

[Sh. V.S. Krishna Iyer]

Every day, hundreds of passengers are travelling between Bangalore and Bombay. Reservations for Udyan Express are not available even if the passengers go there one or two months prior to their journey. Therefore, there is a great demand for the running of another direct train between Bangalore and Bombay. I request the Government to immediately introduce another direct train between Bangalore and Bombay to meet the demand and earn more revenue as the route is commercially viable.

(vii) Need for developing Railway-Communication System in Orissa for overall development of the State

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTHAIK (Kalahandi): Indian Railway have played and are playing a vital role in the socio-economic life of our country. The Railway should not perform their functions from commercial point of view only. Their basic philosophy is unity in diversity, national integration, eradication of regional imbalances. Orissa is one of the most backward and under-developed States in spite of rich natural resources, port, minerals of export importance, the main reason being inadequate development of Railway net work which is indispensable for the economic development of a region. According to State-wise, area-wise, population-wise route kilometers, Orissa is far behind. A very low percentage of budget allocation is spent in Orissa. In employment also, the people of Orissa are neglected. Even though it has all important routes and offices of the South-Eastern Railways are situated in Orissa, the head offices are located outside the State. There is every justification for the head offices to be located in the State. Taking all these factors, there is genuine anger and anguish in the minds of the people of Orissa. For long, the State has been deprived of its legitimate claim for the development of Railways. Special attention should be given to create an infrastructure for the economic

development of the State. Planning efforts need to be revamped and reorganised with an integrated approach in a systematic manner. Centenary celebrations of S.E. Railway should be observed in the State of Orissa with full vigour.

(viii) Demand for Legislation to Ban Devadasi System in the Country

*SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO (Chikballapur): It is regrettable and a matter of serious concern that about 10,000 girls are converted into Devadasis who are also called jogins in some parts of the country and especially in the border areas of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra.

It is the policy of the Government to achieve emancipation of women belonging to lower strata of society. Andhra Pradesh has recently introduced a Bill in the Legislative Assembly to abolish Devadasi system. Karnataka Government has also taken some steps to wipe out this evil tradition. But, these efforts are not enough since the magnitude of this problem is very alarming. It is high time that Central Government comes forward and passes a Legislation to ban Devadasi system in this country and save the life of thousands of unfortunate girls who are forced into the Devadasi system in our country.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government of India to bring forward a comprehensive legislation and put an end to this evil system without any further delay.

12.14 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1987-88-CONTD.

Ministry of Defence - Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we will take up next item. Further discussion on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of

* The speech was originally delivered in Kannada

Defence. Shri Indrajit Gupta.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): The fact that we are being asked to vote a record sum this year for the Defence Ministry has been referred to already by a number of speakers. A substantial part of this increase, I understand, is for the pay and allowances because of the Pay Commission's award. But even allowing for that, the balance amount reflects the Government's appreciation of the intensified threat, particularly from United States' backed Pakistan military regime, in terms of latest technology and sophisticated weapons. We do not grudge money for Defence, Sir. But we must be reassured of its cost-effectiveness. We must be reassured that every rupee is properly utilised because with our limited national resources, this large amount is having to be diverted inevitably from meeting the urgent developmental needs and people's needs in this country. Therefore, this reassurance is very necessary not only in veiled words but actually in deeds.

In this report of the Defence Ministry—the Airborne Early Warning System which has been promised by the United States to Pakistan—the AWACS — of course it has not yet been given to them but it has been promised — the AWACS has been described as not just another weapon system but a command post in the sky — 'a command post in the sky' — which is likely to give Pakistan a considerable edge over us. Now I found from the Press that in his Address to the Air Commanders the other day, the Defence Minister is reported to have mentioned the new threat which is posed by Pakistan's acquisition of AWACS and is reported to have said that we will have to have a matching system to counter it. The words as reported in the Press are 'a matching system'. I do not know what it implies. Does it mean that the Government is also now looking for another type of AWACS, obviously not from United States but from some other source? If so, how much it is going to cost us? I do not know what the proportions of the budget will become by next year, if we are going to match everything that Pakistan gets from

its United States patron by a corresponding type of weapon system which we are not yet at present able to manufacture ourselves. But I would like him to clarify what he means by this 'matching system'.

Again, Sir, on page 7 of this report, there is a beautiful and vague statement which says: "Our long term objective of progressive indigenisation of the weapons and equipment systems required for the Defence Services has also been taken care of". The whole of progressive indigenisation has also been taken care of. I think it is rather, if I may say so, an insult to the intelligence of the Parliament because there is no doubt that this scientific and technological revolution has brought about a revolution in the weapons system also. Therefore, we are faced with this dilemma, I suppose, that on the one hand if you follow a policy of matching the weapons system of the potential adversary with similar weapons system of our own, then we are going to run into a —perhaps insoluble crisis of resources. This is the fate of countries like ours, developing countries. We are being pressurised, I should say. Along with other developing countries, we are being pressurised into some sort of a mini-arms race which is beyond our resources. On the other hand, we cannot ignore what is being stockpiled across the border. What I mean to say is that in spite of the forbidding constraints which are there, the emphasis on indigenisation is therefore all the more necessary and urgent. That is why I am a bit baffled by the figures of the Defence budget which show that on the head of Defence Production, while the entire budget has gone up so much from Rs. 8000 crores to Rs. 12000 crores.

The allocation for Defence Production has actually been cut down; the allocation for Defence Production and Supplies has been reduced from last year to this year by Rs. 589 crores. This is according to the figures published in this Report. Research and Development for Defence has been increased, it is true, but by only Rs. 233 crores. On the balance, between Defence Production and Supplies and Research &

[Sh. Indrajit Gupta]

Development, there is a net cut, a net decrease, of some Rs. 356 crores. But I am more bothered about the cut in Defence Production allocation and I would like the Minister to explain on what account this has been done and what is its implications. On the face of it, it means that we are going to depend more and more on acquisitions from abroad or acquisitions from the private sector, but that cannot be entirely covered by this. It is from this angle that I am going to make my comments because, after all, the way that the Parliament and the press, the entire country have been agitated over the last few weeks.....

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): It seems, you are making this point in a very extensive manner. Defence Production budget is not reduced, but it has gone up from 12.5 per cent to 15.5 per cent. A little different kind of arrangement is done: previously the Revenue Budget and the Capital Budget were shown against the Defence Production Budget, but now this is only the Capital Budget; the Revenue Budget is not shown. So, there is no reduction in the Defence Production Budget but, in fact, the Budget has gone up.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I think, in that case, you should apologise to the House for giving these misleading figures. These are not my figures. You please look at page 8 of this very beautifully brought out glossy production. You find this. Sir, this is all going out of my time; I would not have gone in great detail on this if the hon. Minister had not intervened. *(Interruptions)* In 1986-87 the allocation for Defence Production was Rs. 1,356 crores which was 13.30 per cent and this year it is shown as Rs. 767 crores which is 6.13 per cent. Of course, a simpleton like me has naturally to assume that these figures are correct and there is not something hidden behind them...

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.C. PANT): Question.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Please explain when the time comes. I have no luxury of time...

SHRI K.C. PANT: I am only questioning your statement that you are a simpleton.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I am interested in this. I would like you to explain.

SHRI K.C. PANT: He is going to speak later. He will explain.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: What I was saying was this. After all the heated and stormy discussion, debates and controversies over the last few weeks which are not yet over as far as the press is concened at least...

AN HON. MEMBER: Parliament also.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: ..some question marks remain and this is the opportunity when the Defence Minister should try to see that these question marks are dispelled.

First of all, regarding this Bofors gun deal, I went through very carefully the statement made here in this House on the 20th April by Shri K.C. Pant regarding acquisition of Bofors gun. Now I find a very strange thing here. On page 2 of this statement, he has stated this. He is talking about the period when they were approaching various manufacturers for negotiations - I quote:

".....with a view to acquiring the proposed gun system and also to negotiate for their licensed production in India...."

