this is the conclusion we have come to, Sir. The same set of persons to be consulted always in a large advisory board would not serve much purpose. We therefore feel that instead of having one large

advisory board, it would be more appropriate to provide for meaningful interaction with selected experts in each specific field under study or discussion. Such experts can be associated at the stage of preparation of strategic policy papers as well as during discussion of such papers at a higher level. Our review of the system prevailing in other countries shows that different structures exist for dealing with national security issues depending upon the type of system of Government prevailing in that country. Generally, the national security council set up is found in countries where the presidential form of Government has been adopted, the most notable example being that of the United States. We find that it is difficult to have such a system transplanted in India because here the business of the Central Government has to be ultimately transacted in the Cabinet or Cabinet Committee with Ministers in-charge being responsible for their subjects to parliament. In the United Kingdom, for instance, no single national security council has been set up and the work pertaining to national security matters is considered in different Cabinet Committees, for example, the Committee on Defence and Overseas Policy, the Committee on Nuclear Defence Policy, the Committee on Northern Ireland, the Committee on Intelligence Services, etc. In our case, a system more akin to that prevailing in the U.K. might be more appropriate. We are, therefore, veering to the view that specific Committees of Ministers or Groups of Ministers could be set up for different aspects of national security whenever strategy or policy papers are brought up for consideration of the Ministers. This flexible arrangement would provide inclusion of the concerned Ministers in-charge as well as other Ministers, the Chief Ministers and persons in public life including Members of Parliament who have specialised knowledge and experience and whose contribution would be valuable. Even though a separate national security council is not in place today, mechanisms and systems do exist for consideration of national security issues. The Joint Intelligence Committee in the Cabinet Secretariat constantly interacts with the concerned Ministries and agencies. There is regular consideration of the defence aspects of national security in the Chiefs of Staff Committee who have their own Secretariat. The Chairman, Joint Intelligence Committee and heads of other agencies interact with the Service Chiefs. We have all these working even now. The core group of Secretaries is also there. They look into these matters of internal security. These mechanisms and systems have been working well but this is where the difference comes that we are not satisfied with the present dispensation.

We would like to have an overarching body which looks into the conclusions drawn, the reports sent by these different mechanisms. While these mechanisms and systems have been working well, we still feel that there is a need for strengthening the present arrangement in certain respects. But one thing is that

the resource persons including experts from outside the Government need to be associated more in the study and preparation of policy papers. There is also need for having papers prepared from a central point of view instead of from one Department or Ministry. Therefore, the need for an overarching body is felt here.

On many aspects of national security a holistic approach and an integrated action plan involving a number of Ministries and agencies can be better achieved if the paper is prepared in an Inter-Ministerial Group or a nodal agency instead of any one Ministry or Department. So, both aspects, the specialised aspect of a particular area of activity or an item being considered in a specialised mechanism plus the general aspect, the holistic aspect from the national security angle by a body which is not unwieldy but which is an overarching body which takes into account and coordinates with all these views is necessary. And I feel that we should be able to come to the right conclusions and the right pattern of the Committee very very shortly. I am glad that hon. Members have brought up this issue and given me the opportunity of clarifying the Government's stand on this issue. We are in the process of giving a final shape to our proposals and before we take a formal decision, I would solicit the views of hon. Members on our proposals on the NSC. This is what I would like to say. It is more or less ready, in its final stages and before losing any more time, I would come back to hon. Members for their views.

The third point which has been raised prominently, Sir, is on the NPT. We have a very interesting but rather disappointing situation that for a full month there has been what is known as a Review Conference on NPT in New York. I would not like to be critical on what happened there. Our position being clear, I have not been able to understand what was achieved in that Conference; maybe, I will be enlightened by those who participated in that in due course. But as of now, I find that what was achieved was only the indefinite extension of the NPT as it exists. Right from the beginning, right from 1968 when NPT came into existence, India has taken a view and that view is that NPT as it was drafted, as it was accepted, is discriminatory. It allows vertical proliferation, it divides the world into nuclear haves and nuclear have-nots and NPT is actually meant, in effect, to work against the have-nots and those who by their own efforts might become threshold States. Their idea is 'we have had it; we will continue to have it but no one else will be allowed to have it'. Simply, Sir, this has not worked. This has neither brought in disarmament nor brought in any restriction on countries becoming nuclear, going nuclear. Both the things have happened and both were supposed to be stopped by the NPT. Now if the both objects have failed, I fail to see why a Treaty like this is being continued indefinitely. It only means that the present situation and worse that can follow should continue indefinitely; that is what it means.



