

[Sh. Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

get the licences, etc. But now to ensure the interest, they have started seeing and what to see that proper persons are at proper places. The political hue of the country is perhaps to their tune. They may try. Then people are strong enough to face them. That is another thing. But the attempts and pressures will be there because their stakes are very high. And this will continue. This is one thing.

The other thing is as the elections become expensive, the party is to raise funds. I am not referring to any party. Why is Mr. Kesri smiling? I know your responsibility. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MURLI DEORA (Bombay South): Is Congress Party the only party which can manage election without any fund? Have you never taken any funds for elections? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I am not saying that. *(Interruptions)* What I am saying is that we are all under this impression. *(Interruptions)* Let us put our heads together without accusing each other. How can we get out of it? One is the State funding. The argument is made that the election expenses will not be counted. Yes, it will not be counted. But the essential fact is that people lose elections because of shortage of funds but they do not win because of funds.

So, even if there is a chance, the person can fight against even bigger funds. At least, the system will have a chance. But the system which we are having does not have a chance. Let us give it a chance. We have to certainly go in for transparency of Government functioning. We have the right to know. In Swedish countries, transparency is there where people can ask and see the Government files. So, the same should be applied here if we are to fight an issue with such a large dimension. We have done quite a lot of footwork. That might be with the Govern-

ment. We can go ahead with it. We will give all our cooperation to you. We cannot legislate principally on constructive responsibility which has to be resurrected in Parliament. When we occupy high offices, unless there is the principle of constructive responsibility, how will there be accountability? To prove that a person in high office has done something wrong is very very difficult technically. But accountability at high office has to come from somewhere. Otherwise, there will be decisions without application of minds and whenever people meet, people will forget their names. People will resign without giving explanation. How do we face it? So, it is on this aspect which I most humbly beg that we should all come together and all parties should come together to find a solution. With these words, I hope the JPC will go ahead with various institutions of the Government in finding the truth taking the real interest of the country into account.

13.32 hrs.

STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER

Notice of Premature Retirement by Shri Madhvan

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): Mr. Speaker Sir, the notice of premature retirement given by Shri Madhvan who was investigating seven out of ten cases registered so far in the Securities Scam has been mentioned in the House on 31st July. Since he as in charge of important cases in this difficult and delicate investigation, his decision to voluntarily retire gave rise to concern and speculation. One charge made in this connection was that PMO interfered and exerted pressure on Shri Madhvan to deter him from carrying out investigations against Ministers and senior officers. An inference has been drawn that it is for this reason that he has decided to seek retirement. I have ascertained the

*Notice of premature retirement**by Shri Madhvan*

[Sh. P.V. Narasimha Rao]

facts and on the basis of the same, I can state that no officer of the Prime Minister's Office had interfered or brought pressure on Shri Madhavan to go slow with the investigation against Ministers and senior officers. We should have liked Shri Madhavan to complete the important task entrusted to him. I have clearly stated earlier, and should like to repeat once again, that nothing would be allowed to come in the way of a complete investigation and full enquiry. The guilty shall be punished. There is no question of any attempt to protect the guilty, no matter who the individual, or what his position in Government or society.

I would also like to submit that during the debate, some comments have also been made that the names of some Ministers in the Government are involved in the Scam. I have got this aspect ascertained individually and based on the information so furnished, I believe that no member of the Council of Ministers was involved.

MR. SPEAKER: I think we can take up the discussion again after lunch.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, regarding Rae Bareilly incident, the hon. Minister has said that he will make a statement on the bomb blown up in the mosque in which many children have died. This is matter of concern. We would like to know as to when the Minister would made the statement on the matter.

MR. SPEAKER: We have asked the Government to collect the information. Mr. Minister, are you in a position to tell as to when you will be making the statement?

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): *When did it come up?*

MR. SPEAKER: It came up when we were discussing the unlisted business. They will come back after consulting the Home Minister. Now the House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.30 PM.

13.35 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till thirty minutes past Fourteen of Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at thirty five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we take up papers to be laid on the Table.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Memorandum of understanding between the Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd. and the Department of Telecommunications for 1992-93.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Telecommunications Consultants India Limited and the Department of Telecommunications for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library. See. No. LT-2404/92]