I believe, it has been the policy of the Government of India in defence matters always that, whenever we make a deal with a foreign supplier for some new weapon or some weapon system, we insist that it must include a provision for sale of technology to us so that we can later on, at a certain stage, indigenise the production in our own defence industry. That is being followed in the case of Jaguars, in the case of Mirage,

in the case of MIGS and so many other things which I could mention. Now later in this statement towards the end, when he is summing up, then the Defence Minister says, "By inducting the Bofors FH-77B Towed Howitzer the Government of India have achieved the following:". Three achievements are listed, Sir, but there is not a word said about licence production in India. So, what I want to know is whether this Bofors deal includes or does not include a provision for acquiring a technology to produce this gun in India whenever it is possible for us to do it, or has it been given up or is there to be a separate negotiation now in future, commercial negotiation, for getting this technology from Bofors in order to make the gun? If so, the bill that we are already going to foot of 1400 and something crores, one and a half billion dollars, it has been mentioned that day, that is only for the gun and accessories of the gun. Then there are only two alternatives either the Government propose to enter into a new negotiation, separate negotiation for a commercial deal to acquire the technology, which will enable us to make the gun or we have decided to give up that part of it. I think some clarification is needed. We should not be later on called upon to foot the bill of another large sum in order to acquire the provision for making the gun in our own country. This I want to know, what is the position?

Secondly, Sir, about Submarine, these SSK Submarines. Here also I am confused because now I have understood that four Submarines are to be acquired—two are to be brought in sail away condition from that shipyard in Germany and two were to be assembled at our Mezagon Dock. That makes four. In that case, I would like to know that when the representatives of that Germany company later on came here and started arguing for a further prices increase, what was that in respect of? At one time, we were told that there would be six Submarines altogether. So, were they trying to get price increased for the remaining two? If so, have we agreed to that? If we have not agreed to it, then have we given up these two Submarines and we are left

with only four? In that case, this Mezagon Dock where some investment must have been made, I do not know how much, for the assembly of these Submarines that is to be in that case restricted only to two? Is that viable? Is it a viable proposition to invest a large sum of money for providing indigenous assembly facility at Mezagon Dock? If the whole thing is to be limited to only two Submarines because I presume, we have dropped the remaining two, for which this company was demanding much higher price and how are they demanding much higher price, if there was an escalation clause in the original agreement? I do not follow. It has been said here that there was an escalation clause. If there was an escalation clause, this company has no right to come to a bargain for much higher price. Of course, the allegation has been made that was in order to cover the Rs. 30 crores to be paid to some agent. I do not know, that is for you to say. But the whole thing now has been reduced to four Submarines—two purchased in sail away condition, two to be assembled in Mezagon Dock, remaining two to be dropped. Then how much has been invested in Mezagon Dock for the sake of assembling just two submarines? I would like to know because this all concerns the way we are going to spend this money. These are two questions.

Now, because I do not have much time, I just finish with two to three points very hurriedly. I am very much pleased to find personally that something for which I had spoken and which I had been advocating, perhaps, in the 1980-81 Defence Budget as a result of which some Members here jumped down my throat at that time including Mr. C.P.N. Singh and including Mr. Amrinder Singh on the strength of having a Short Service Commission - he is also much more military expert than I am - That was regarding the retrofitting of tanks. I have in that budget debate pressed very strongly for that because we should cut our coat according to our cloth. Retrofitting is a method which is practised in many countries which gives a new lease of life to the old tanks. It provides an efficient model fighting vehicle for less than half

[Sh. Indrajit Gupta]

the cost of the new main battle tank. Many countries have done it.

At that time a large number of Centurion tanks were sold, as you remember, on the ground that they have become outdated and all that. In 1972, the Army Headquarters had itself proposed retrofitting programme for 300 Centurions. It was turned down on the excuse that the cost would be more than that of buying new tanks. I think it is an untenable argument. But any way that had happened. The Centurions were sold and the spares were sold as scrap. It is irrelevant at the moment that some of the Centurions are supposed to have appeared in South Africa. The bulk of this retrofitting work, I had said at that time and I am quoting from my notes which I have preserved of my speech at that time, can be done in our base workshops. Most of the items to be replaced or to be renewed can be either manufactured here or are already under development such as; Night Vision Equipment, Laser Range Finding Sight - there is a question mark against that one - Diesel Power Pack, Commander's Cupola with revised optics, New Ventilation and Cooling systems, Transistorised Gun Control Equipment, Semi Automatic Gear Box and the Upgunning with 105 mm Gun. All these things can be done in our own base workshops. But now I find that at Page - 9 of this Report - I am very pleased about it that after all these years - it is said that it is possible to retrofit, improve modern systems in the existing tanks. I hope that that will be done. We of course, have to acquire new tanks also, there is no doubt about it. But considerable amount of money can be saved by retrofitting which was opposed at that time.

In spite of all that, now I have to ask about the other two prestigious projects which have been hanging for so many years. One is the Chetak, the main battle tank of the 80s, it was supposed to be. We are already in 1987. For some reason we are unable to produce an adequate engine for this tank. We are experimenting with so many other engines - one was of course a West German engine on which trial runs took place.

Yesterday my friend Mr. Patel was complaining that private sector was not being given a sufficient opportunity to enter this field. I don't think he is quite correct. Actually, privatisation in the Defence sector has gone ahead quite considerably. And in the case of MBT, Kirloskars was given a big opportunity to develop an engine which would be suitable for Chetak. But they failed. Our own R&D has also failed. I don't know where we stand regarding the Main Battle Tank. If it has to depend on an imported engine, then we should be at least careful that the imported engine should not come from that type of a country which is likely to let us down in the event of a conflict with Pakistan.

Secondly where do we stand with the Light Combat Aircraft. It seems that the Government has decided for the time being at least to equip it with a United States engine. We were to develop GTX engine of our own. GTX project, B Variant, I am told may take another nine years to complete. In this critical situation when all sorts of things are happening across our borders and on our borders I don't know whether we can afford the luxury of waiting or nine years to develop our own GTX engine and in the mean time to go on depending on the US imported engine.

So these are some questions which are bothering us very much because in spite of whatever honest intentions - I am giving them the benefit of the doubt - Government may have in eliminating middlemen but can it be done? Can it be done without really probing deeply into all the complex modalities of how these people operate? I do not expect any middleman to turn up at the Defence Ministry and knock at the door. They function in their own way. They have clandestine operations. Their headquarters might be in some five-star hotels or some posh bungalows in one of the posher localities of New Delhi where, I believe, some searches and raids are being carried out in the last few days. But these clandestine operations cannot be countered by mere expressions of good intentions. The PAC report of 1979 headed by Shri Jyotirmoy Basu had devoted one whole

report to the way these agents and middlemen not only in the field of Defence but also in various field operate. It is worth your going into that report again and you will see that it is not such a simple matter at all. That is why I had pressed that at least on this aspect that the modalities of the functioning of these agents and middlemen which has been relegated to a departmental inquiry by some high placed Defence official at least this aspect of the question should be gone into by a parliamentary probe. It affects the entire range of supplies of all types for all Ministries that we acquire either from abroad or even from indigenous suppliers. I do not know what portion of our budgetary allocation is going into the pockets of these middlemen. So I feel very strongly, Sir, that on this aspect parliamentary committee must be set-up.

Yesterday or day before the PAC had laid on the Table its 76th Report. I cannot go into it now but it is a shocking picture presented there. If such failures are established then how can Government escape the responsibility and how can you remove the suspicion that efficiency and honesty of persons concerned are at a discount. This PAC report has referred to a very critical equipment which was required by the IAF in March, 1967 and after 19 years it has not been provided although a project was sanctioned at one point for Rs. 2 crores. According to the PAC report the failure to provide this equipment has left critical gaps in our air defence which was felt in the 1971 war and now we are going to import eight of these for Rs. 45.6 crores which works out to Rs. 5.7 crores for each piece. It must be some very valuable thing. Bofors gun is going to cost us Rs. 3.5 crores each whereas this equipment which never appeared even after 19 years is now to be imported for Rs. 5.7 crores each piece. Are these matters to be taken lightly? Are we not to have more detailed scrutiny of how money is spent and why should we foot the bill for such misdeeds?