It goes against the grain of our policy. Therefore, we do not accept it and I would like to say something very pertinent, very significant. While representatives of States were talking about the NPT, what happened during this one month? The following happened. This is taken from a document of the 'Greenpeace', might be one of the NGOs. I am not vouching for absolute accuracy. But I would like to say what has been happening. This is number one :

"While diplomats met during the past month at the United Nations Nuclear Non-proliferation talks :

Britain sent its newest Trident nuclear submarine on patrol. On Saturday April 29th, the Vanguard submarine went on its second patrol. Vanguard carries up to 96 100-kiloton nuclear warheads on its complement of new Trident missiles. Each missile has a 4500 mile range and each warhead has a killing capacity equivalent to 640 Hiroshima bombs."

This has been happening while they are talking about NPT. Number two is :

"France inaugurated a new above-ground nuclear testing facility. At the end of April, Prime Minister Edouard Balladur inaugurated a laser facility near Bordeaux for simulation testing of nuclear weapons. The facility is estimated to cost six billion French francs.

On Sunday, May 7th, Jacques Chirac, the elected President of France said that France would resume testing if military experts advised it."

That was before he was elected. After he was elected :

"He told the New Zealand Prime Minister that France might conduct five to seven tests before concluding its testing programme."

So, everything is business as usual. During that one month they were talking about whether NPT is to continue or not to continue, whether it is to continue with changes or with no changes, even at that time, there is nothing like a pause, there is nothing like a re-thinking. It is just a matter of taking the whole thing in such a non-serious manner that we go on talking but we go on doing whatever we do on the other side. There is a long list of what Russia has been doing, what the United States has been doing, what others have been doing. I do not have to go into details. I only have to say that this is not acceptable to us. Therefore, we have not accepted it. We will try. We will continue our efforts for genuine nuclear non-proliferation, nuclear disarmament and the only positive document which is there on the Table right now, and which has been lying on the Table for the last seven years is the 1988 Action

Plan given by the then Prime Minister of India, late Shri Rajiv Gandhi in the Special Session on Disarmament. It has not been improved upon. It has not been rejected. It has not even been considered as it ought to be considered. It only means that all this that is happening there is totally against our own view. This needs to be given a new turn. We have to do that. We cannot simply give up and say 'So many people have done it. So we cannot simply stop.' No. We cannot stop. We will have to continue with this. We have a view. That view is the correct view. You cannot have haves and have nots in the nuclear field. They may take 20 years or they may take 15 years, but within a particular time, unless we aim at total and complete disarmament, disarmament is never going to happen, never going to come about. There has been too much of smuggling of nuclear material. This is known. We read it in newspapers every day. It is happening from so many other countries whom I need not name. Is it the right atmosphere for disarmament? Is it for disarmament that the world is really trying for continuing the NPT indefinitely?

We do not think so, Sir. I am sure that all the sections of the House will agree that this conference has not ended in something which is useful for humanity. We stand for complete abolition of all weapons of mass destruction—nuclear and other weapons also. This is the position and I am sure that the House will appreciate the position of the Government on this.

The other question which was raised was about a War Memorial. I think it has taken a long time. But the position is like this. On 1st of March, the Chiefs of Staff Committee recommended construction of a War Memorial at Dhaula Kuan in 32 acres of land opposite Defence Service Officers Institute. As the project is of national importance, designs and models are proposed to be prepared on the basis of an open national competition. After the selection of design and model of the National War Memorial, a decision on the construction of the Memorial will be taken.

Then, about the War Museum also, a question was raised and the position is that the Services headquarters have been requested to locate an appropriate site for the proposed War Museum. Regrettably, this also has taken too long a time and there have been too many views. There has been some difficulty in coming to a final view. After the site is located, necessary action to establish the War Museum will be taken.