Finally I support very strongly the need to give better deal to the exservicemen. We get a large number of letters and represen-

tations from exservicemen. I find their main concern is about their pensions. The minimum pension has been fixed now for Rs. 375 but I would plead with the Ministry to consider in the context of what everybody feels about ex-servicemen that this minimum pension should be raised. Make it something Rs. 450 or 500 or something. But they should get a better pension. The self-employment opportunities, which are being provided for them, should also be expanded and extended.

I had some words to say about the workers in our defence factories and ordnance factories also, Sir. But I have no time to go into detail. But I would request the Minister, who has now come new to his responsibility, that he should sympathetically consider some of them again. I am not against privatisation. But it should not be at the expense of our own Defence workers that they will be told there is no work for them and that work will be given out to the private sector. I am totally against that. There are the ordnance factories where workers are sitting idle because they are told that there are no orders and no work for them. In such cases, that work should not be transferred to private sector without fully utilising our own capacities and giving our workers full employment.

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPATI MISHRA (Machhlishahr): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would not like to repeat those points in regard to the Demands of the Ministry of Defence which have already been referred to here. I would also not speak on those points which are technical in nature or which require special knowledge on the subject. But I will deal with those broad points to which a common man would also like to draw attention to and I will place the same views of a common man before this House. Two things emerge from the speeches which have been made since yesterday. Everyone has supported the expenditure that is being incurred on Defence but they have expressed apprehension that it will adversely affect the developmental works

[Sh. Shripati Misra]

and as such, it requires attention of the Government. I would like to start from this that the security of the country is uppermost, the existence of the country is uppermost. If the country is intact, other developmental works could be taken up. If we keep this in mind, then we can move forward.

When the existence of the country is uppermost, then we will have to take into consideration certain other things. I would further clarify the matter. Our foreign policy and the Defence of the country are co-related. The Opposition as well as the Members of the ruling party have been supporting our foreign policy on a number of issues. In this connection, I would like to say that taking into consideration the foreign policy as well as the Defence, we will have to keep in mind who is our friend and who is our foe. And what is the basis for knowing this thing? The basis is to know the national interests of those countries because only then we can know who can be and who cannot be our friend. In this world, justice and injustice are taking place everywhere. It is a good thing to speak against injustice. But we should also keep in mind when to raise our voice with force and with care, keeping in view our national interests and our strength. While extending hands of friendship to other countries we will have to keep this fact in mind that our relation with our neighbouring countries like Pakistan, China, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka are not cordial and we should create a climate under which we may feel no danger from them. This is also to be seen whether we can have cordial relations with Pakistan if we continue extending hand of friendship to that country because the national interests of Pakistan are somewhat different and certain countries who are against us are exploiting those interests and those countries want to play politics by making Pakistan their pawn. Therefore, it is doubtful whether we can have cordial relations with Pakistan. If there is any doubt, we should see from the practical angle as to how we can improve our relations with a particular country. It is not surprising that there is no clash between

our national interests or principles and those of China, the big power in North. Also, the relations between China and Russia, though not very cordial, are not such bad that these cannot improve. Our relations with Russia have been such that we can call it as our friend. I would like to convey my thanks to the hon. Defence Minister for visiting China after he assumed the office. He might have gone there under any circumstances, but I think that was a good thing. We should have the good offices of Russia in improving our relations with China. It should be a test for the strength, cooperation and goodwill of Russia that it helps in creating such relations between us and China that our differences with that country are sunk. If other countries in the world come to know that there are no differences between China and India, the smaller countries around us will not be supplied different kinds of arms and ammunition, and even if these are supplied these smaller countries would not dare to abuse them against us. Therefore, I would like to say that stress should be laid in our policy that we may have good and cordial relations with China.

One thing more. The Members of opposition parties have demanded to set up a Parliamentary committee to look into some matters raised in regard to the Defence. There is no denying that wherever there is corruption it should be looked into and it should be conducted in such a way that corruption is put to an end or the persons indulging in corruption are brought to book. But at the same time, if you see from the practical angle you will find that Government is working in many areas. You can look into the activities of the Government as much as you can and as openly as you can. It will have a telling effect on the corrupt persons but it should all be done to the extent that the security of the country is not adversely affected. We should be cautious while asking for such probes that they should not have an adverse effect as the question of security of our country should be uppermost in our minds. The atmosphere in which we are discussing such things, should make us understand that our enemies are becoming alert and they

have some intention behind all these things. After equipping our enemies with arms, their intention is to arouse the feelings of the people against the Government and also that the people of the country may remain divided in the country. I want to say that the questions should be asked, keeping in view this position. The country's security is more important than any party or leader's utterings. It is then immaterial whether we sit on this side or on the opposite. We should see that nothing should threaten the security of our country.

12.52 hrs.

[SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN *in the Chair*]

With these words I want to reiterate one point. I had said that justice and injustice both are being done in this world. It is important to protest against injustice and it is as equally important to support justice. But we should also see that we speak against injustice to the extent that our national interests remain protected or we possess the capability of sustaining our stand after protesting. Otherwise, we should not raise our voice which may rebound on us and may harm our own interests. I feel that such things have happened at certain places. That is why I want to underline this fact again that we should pay attention to what I have said in this regard.

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV (Varanasi):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, while discussing the Demands for Grants of the Defence Ministry we should keep in mind the fact that the progress of a country depends on two factors. First, there must be peace within the country and second, its borders are secure. If our borders are not secure, that will be dangerous for our country. Therefore, the common feeling about Defence is that nobody wants to see any doubts raised here, and no one wants to raise any questions and most of the people support the Government's policy in this regard. That is why when we talk about Defence, we talk with great caution and this Department and its modus-operandi are

considered holy cow. The whole country views it from this angle. I think our Defence policies are based on this view point.

It has been said just now by an Opposite Member that our Defence expenditure has been increasing. I think the circumstances prevailing at present around us are poisoning the atmosphere and a well planned strategy is being prepared against us. In view of all this, it has become necessary to increase the Defence Budget and even if we do not want to spend more, we have no alternative. In our defence preparedness, it is essential to place emphasis on two points. Firstly, proper training should be given to the jawans and officers, be they in Army, Navy or Air Force and they should be equipped with necessary weapons. Alongwith it, Government should take necessary steps to satisfy the needs of the military personnel and boost their moral. In this connection, the steps taken on the basis of the recommendations of Fourth Pay Commission Report are praiseworthy. There has been satisfactory improvement in the service condition of the Officers and Jawans of all the three wings and in their terms of pension and in other facilities provided to them. In the case of retired defence personnel also, there has been considerable improvement. It has a moral boosting step which is quite good. For this if our Defence Budget is increased, no one can object to that. In regard to the retired military personnel, I want to suggest that they should be recruited in the police, paramilitary forces and in other similar forces by giving them relaxation in age limits. Many soldiers retire at the age of 40. They can be absorbed in the aforementioned services and if it is done then it will solve a major part of problems. These soldiers, after their retirement, wander about from place to place and their condition becomes miserable.

Secondly, when we discuss the Defence policy, the question of arms come up. Today, the race in the field of arms is unimaginable. We have also to run in this race. At present, the sale of arms is the most profitable business for which

[Sh. Shyam Lal Yadav]

maximum number of conspriacies are being hatched. It is a business which is creating and destroying relationships between different countries. We cannot manufacture all weapons in our country. In spite of our wish to do so we could not attain the capacity to become self-reliant in this field and as a result of that we have to purchase weapons from other countries.

I also would like to say one more thing that money for giving Nobel Prize is not collected by peaceful means. Rather it is collected by sale of weapons and pushing the world into the fire of war. Today, it is a most profitable and conspiratorial arrangement in the world about which we must remain very cautious. I am placing this view before the House and the Government with a view that the Government should think over it very cautiously as to wherefrom and from whom we should purchase arms. I am of the opinion that, if possible, we should purchase weapons only from those countries who are friendly to us. Today there are two super powers in the world. The western countries and most of the countries of middle Asia are either associated with or under the protection of western super power. In most of the European countries, which claim to be independent nations with independent policies, inter-mediate missiles of USA have been installed and even today U.S. soldiers are present there. You can yourself understand as to how much independent those countries are where soldiers of other countries are posted. The USA has kept its destructive weapons in other countries.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is now 1 o' clock. Do we have a lunch hour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): We will forego lunch hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, I think the House will accept this.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

[Translation]

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV: It is a very big question asto how much those countries are independent? I think that today European countries are in danger because they have stockpiled destructive weapons and have kept military of another country in their own countries. They are the members of NATO and that is why they are not as independent as they should be. Therefore, whenever we purchase arms from these countries we should be more cautious so that no question can be raised against us.

Secondly, I would like to say that more we make our country strong, stronger will be our national security. We may have conflict with those countries who have common border with us. In the past also we had conflicts with them and in future too we may have conflict with them.

Just now one of our friends was talking about China. There was a time when we raised the slogan of 'Hindi-Chini Bhai Bhai' but after that China shamelessly attacked our country and illegally occupied our territory. I think that our border with China is not as much safe as we claim. We may have extensive dialogue with China but force has to be met with force. For this purpose we have to organise our Forces, we have to educate and train our jawans so that they are able to cope up with difficult situations at our hilly and icy borders. When we granted statehood to the Arunachal Pradesh, China objected to it which clearly shows that intention of China is not good. It is alright that we have been making all efforts to sort out the problems by mutual talks but we should not show any laxity in our defence preparedness. We should have full capability to face them. I hope that hon. Defence Minister will pay attention towards this thing.

Our borders should be so guarded that no outsider could enter our territory. We are witnessing that Chakmas and people from Sri Lank have come to our country. Now it is also apprehended that if present disturbed conditions in Pakistan continue, the people

from Pakistan will also come to India. If such things continue what would be the position of our defence and how we shall bear economic burden? Therefore, we have to think over all these things.

Thirdly, I would like to say that we should also pay more attention on research so that we may become capable of meeting our own requirements of arms and for this purpose we may not remain dependant on foreign countries. If we bring civilian industries under the Army discipline that would be more helpful in boosting the production.

With these words I conclude.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence. Rs. 12,512 crores have been allocated for Defence in this Budget which is 22.7 per cent more than the 1986-87 Defence Budget. The Defence Budget this year is 19.8 per cent of the total union Budget outlay. I think this allocation is not on higher side because U.S.A. is providing Arms and economic aid to Pakistan. It was 3.2 Billion dollars during 1982-87 and during 1987-93 Pakistan will be getting US aid to the tune of 4.2 Billion dollars. Besides, Pakistan has been spending 40 per cent of its total Budget outlay on Defence. In view of this our present Budget allocation should be manifold. As per the figures, in 1984 India's per capita Defence expenditure was only 9 dollars whereas Pakistan's per capita Defence expenditure was 22 dollars. The present increase in the Defence Budget outlay is also due to the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission in addition to the requirements for our Defence Production and Defence Research Organisations. I, therefore, think that this allocation is not sufficient. The collusion between the three countries i.e. Pakistan, USA and China is posing threat to our country. U.S.A. is supplying latest weapon system to Pakistan. Therefore, it has become necessary for our country to do something to match this system. On the one hand Pakistan is moving forward speedily to manufacture nuclear weapons

and on the other hand, in addition to acquisition of different weapons systems, it is trying to acquire AWACS etc. from U.S.A. and China against India. Besides USA, China is also supplying Arms and ammunitions to Pakistan. U.S.A. has given 40 F-16 aircrafts to Pakistan. In addition to it, you have pointed out that Pakistan has acquired F-16 'c' series also. In these F-16 aircrafts latest devices like laser guided devices, french made Thomson bombing system, which is considered to be the most sophisticated bombing system and fire system in the world, are being fitted and they hit the target with accuracy. It does not require second pilot also. Only one Pilot can control the entire system. Alongwith this system, automatic T.V. Tracker laser designators and rangers etc. are also fitted in them. I do not want to say anything about AWACS because many hon. Members have already spoken about it. Apart from this, we read everyday in newspapers about surface to air missiles, artillery and radars, light helicopters, anti-armour, anti-submarine, Harpoon missiles etc. All these destructive weapons are being acquired by the Pakistan. Recently our Government has procured R.T. 155 mm. Bofors guns about which some hon. Members have made hue and cry in the House. It is reported that Pakistan has also R.T. guns which have a range of 40 to 42 kms whereas the range of our R.T. gun is only 30 to 32 kms. If it is true, then we should also go in for purchase of such weapon from other countries. Though the present leadership of Pakistan has hanged Mr. Bhutto but it has adopted his theory of acquiring nuclear bomb and fighting a one-thousand-years war with India even if it has to live without food. Pakistan in collusion with China is interfering in Siachin, Gilgit-Siachin road, and a link road has been constructed in Aksaichin area. Chinese have intruded in our territory in Samdurangchu and now it is also being said that there is a proposal to construct a link road in Shyaksgam Valley in the back side of Siachin sector. In this way, such hostile activities have considerably increased. If it is true, then a very dangerous situation will be created for us. We, therefore, want to

[Sh. P.Namgyal]

know the factual position from the Government.

So far as our border dispute with China is concerned, we have already completed seven rounds of discussions with that country. Chinese attitude upto six rounds of talks was cordial but in the seventh round they have stiffened their attitude. If we have to make certain minor adjustments in the Mc Mohan line at the eastern sector, we should do that as has also been pointed out by our Hon. Prime Minister in August last. He said that:-

[English]

"Fairly thick line runs on a small scale map and it could be contested where the line actually lies".

[Translation]

Similar situation we have in Ladakh sector also. In Damyuk sector, which we call Sakakjug, the actual line of control was on the hills which is quite far away from there but hostile activities have been going on for the last two years on the east of Indus river and our Government is not doing anything and as a result of it they have been pushing the actual line of control towards us for the last many years. Therefore, you should finalise the issue of border dis-pute and if some minor adjustments are necessary those should be made.

So far the Ladakh sector in Jammu and Kashmir is concerned, you know that 37,555 sq. kms area in Aksaichin is under the unauthorised occupation of China. It is my personal view that China is not going to give this area because of strategical importance of that area. The Government should explore the possibility whether China is prepared to handover area from Damyuk and West of Indus, which falls on our side to Indo-Tibat Nepal Trijunction via Kailash and Mansarover Lake because that area is equal to the area of Aksaichin, unauthorisedly occupied by China. I want that such possibilities should be explored. And if this area is given to us, that should become the part of Ladakh district of

Jammu and Kashmir. You know that Jammu and Kashmir state has its separate Constitution. You should not bargain this area with the area of any other sector.

In the end I would like to draw your attention towards Border Road Organisation. Though many roads are being constructed by Border Road Organisation, but Leh-Manali road in Ladakh sector is very important road from many view points, such as for the economy of Ladakh and from defence point of view, but its progress is very tardy I would like to request that you should pay attention towards the completion of this road because it will reduce the distance by 300 kms between supply base and Ladakh. You can imagine as to how much PLO expenditure and wear and tear expenditure will be saved. It is a different thing that these roads remain open for traffic only 4 to 5 months in a year but even then it can be very profitable to us. Therefore, you should pay more attention to complete it as early as possible.