One rather good suggestion which came from one of the hon. Members is that the period of Colour Service be reduced to seven years and on release from the Army, the soldiers be absorbed in para-military forces or State police forces. Now this has its pros; this has its cons. But the suggestion on the whole is good. We could make some changes and modification in it. We are taking it up for examination, detailed examination. It has the advantage that the Colour Service is reduced and at the same time, he is not sent home. He is able

to find a berth in the para-military forces while he is still active, still young and still has some experience which he has gained for seven years in the Army. Therefore, the advantage seems to be on both sides. But we have to see that about 20,000-25,000 jobs per year have to be created. Now, whether the total recruitment in police forces in the States can find 20,000-25,000 slots apart from the local aspirations of the youth there who would like to come into the police forces, how much can be accommodate — these are matters on which we will have to consult the State Governments. But the suggestion is good and I would like to say that this will be examined in depth.

Points have been raised about housing shortage. I agree that there is shortage and I understand that this year, the additional allocation will fund the construction. Allocation has been given and it will construct the additional married accommodation for officers 506 quarters, for JCOs 505 quarters and for Other Ranks 4215 quarters — 5226 quarters in all. The Service headquarters are also authorised to hire private accommodation. This has had the effect of reducing the deficiencies and increasing the satisfaction levels. But the ultimate solution lies in having our own self-contained accommodation, the way we want it, by the design we want it. Rented accommodation will be only a stop-gap.

A question was raised, which is a serious question, about the upgradation of the MIG-21 Bis. There has been some error in the statements made.

Let me put the record straight. The MIG 21(Bis) aircraft was inducted in the IAF in 1977. As of now, the MIG 21 (Bis) has served only for over 15 years. Technological advances over the last decade especially in the field of airborne radar weapons and navigation attack system have made it possible to improve the combat effectiveness of the MIG 21 (Bis) substantially which was not feasible earlier. The current proposal includes adaptation of powerful air interception radar, advance air to air missile, air to ground precision, guided weapons and an accurate navigational attack defence system. I must say that earlier I had not heard about these improvements being possible. I came to know about it only four years back and since then we have been trying to mount these things and get this upgradation done. These improvements were not available ten years ago. The upgradation that is being considered holds the promise to improve the combat effectiveness of the aircraft substantially. So this is the position. We would not like to lose any more time in doing this. I know that all the investigations, all the efforts are being made. They are in final stages and I think it will fructify.

Something was said about Jaguars also. Jaguar aircraft was initially procured without the black box. The

same was added subsequently. Now, Sir, the position is that, initially 16 Jaguar aircrafts were taken on loan from the RAF in 1979. These aircrafts did not have a black box as the Royal Air Force had not sought the same in their standard of preparation for their aircraft. However, when our own aircrafts were purchased in 1980, 1981, they were with the black box fitted as our SOP required the same, the black box. This is the position. It is not that we just bought Jaguars without the black box. It is not true. We hired the first 16. They did not have the black box because they were not required to have the black box as they were at that time.

I think, these were the important points, points of policy raised in the debate. If there is anything I have missed, I am prepared to answer, if I can, otherwise, I can send the answers to the hon. Members. Thank you very much.

MR. SPEAKER : I think, we have discussed the Demands of the Defence Ministry for a pretty long time.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : With a long period of time.

MR. SPEAKER : Both things. One or two questions which are very pertinent, can be allowed.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore) : I only wanted to know one thing as I could not follow, perhaps. The hon. Prime Minister said that the Government is now thinking of some sort of revised structure which may be called a National Security Council or may not. It may have some other nomenclature. It may be some sort of a main structure assisted and complemented by certain Committees and so on. The final shape is still to emerge. But I would like to know where the Service Chiefs fit in, in this new structure which they are thinking of, where will the Service Chiefs come in? As I said earlier, our information, right or wrong...

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Wrong.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore) : ...you should verify it, is that in all matters, in Defence policy matters, in Defence planning matters, the Service Chiefs are generally left out in the cold. So, we would like to know about this.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Sir, this is not correct. Service Chiefs are very much in the picture even now and they will continue to be in the picture because without them no National Security Policy can really be finalised. This is quite clear, Sir.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when hon. the Minister of State had intervened during the debate, he briefly touched upon the question of missiles. He said that he will briefly touch it because hon. the Prime Minister when he comes to answering the main debate, we will further to clarify it. I missed the

portion on missiles because perhaps, the hon. Prime Minister would like to take up from where the Minister of State had left on both the questions, viz., Prithvi as also Agni and that would fill a gap which was being left out.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : I may remind the House, Sir, that in my reply to the debate on the President's Address, I had dwelt upon this point in all the detail that is necessary. I had said clearly that Agni is a technology demonstration project. We have had some tests already; some more have to be done and that is the present position. I have visited the factory. I have seen both Agni and Prithvi recently and I can say with all confidence that the programme, as conceived, will continue. There will be no let up. There will be no modification and this is what I have already stated in both the Houses. The deployment of Prithvi is under consideration. I can take the House into confidence whenever the next stage arrives. I have no difficulty about that.