With these words I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence and congratulate the hon. Defence Minister for giving comparatively more importance to the defence of the country.

[English]

SHRI M.S. GILL (Ludhiana): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of my party and with your permission I have risen although with a heavy heart to oppose the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Defence.

I am opposing these demands not because I am not aware of the conditions of service of the soldiers or of the rigours which they have to undergo when they are defending the frontiers of the country, whether it be right on the top of the icy Himalayas or even in the treacherous and I should say the harshest sub-zero climate of Sachen Glacier, and when they are facing, on the other hand a very lethal and destructive weapons system on our western borders, supplied to them by the colonial powers of the world.

I am conscious of these facts, of their problems, of their difficulties and I am also not unmindful of the stresses and strains which our soldiers have to undergo when they are defending the borders of this country in the desert areas in the scorching heat when sometimes they lay themselves half buried in the trenches with the moving sands of those dunes, so buried in the scorching heat at mid June they have to do their duty there. All these things are in my mind. Yet I am opposing these demands for certain reasons. And the reasons are obvious. The lash of circumstances, more recent circumstances. And which are so compelling and the logic of events of the previous -- I should say -- two months is so convincing that there is lurking fear in the minds of the people, as in my mind, and that lurking fear has grown to the dimensions of -- I should say, apprehensions; and reasonable apprehensions that the money collected from the poor farmers, poor peasants, labourers, field workers by way of direct taxes or indirect taxes, that money may not be somehow or other mis-utilised. That fear is there in the mind of the citizens of India in a large majority. Therefore, we have to make the Ministry very cautious while dealing with the money which these Demands are going to give them and we have to make them alert for this reason.

We have got in the past few days very disturbing news. Sometimes, it is from West Germany that a sum of Rs. 30 crores has been arranged to be paid to some agent, who is dealing with some arms. Sometimes, it is a radio statement from Sweden that the amount totalling Rs. 40 crores is being paid to some officials or some politicians in India to get the deals of these weapons which have been described as 155 MM field guns. These are really disturbing news and these news do cause in the mind of ordinary people of ordinary intellect some apprehension. Therefore, we have to oppose these Demands to make the Ministry very cautious and very alert.

I am reminded of a very sad incident in the recent past history. When, in the past century, in the Anglo-Sikh war the forces

of Khalsa Darbar were fighting a war with the British forces on the banks of the river Sutlej, the soldiers were fighting to the last drop of their blood very bravely and very valiantly to defend the integrity and unity of their country, to defend their freedom and the honour of their people, one of the poets of Khalsa Darbar from Lahore namely Shah Mohammad, who was an eye witness of those wars, described that war in one sentence." Shah Mohammad Singhan ne goryan de lahu nimbuan baang nichod ditte". 'O Shah Mohammad, the Sikh soldiers have squeezed the blood out of the soldiers of the British forces like the juice of lemon.

This was the state of affairs. But soon after, after a certain period of time, that very poet who was an eye witness of all that, had to say a very tragic stanza: "Shah Mohammad ek Sarkar vajon faujan jit ke antnun harian". The reason was, the history says, that when these soldiers were fighting a serious battle on the banks, the Commander demanded some gun powder from their headquarters. And the history says that instead of gun powder those soldiers were supplied with the bags of *taramira* and *sarson*. As a result thereof, the persons standing behind the guns and sikh forces were blasted into the air, were blasted into pieces and those forces lost the battle and lost the war. These things of the history teach us some lesson that we have to be very careful so far as defence preparedness is concerned, so far as our weaponry is concerned and so far as our choice of the weapon is concerned. These agents and commission agents and all sorts of things have to be eliminated at any cost. We just cannot tolerate these things, because nothing is more dear to our mind than the freedom, integrity and honour of the country. But this cannot be tolerated just because there are some people who have approach to certain quarters and they entertain some politicians here and there either inside the country or outside the country. Therefore, I will appeal to the hon. Minister that whatever has come out of the probe should be tackled very seriously and the confidence of the people must be won and these things have to be

[Sh. M.S. Gill]

gone into very carefully. Not only the confidence of the people but the confidence of this Parliament must also be won. There will be no harm in doing this. Well, if there is nothing according to the Government - I only pray that there is nothing and I only wish that there is nothing there should be no harm in appointing a sub-committee of the Parliament to go into the matter. If at all there is any technical thing, that can be kept away from the Members of Parliament, but I assure that the Members of Parliament on both sides, on the Treasury Benches and on this side, are as much responsible and they are as much concerned with the independence and freedom of this country as anybody else. Therefore, there will be no harm if a committee is set up under these circumstances.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI M.S. GILL: There are certain points which I want to stress before this august House. In spite of the fact that these soldiers who are installed and entrenched on our borders, are being given certain facilities but there are certain points which are not being looked into by the Defence. For example, there have been certain persons in the past who have been dealing with arms and we see that they have their houses worth lakhs and sometimes even crores of rupees, in posh colonies of the capital. On the other hand, an officer, after doing a good service in the army and after retiring from the rank of a Lieutenant Colonel or a Commodore or even as an Air Chief, is not able to construct even a three-bedroom house for him without getting loan from the Government. This is the situation. Therefore, these people need more consideration. I would request the Ministry of Defence that it is possible, these persons should be given exemption from income-tax. The Ministry has already done a good service by giving free ration to the officers, and it would be further in the interest of our fighting forces if uniforms and other such facilities are also given free to them. When they come back after serving the army, there should be a very goodscheme for their resettlement.

They come back after serving only for twenty years. They are young, they are trained and they are able-bodied persons. As soon as they retire, they should be adjusted by giving them preference in the civil service. A circle should be created that those young people who want to go into the service, they should first go to the army, come through the army and then join the civil service. This process will be in the fitness of things to improve the lot of the soldiers.

For the low ranking *jawans*, a lot has to be done as yet. They and their families need a lot of help from the Ministry of Defence.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now please conclude.

SHRI M.S. GILL: I am concluding. Whenever they have to go on leave, if they have to start from one corner of the country and go to the other corner, they have to spend five days for reaching the destination and another five days for going back to their unit. If the leave is for twenty days or one month, ten days are lost like this. So, their leave should be considered to have started from the day of their arrival at the place of their destination. On the way they must also be given some facilities at the railway junctions for their stay overnight. You would have seen those soldiers lying on the platforms and carrying their luggage on their heads.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Aziz Qureshi.

SHRI M.S. GILL: They do not get proper facilities. With these words, I oppose the Demands of the Ministry of Defence. Thank you very much, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI (Satna): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence. Before going into the details of any Defence Budget some main points have to be seen. The main points are that how much scope has been provided in the Defence Budget for the modernisation of Armed forces, what steps have been taken

for self-reliance, what action is being taken for the induction of a new weapon system and how much funds have been allocated for research and development. Keeping in view all these points, this Budget is a Budget of new direction.

On this occasion, I wholeheartedly welcome the new Defence Minister. The present Defence Minister was the Minister of Irrigation and Power in the Centre during 1972 to 1977 and fortunately I was also the Minister of the same Ministry in the Government of Madhya Pradesh. I have seen his efficiency, grip, integrity and his dynamism which has been commended by everyone. Besides, his contribution for the development of backward areas all over the country and removing darkness from their lives is also very significant. I think, it is an obligation done by our Prime Minister on the country that he has given such an efficient Defence Minister to the country in such a difficult time. We are confident that our borders and our country will be safe in his hands and our Armed Forces and Defence Department will make more and more progress under his leadership.

One more point I would like to bring to the attention of hon. Minister that 4.12 per cent of the total Budget which amounts to Rs. 420.40 crores has been earmarked for Research and Development. For this purpose U.S.A. spends about 30 per cent, U.K. about 21 per cent and France about 18 per cent of their Defence Budgets. Out of this 4.12 per cent allocated for Research and Development, it is not clear as to how much amount has been earmarked for the research and how much for the Development. So far I know it has been the practice that more funds are spent on development works than research works. I hope that in future Defence Ministry will change this trend and more funds will be spent on research.

Today, if you look around our borders you will find that Pakistan is knocking at our doors with its nuclear bomb, China is challenging our national integrity by concentrating its Forces in Arunachal Pradesh, Indian Ocean has become a base for imperialistic forces and the situation in

Sri Lanka has also become critical. I think you should also pay attention towards the prevailing atmosphere in the world in which transfer of technology all over the world is taking place rapidly. The weapons supplied by Russia to Afganistan soldiers, have been passed on to Pakistan by Afgan rebels and nothing has remained confidential. From Pakistan these weapons have reached U.S.A. The weapons supplied by the USA to Iran have been captured by Iraqi forces and passed on to Russia. Therefore, today there is nothing secret. Today the transfer of technology is very frequent in the world, somewhere it is through mutual agreement and somewhere it is through unauthorised means. I think, so long as we do not develop indigenous weapon system in our country we will not be able to defend our borders properly.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, very humbly, I would like to ask a question from the hon. Minister in this regard that we have been hearing for the last 12 years that India is developing indigenous engine L-60 for Vijayanta tank but now it is being heard that some people are against it and they are sabotaging this plan. I would like to know from hon. Minister as to what are the difficulties in developing L-60 engine for fitting the same in Vijayanta tank and why it has not been developed till now? I fully hope that our Army experts, engineers and generals will get this L-60 engine developed very soon.

Secondly, we see that USA has loaded Pakistan with weapons. As against the earlier US aid of 30 million dollars, it seems that this year USA is going to give aid of about 42 million dollars to Pakistan. USA has supplied all kinds of modern aircrafts, F-16, Harpoons, Advance missiles and advance warning system to Pakistan. I think, our Defence Minister and our Defence experts must have brought qualitative change in our defence strategy and I do not think it is necessary to declare that in the Parliament or elsewhere. But so long as you do not bring any qualitative change in our planning and defence strategy, the foolproof security of our country will not be possible.

[Sh. Aziz Qureshi]

I would like to remind the hon. Defence Minister that when he was the Minister of Irrigation and Power and called an All India Conference of Power Ministers of all the States, I raised a point in that conference that the chairman of Electricity Boards of all the states should be technocrats and not bureaucrats. Today I want to say that for better coordination and good work in the Defence Ministry, it is not necessary that an IAS officer or any other bureaucrat should be the Defence Secretary. You can appoint the senior most General, Admiral or Air Marshal as Defence Secretary. It will boost the morale and efficiency of the soldiers and the defence personnel. I have discussed about it with senior Defence personnel and have come to know that such proposals are received from senior Generals, Air Marshals and Admirals but they are rejected at some Deputy Secretary or Joint Secretary level. I feel it is great injustice with our Defence personnel. I hope that in this new atmosphere the hon. Minister of Defence will pay attention towards it and our next Defence Secretary would be either Senior most General, Admiral or Air Marshal so that they may look after our defence arrangements properly.

Now I want to say something about ex-servicemen. Earlier also I had raised this issue and today again I want to raise this issue. At present the retirement age for our soldiers is between 35 to 45 years. Therefore, I want that since average age in India has increased and people have sound health, this retirement age should be raised from 45 to 50 year so that your problem may be solved and they may also get more time to serve the country. You should see that if he has the efficiency, sound health and is able to serve, he should be allowed to serve upto the age of 50 years.

It has been mentioned somewhere in your annual report that proper representation is given to the minorities, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in certain departments of your Ministry and efforts are made to recruit more people amongst them. I think the minorities do not have the desired representation in the

active defence forces. In the prevailing circumstances when Pakistan is talking about the attack on our country, you should recruit people from minorities in our forces and send them to the borders to crush Pakistan and remove it from the map of the world. They have such desires that if Pakistan or any other country attacks our country, alongwith the slogans of 'Har Har Mahadev' and 'Sat Shri Akal', the slogan of 'Allaha ho Akbar' may also resound in the battle field and Pakistan may be crushed. They have such feelings. Therefore, opportunity should be given to them to shed their blood for the country. Let them prove that they will protect every inch of the country till the last drop of their blood.

Secondly, I would like to say that our soldiers are serving and defending the country on height of thousands of feet at the risk of their lives so that crores of women may not become widows, the mothers may not lose their sons, children may not become orphans and also to maintain the dignity of our country, but on hearing the allegations being levelled against the Defence Ministry, I think they might be feeling demoralised and they might not be able to bring that much efficiency in their work for which they have been habitual. I, therefore, request all the hon. Members of this house to think before making any allegations against the Defence Ministry as to whether such allegations would demoralise our forces and what would be their effects on them, so that no hindrance may come in the working of our forces.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, commending our great soldiers and Generals who have made sacrifices for the country, I support these Demands and hope that our new Defence Minister will pay full attention towards the points which I have raised and will give new direction to the country.

SHRI MADAN PANDEY (Gorakhpur):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, the main question is of our national security for which the Defence Budget to Rs. 12,512 crores has been presented before us. Some people have said that it is an excess amount whereas some

other have criticised it in other ways. But I think under the present circumstances this amount of Rs. 12,512 crores is not sufficient and we will have to supplement it with the cooperation of the people of our country.

In the south of our country, we have Indian ocean which is 6.5 thousand miles long and 6 thousand miles wide. The non-aligned countries have been demanding for quite a long time that Indian Ocean should be declared a zone of peace and should be free from interference of the Super Powers. But in stead of paying any attention towards their appeal, military base has been set up in Diego Garcia from where any country can be attacked. In this context I would like to request the Government that we should fully prepare our Army, Navy and Air force. Earlier, we did not get scared of the Seventh Fleet and compelled them to withdraw it but a time can come when Seventh Fleet may be compelled them to intervene. Therefore, we have to think about strengthening of our Army, Navy and Air force. There are certain countries in the world whose economy is dependent on the sale of weapons only and they are war mongers. They want to convert Indian Ocean into a battle field, so that they may take advantage of the situation. By creating Israel they have created such a situation in entire Middle East that in spite of unlimited wealth these countries are not able to make any development. Now they are searching for a new Israel. Therefore, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Defence Minister towards these things and suggest that keeping these things in view, our Army, Navy and Airforce should be fully prepared to meet these challenges and if a new Israel comes up and tries to enter our territory, we may give him a befitting reply. The Government, the ruling party and Opposition have to think jointly over it. We can sort out our differences but the foremost thing is to save our country. If our country remains, then we can sort out our internal differences.

Aid of 4.37 billion doltrs is being given to Pakistan and it is being instigated against us. They are killing two birds with one stone. On the one hand they are

adversally affecting the development of our country and on the other hand, they are weakening it. Had this amount of Rs. 12,512 crores been utilised for the development of the country, we would have made tremendous progress. By giving aid of 4.37 billion dollars to Pakistan, we have been compelled to spend equal amount on our defence. A common man like me is also compelled to think as to how we can face the Blitzkrieg movement if it is made by Israel.

Everyone reads the history but no one takes lesson from it. USA has taken no lesson from the history. After suffering heavy defeat in Indo-China Peninsula, USA has no place in Asia to set its feet. That is why it is blindly giving aid of 4.37 billion dollars to Pakistan which may or may not be used against any one but the other countries of this region have been forced to stop their development works and divert their attention towards mobilising defence equipments.

Now, I would like to say one thing not to the Defence Minister but to the Hon. Prime Minsiter that today our country is passing through a very critical time. That may be due to the China in the north, Pakistan in the west, different fleets in the south and Chinese intrusion in the east. All these things have toughed one thing to us that every inch of the country is equally important and we have to develop each and every part of the country so that in the event of foreign aggression on any part of the country the people of that area may remain prepared to face such aggression.