Let me assure the House once again - although I have done it earlier already - that no amount of persuasion or pressure or anything, etc., which has been alleged to have been brought to bear on us; no amount of all those things will make an iota of difference in the programme, as conceived by us.

MR. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : I wish to raise two issues. One is that the Prime Minister talked about the Estimates Committee's Report when talking of the Defence Policy. He has said that the Estimates Committee has accepted the view of the Government. I would request you, Sir, to kindly go through the Estimates Committee's Report. There are derogatory remarks on various recommendations made by the Estimates Committee on the response of the Ministry of Defence. If you go through that probably the picture will be entirely different. Lots of good suggestions have been given in the 19th Report of the Estimates Committee, but the response of the Ministry has been negative.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Khanduri, the Action Taken Report has been accepted by the Estimates Committee. That is what the Prime Minister has said.

*(Interruptions)*

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : He talked about the Defence Policy only, but there are many more recommendations in that. I have read out that....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : We will not discuss the Estimates Committee's Report because we do not know what is the entire Estimates Committee's Report and what are the recommendations. It is not before us now. Please come to the second point.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : My request to the Prime Minister is that other recommendations of the Estimates Committee...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : We do not discuss the recommendations given by the Committee in the House because those recommendations have to be carefully examined by the Government and the Action Taken Report has to be given. Please leave that point. Come to the second point. This is my ruling. You must come to the second point.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : I am talking about the Action Taken Report and not the initial report. I will proceed now.

The second thing is that I had raised an issue about the threat perception and I had asked two specific questions. What is the vintage year of this threat perception which has been worked out by the Government? What is the vintage? How old is it? Is it ten years or 15 years old? That is one question.

My second question is based on that threat perception. You have given certain task to the Armed Forces. Have the Armed Forces got that much capability? It is because we say that modernisation is not possible due to shortage of funds. When the capability has not been there with the Armed Forces then have you reduced the task or are you hoping that by improvisation or ad-hocism somehow the Armed Forces will get through? These questions have not been answered.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : I may submit to the House that the threat perception of a country is not constant. It has a part which is constant and a part which is variable. It varies from time to time according to circumstances. Therefore, I have been taking presentations from the Chiefs for four years now. They have not said to me the same things in two consecutive years. They have been giving the latest position in regard to the threat perception and also what we ought to do in order to meet that.

It is true that we have a resource crunch. Which country has not? We have a resource crunch. Take AWACS for instance. We never went in for AWACS. But that does not mean that we are defenceless without the AWACS. Our people have been ingenious enough to find a way around the AWACS and today everybody agrees that there is no AWACS necessary here. So, they have been doing their job very very competently. I am satisfied that in spite of the resource crunch, the kind of savings that they have made, the kind of innovations that they have made, are really commendable. If the resource crunch had not been there, I am sure, they would not have made it. So, there is a necessity and there is an answer to that necessity.

I would like to assure the House, however, that the efficiency of the Armed Forces, the effectiveness of the Armed Forces will not be allowed to be such as to impede the capacity to meet our threat perceptions from time to time. This assurance I can give. In fact, this year I have personally taken into account some areas in which there was some neglect, lack of necessary attention. I have corrected that. This will be the position year after year. It is not that we are just giving something more than last year, something less than last year. We are going into all the details. In one year we may give a little more, for instance, to the Navy. In another year we may give a little more for the Air Force or the Army or maybe on the production side. All this is being gone into meticulously, I can assure the House.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : The recent Gulf War has shown amongst others the effectiveness of the joint operations by more than one service. So, my question is, are we doing or are we contemplating having operations, integrated joint operations, by more than one service - Army, Navy, Air Force together - wherever possible.