All our plans should be defence oriented. If you go through Geography, you will find that a one time Rann of Kutch was impassable and it was very difficult for the infantry to move there but now it has become pregnable. Similarly, the Himalayas were regarded impregnable but now forces can move there freely from a number of places. Therefore, we will have to make arrangement at those places accordingly. Construction of roads and other developmental works, Tibet and the setting up of defence installations and the

[Sh. Madan Pandey]

industrial installations and the setting up of power houses along the Tibet border, which is now China border, all should be carried out from the defence oriented point of view.

Sir, I had visited Gangtok. I had drawn the attention of a former Defence Minister towards a problem. There is only one road from Siliguri and that too is blocked due to landslide. It is the same route from which Dalai Lama had come through Nathu Lal Pass. Our Forces have made this road all-weather-road from Gangtok to the border but there is only one road from Siliguri to Gangtok and there is a bridge on the Teesta river. An alternative route should be constructed there so that in the event of closure of one road, another road may be used. If such arrangement is not made everywhere, it can pose a problem some time. We should learn a lesson from the history. We, who live in the foothills of Nepal, understand this situation very well. The Britishers had learnt a lesson from a battle. You might rec-all that the Britishers had launched a war on Kathmandu and an agreement was concluded in Sagauli in 1814. They had understood that unless they constructed a dam on Bari Gandak and had another alternative neither this area would be developed nor they would be able to utilise the area whenever they needed it from strategic point of view. There is a bridge on the Bari Gandak in Sonapur. It has a road and a railway line over it. Another bridge was constructed by the Britishers but when it got damaged in 1924, nobody paid attention towards it. I want that in the present situation it is imperative that the Defence Ministry should take initiative on its own and construct another alternative route via Chhatauni, Bagaha. This is very important route from the strategic point of view.

Besides weaponry, another important aspect is communication network. The radio stations which have been set up are smaller stations of 10 kilowatt. The border of China starts at a distance of 150 to 200 kilometres. We can hear Radio Lhasa in China but our radio cannot be heard in that country. Therefore, All India Radio and the

television network should be quite powerful and it should cover Lhasa, Aksaichin and other areas falling on that side of the border. It should be able to cover Nepal and Bhutan also. Besides this, such programmes should be broadcast/telecast which may instil a sense of fearlessness among the people.

Sir, I have placed these few points before you. We have got an able Minister of Defence who has made efforts to know what type of relations we have with China and Tibet. You belong to that area. You should see that we have a defence oriented planning and no part of the country is left unsafe and we should not wait for the enemy to attack us. We should prepare ourselves to meet the challenge of Pakistan which has constructed pill boxes along the border. We should strengthen our defence from Rann of Kutch to Kashmir so that the enemy may not dare attack us.

The hon. Minister of Defence has presented a very commendable Budget and I convey my thanks to him for this and support the Demands for Grants. We will support whatever demands he presents besides these Demands.

*SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM (Arakkonam): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I wish to express my views in support of the demands for grants of the Ministry of defence for 1987-88.

For the past one week, many in the opposite benches criticised the Govt. over certain defence deals with foreign Govts. I do not think their views reflected their love for this country in any way. I feel that it would not be advisable to have such discussions on defence deals in open manner that it receives wide attention in the press.

Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi commands the majority support of Rs. 75 crores of people in India. He assured the House that he would punish the culprits if charges are substantiated. The oppositon, instead of infusing faith in his words, rely

*The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

on some Swiss radio reports. I, therefore, appeal to the opposition with different shades of opinion to stop this mudslinging and offer constructive cooperation to our Prime Minister and his Govt. They must prove that they are also sons of this soil.

Sir, Rs. 12,512 crores have been allocated for defence. This is insufficient for a country with 75 crores of people. Rs. 1,536 crores have been remarked for navy. India is surrounded by Arabian sea, Bay of Bengal and Indian Ocean. Many foreign ships sail nearby our territorial waters. Therefore, for strengthening our naval defence, we must allocate more funds especially when American bases are being established in Sri Lanka.

We do not have good relations with Pakistan. Under the pretext of Afganistan situation, they are receiving massive US military aid. They are getting sophisticated warplanes and other militaryware. We have cautioned America that these are going to be used against us, but Americans continue to give military aid to Pakistan. We must, therefore, gear up our defences. The allocation of Rs. 2775 crores for airforce is, thus, far from sufficient viewed in this context. We must increase the allocation for airforce.

Pakistan is on the verge of producing a nuclear bomb. China is already in possession of a nuclear bomb and many intercontinental ballistic missiles. China has concentrated its troop in Tibet and on the border state of Arunachal Pradesh.

Sir, Pakistan is in illegal occupation of our territory in Kashmir. Recently it deployed its armoured divisions on the western border. Our Prime Minister and our defence forces took prompt and effective steps and we were able to make Pakistan withdraw its forces.

The Hon. Minister may also kindly take not that there are many military and political leaders in Bangladesh who are inimical to us.

Sir, America has supplied arms worth 3.2 billion US dollars to Pakistan from 1982 to 1987. It has planned to supply arms worth 4.02 billion US dollars to Pakistan during 1987-93.

Pakistan and China have joined hands. They have constructed Karakoram Highway in occupied Kashmir. I, therefore, request the Prime Minister and the Minsiter of Defence to strengthen our friendship with our allies and also increase our defence preparedness.

The tank factory in Avadi may be expanded. We must increase the production of tanks and explore the possibilites of exporting them to African and Arabian countries.

Jawans from Tamil Nadu mostly hail from North Arcot district. In order to provide employment to their children I request that a gun factory may be established in Arakkonam. Even our present army chief Gen. Sundarji hails from North Arcot district. I take pride to say that he belongs to my Arakkonam constituency.

14.00 hrs.

Lastly, I appeal to the Americans to reconsider their policy of arming Pakistan. We are a non-aligned nation and a democratic nation. During world war II America did not jump into the war in the initial days. When it felt that freedom all over the world is in jeopardy, it jumped into the battlefield. President Roosevelt then proclaimed that democracy was being murdered and Americans would wage war to protect democracy. America has such a glorious history. President Reagan must reconsider his proposals to arm a country to its teeth which hanged Mr. Butto a democratically elected leader. Whether this massiv armsassistance to Pakistan is going to protect democracy or bury it? President Reagan must have a second thought.

With this, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN (Badagara):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, public accountability through Parliament is the assence of our Constitutional edifice and democracy. To make such an accountability effective, Parliament shall have to scrutinise public expenditure, particularly in an area like Defence where it is running to astronomical figures. That is why, Sir, some of us have proposed that it is not enough if we go through an annual ritual like debate on these Demands which we must, but also should have a Standing Committee on Defence which can scrutinise not merely policies but also, when confronted with the situation that we have as of now, can closely look into purchase of weapons as well as policies, strategic aims, and the inter-relationship between foreign policy and defence.

Therefore, it is not enough for us to say that, in terms of percentage of GNP, the Indian defence expenditure is still small. In 1971-72 when we had in our hands 12 million refugees and the attendant security risk which ended in a war, the defence expenditure was only Rs. 1,411 crores. By 1981, after a decade, it had trebled to Rs. 4,600 crores, and since then, it has been galloping. The budget estimates for 1986-87 were Rs. 8728 crores; the actuals are more; and by 1987-88 which we are discussing, the projections stand at Rs. 11,900 crores. But my hunch is that it could be around Rs. 13,000 crores. Nor is it enough for us to say that the Indian economy has the capacity for absorption. What is important for us to keep in mind is our own national priorities, social priorities, which would strengthen the sinews of our society, body politic and economy and enable us to play our international and regional roles in a very complex international environment.

Geography has carved for us a particular place in the region and we need not be ashamed either of our role or of our presence or in highlighting this presence. That is not to say that we want to dominate or commit aggression, but we have to

protect ourselves and meet the needs of national security and project our own regional presence fully and adequately.