Secondly, the combat manual and the training manual of many countries have been changed during the last fifteen years. I believe that we have not made any changes. They have introduced electronics and laser guided simulation in training for combat. We have got some of these, but we have not introduced them for large scale training in the Army as yet. What is the Government's feeling regarding introducing them, so that the combat perfection is reached? The recruitment of people into Armed Forces must be of people who are much more intelligent than the sort of people who are being recruited up to now.

Thirdly, the last question is that, we should go in for joint production with some countries who have got a storehouse of technology which is available to us with a little persuasion. I have mentioned Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States in this regard. They have amongst others many sub-lethal weapons whose effectiveness in combating the terrorism cannot be overstated.

So, what are your reaction to these points?

17.00 hrs.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Sir, in regard to the electronic part of our Defence equipment, this is adequately being taken care of. The items referred to by the hon. Member are part of an on-going process. I cannot go into details and tell him what is being introduced, what is not being introduced. If it is under introduction, it only means that it will be introduced if it is found necessary. Again, here, I would say that whatever is necessary will be done and it will not be

stopped for want of funds. This is what I could say as Minister in-charge of Defence. When they find that something is necessary, they justify the necessity. And to the extent we can, we think of several alternatives, but do not on the whole allow our competence to suffer, effectiveness to suffer.

What is the third one?

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Joint exercises and joint production with other countries.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : I have no knowledge on that particular matter, Sir. I can find out and let him know. About the joint enterprises, joint manufacturing facilities, etc., now, here, we are doing it already in respect of many things. So, it is nothing new.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : We can do more.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : What really is at issue is, for what purpose? My view is - with which some of my colleagues, some of the Members of Parliament do not quite agree - that it should be for our own purposes. It is not for commercial exploitation. Our foreign policy, our policy of peace goes against the grain of becoming merchants of death. That is where I will draw a line, Sir. For the rest, so far as the defence of our country, defence of our territory, defence purposes are concerned, we are entering into joint ventures, we would like to enter into joint ventures. But there is a place where we have to draw the line. We would not like in the ordinary circumstances to go commercial. This is what I would say. But that is a question which is not totally closed. There are alternatives. There are sort of modifications in that. In the case of small arms, for instance, we have made a departure from what I have said. But where do we stop? Now, if you really want to become a commercially significant exporter, seller of arms and ammunition, that is something which perhaps has to come to the notice of this House. We have to discuss about it. The Government has to go into it in greater detail.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : That is not the question ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : I have been asked to go in for it by some of our own colleagues but I have been a little hesitant. And the question does not arise today because the simple reason is, we are nowhere near it. We will be, perhaps, approaching it even with full vigour if you do it maybe after ten or fifteen years. So, the question is a little premature. And we do not want to get ourselves lost in these discussions. Let us first concentrate on our needs and those needs are increasing. Because the threat is increasing, the needs are increasing. On the other hand, we have also to concentrate on reducing the threat. In the case of one

country, we have managed to do it to some extent. So, Defence and External Affairs, external relations go hand-in-hand. It is something which we cannot dissociate from each other and in that respect we are happily placed.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack) : We have given cut motions on one issue, almost the entire Opposition has. That is on the issue of Bofors. And you have assured this House that 'personally I am looking after this issue and I am monitoring the whole issue'. So, may I request the hon. Prime Minister to kindly tell us what is the latest position regarding Bofors.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Sir, regarding Bofors, the focus has shifted to Switzerland long ago. It is in the courts of Switzerland over which we have neither jurisdiction nor have we anything to do there. It is for them to take a decision. They have their own appeal and other provisions. Those who are interested in delaying it are getting it delayed through whatever legal devices are available. It happens in every country. So, I have nothing more to add to that except that the whole thing, the scene, has shifted to Switzerland.

SHRI R. ANBARASU (Madras Central) : Sir, I am happy to know that the Government of India...

MR. SPEAKER : The Defence Ministry deals with the wars with others, not internal wars!

SHRI R. ANBARASU : Yes, you are right.

Sir, I am happy to learn that the Government of India has extended support to Sri Lankan Government to put down terrorism in Sri Lanka. The then Government under the able leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi also sent to the IPKF to Sri Lanka to save the lives and properties of innocent Tamils as well as to find out a political solution to ethnic problem in Sri Lanka. But unfortunately, unceremoniously the IPKF was sent back. It was really an insult to the Government of India. So, the history should not repeat this time.

So, what I would like to insist on here, Sir, is that while making use of our own assistance, the Sri Lankan Government should not misuse in wiping out the Tamil race in Sri Lanka because it is the past history. Therefore, I would like to appeal to the hon. Prime Minister whether any pre-condition has been...

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Anbarasu, we will deal with it when we come to the Demands for the External Affairs Ministry.

SHRI R. ANBARASU : Okay, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : A number of cut motions have been moved by the Members to the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Defence. Shall I put all the cut motions to the vote of the House together or does any hon. Member want any particular cut

motion to be put separately to the Vote of the House? I would like to know whether any hon. Member would like his or her cut motion separately to be put to the Vote of the House.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) : Sir, I want my cut motions No. 40 and No. 63 to be put separately to the Vote of the House. Cut Motion No. 63 is about One Rank - One Pension Scheme for Ex-Servicemen and cut motion No. 40 is on Bofors.

MR. SPEAKER : Okay.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You put my cut motion No. 14 and cut motion No. 16. Cut motion No. 14 is regarding need to replace the old weapon system in the Indian Air Force. Cut motion No. 16 is regarding need to improve the surveillance for all the three Services.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would respectfully plead with the hon. lady Member not to insist on voting on that particular cut motion regarding One Rank - One Pension. It is not good to get it rejected by the House.

MR. SPEAKER : I hope, Maliniji, you will agree to it.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : Sir, I will not press it but I would be very happy if the hon. Prime Minister were to give us some assurance on this.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : It is under constant review.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : It is because this disparity has been there for a long time...

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : It is true. We have given partial satisfaction. Statements have been made, action has been taken. This is an on-going process. It is not good for Parliament to vote it down.

MR. SPEAKER : I think, Maliniji, you agree to it.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : Yes, Sir.

*Cut motion No. 63 was, by leave, withdrawn.*

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : Sir, cut motion No. 40 is there.

MR. SPEAKER : Cut motion No. 40, we are taking.

I shall now put cut motion No. 40 moved by Maliniji and cut motion No. 14 moved by Mr. Amal Datta to the vote of the House.

*Cut motion Nos. 40 and 14 were put and negatived.*

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : The light is gone Sir!

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand that is because of the breakdown of the electricity supply from outside.



I shall now put all the other cut motions which have been moved together to the vote of the House.

*Cut motion Nos. 34 to 39, 56 to 61 and, 1 to 19, 40 to 42, 45 to 55, 62 and 66 to 74 were put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER : With 'Noes' there is light now!

I shall now put the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Defence.

The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the

amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1996, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 15 to 21 relating to the Ministry of Defence."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Demands for Grants in respect of Ministry of Defence for the year 1995-96, Voted by Lok Sabha*

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants on Account voted by the House on 30.3.95		Amount of Demand for Grants voted by the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
<b>MINISTRY OF DEFENCE</b>					
15	Ministry of Defence	337,80,00,000	3,42,00,000	1688.96.00,000	17,10,00,000
16	Defence Pensions	476,13,00,000	...	2380.62,00,000	...
17	Defence Services- Army	2140,49,00,000	...	10702.45,00,000	...
18	Defence Services-Navy	261,29,00,000	...	1306,42,00,000	...
19	Defence Services-Air Force	710,72,00,000	...	3553,55,00,000	...
20	Defence Ordnance Factories	118,07,00,000	...	590,33,00,000	...
21	Capital Outlay on Defence Services	...	1224,55,00,000	...	6122,76,00,000

MR. SPEAKER : I would like to thank the Members for their cooperation.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Are we now taking up the Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Power?

MR. SPEAKER : No. We are taking up the Demands in respect of the Ministry of Communications.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I request the hon. Members not to leave their seats. Please resume your seats. We have some other business to transact.

17.14 hrs.

**(ii) Ministry of Communications**

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand Nos. 13 and 14 relating to the Ministry of Communications.

Hon. Members present in the House whose cut motions to the Demands for Grants have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial

numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. Those cut motions only will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of cut motions treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly. In case any Member finds any discrepancy in the list he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table without delay.

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Communications to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1996, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof of against demands No. 13 and 14 relating to the Ministry of Communications."

*The motion was adopted.*