14.05 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

British India, till 1947, was a Geo-strategic entity created by the British imperialism and now it will largely depend upon our own stategic perception of forces at work in the world and in the region of particular interest to us . Our defence policies are also closely inter-related to our own international aims of peace and disarmament let us not forget it enshrined in the policy of Non-alignment that we have adopted and just as Non-alignment and conduct of our foreign policy influences our strategic overview, our perception of national security influences also the contours of our foreign policy.

Sir, Indi's relations with US or Soviet Union or China or our neighbours have to be understood in this context, I would urge with the United States, we have basic contradictions in our global perceptions, but what is more disturbing now is the concrete fact of the massive military assistance that United States has been providing to our neighbour to encourage its aggressive intentions as well as even potential nuclear status. Sir, the Soviet Union, on the contrary has struck a chord in our hearts not because of certain ideological commitments or because our social perceptions are the same but because of certain identity of interests.

Sir, a major event of the year under review was the visit of the Soviet leader Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev and in the Joint Communique issued after his visit to India they talked about Asian Collective Security. Now, months have passed and what I would like to know from this Government and particularly from the Defence Minister is has this Government spelt out the concrete meaning of collective security in Asia and its implications? How does it strengthen our own strategic perceptions? Was it just a cliche to satisfy our important and eminent guest of honour or do we mean to put any meaning into it, content into it? What is

our assigned role in this? It is not enough for the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers to know what transpired, it is important for us Parliament and country to know.

Sir, an immediate matter of concern is our national security environment. Peace still eludes Afghanistan and Pakistan continue to receive arms from the United States. As I have already mentioned and there is continuing ethnic con-lagrations in our Southern neighbours, Sri Lanka which is deeply disturbing. We can only ignore it at our peril, we cannot sit still when the Tamil population is subjected to systematic genocide. And what is more important is again encouragement given by the United States to Jayawardene Government. It has far more greater implications than the ethnic issue in the overall context of Indian ocean developments. We can onv ignore it at our peril and silence may be golden at times, but we cannot remain silent in relation to the systematic genocide that is going on in Sri Lanka.

It is to be deeply regretted that we have not made any headway in our dialogue with China. Our perceptions may vary and we may have problems. In this context, I must welcome the initiative taken by our Defence Minister during his visit. But, no one can wish away the fact that we are neighbours, two great neighbour and would remain so through the millennium. But there is no alternative to dialogue and patient diplomacy. It is not merely because of our bitter experience of 1962. I may recall the words of a famous soldier. We had the great Chief of our Army Staff General Thimmayya who addressing a seminar and writing soon after the war, said "that war can be fought only at our peril." In relation to China there is no alternative other than patient diplomacy.

Therefore, Sir, let us not be carried away by sentiments and whatever we do in relation to this, I personally think while the people of Arunachal may have their legitimate democratic aspirations which have to be fulfilled, I have no doubt in saying that the granting of statehood to Arunachal was improperly timed.

Sir, security environment conditions our strategic perceptions which in turn condition our own defence requirement in terms of men, materials and weapon system. Sir, we have an army of around 1.1 million or more strong, around 135 Brigades as against Pakistan's 500000 or 105 brigades. We have 2800 tanks as against their 1600 tanks - that is to say to field one brigade we use 8000 men as against Pakisan's 4000 assuming that they are using their reserve of 500000.

Now I would urge upon the House and the Ministry to have a look at rationalising the structure of our Army. It has to be rationalised not only in terms of Archaic Regimental system that we have evolved and built in, it is a historical factor which conditioned it but it has to be rationalised in terms of men and far greater operational cohesiveness.

There has been talk here about having a Joint Chief of Staff. We have a constitutional edifice where the President is the supreme commander of our forces, there is a Prime Minister and a Cabinet and the forces would remain under the civil authority and it is the Defence Minister and the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers who are answerable to Parliament. There is no need for a change and that is why the post of chief of Armed Force as Supreme Commander was done away with. If you go through the Constituent Assembly debates, you will find that it was done away with primarily for this reason and there is no reason for reviving it. It is not a question of temporary political difficulties.

We live in a world where the life-cycle of weapon systems is shortened because of advances in technology, particularly in certain regions of technology like Micro Electronics. That is why, while coming to the requirement of a long range artillery it has been proved in Iran and Iraq war that long range artillery is like a crucial component in any kind of war, given the rationale of our logistics here. Primarily when we go into this question, the basic features of a long range artillery system are lethality, firing rate and mobility.

[Sh. K.P. Ummikrishnan]

Mr. Arun Singh, for whom I have great regard and esteem has said the other day in Parliament that stringent procedures have been laid down to ensure quality - and I underline the word - technical parameters of equipment procured by the Defence Ministry. This is the question I want to pose before you - has it been followed? Why was the Bofors long range artillery system chosen. We know that there were four competitors - the French, the Swedish, the Austrian and the British. There was a general staff requirement which required a firing range of 30000 metres or 30 kms. Is it not a fact that it was found even in the trial at Pokharan and Babina that it fired only upto 18 kms. or 18000 metres and the maximum achieved was 21 kms? Not only that, what is more disturbing is its systems like Shell Feeder and Firing Mechanism had broken off and thrown off. It is a very serious matter to be concerned.

I am not going into the comparative merits of our systems since we have chosen this system. Bofors were given a chance. They have, I am told, blamed our own technical incompetence in dealing with this equipment. Here, some of the question arises. The first question is that it is a serious problem in relation to its breach block and coppering of the bore leading to non performance. In effect, it means that the charge will leak and will not give the required range. Is it that it did not perform because of the inherent defect of the system or because of our incompetence? The Parliament and the public is entitled to know. That means the system is rendered ineffective.

Is it not a fact that the hydraulic system have developed serious defects and it has been noticed? If that is so, how did you choose this system? While coming to the transfer of technology question that in terms of components that one component that is fire-control instrument and computer system and supplied by Marconi of U.K. which is a subsidiary of Marconi of US have they agreed to transfer the

technology? Has the USA agreed to transfer of technology or the SOANNIA for their gun-towing vehicle agreed for transfer of technology?

What is more disturbing is regarding the ammunition because it is a package. It is not that we are buying guns from somebody and ammunition from somebody. Because the para-meters of economy have to work and we thought we can bargain and get more out of a package. Is it a fact? We have ordered around 5,00,000 - Paybe around thousand dollars or so a piece - but can they arrange technology transfer? Do they manufacture it? Have they been keeping up their schedule? These disturbing questions have to be answered.

It is not enough for you to get up and say we are fully aware of the technical parameters. You will have to satisfy Parliament and the country unless otherwise it would be right for us to deduce that the decision was taken not on technical merits but possibly on non-technical considerations leading to the gnawing doubts that the conditions may have been kickbacks to VVIPs. It is not enough for you to talk about Indian agents and clout the issue. What about the non-Indian nationals who have been involved in the deal? Are you prepared for a probe? It is not enough for you to say about de-stabilisation.

We know what de-stabilisation is. A government which has allowed multi-nationals to enter through back door and front door; a government which assaults on self-reliance and a government which demoralises the scientific community you have no moral authority to talk about de-stabilisation. Take the guns or the ammunition system or the submarine system bought after years of deliberation. If it is found to perform poorly or refusing to perform or its deliveries are delayed who is responsible? I want to know what is the report of the Bhandarkar committee on this Bofors Gun system. Is the Government prepared to lay it on the Table of the House?

Therefore, the question before us is do

we want to go back to the theme of self-reliance? Do we want to depend on the imports which is eating into the vitals of our economy, eating into our social priorities, eating into our national priorities and what I said before eating into the efforts of our own Defence scientific community? No other Government has demoralised the scientific community as much as this Government has. What a comparison it is to Jawahar Lal Nehru's government or Indira Gandhi's government? I am ashamed to say when I talk to the young scientists they talk with great feeling that they could as well go elsewhere and join multi-nationals and get five times the salary but in spite of all this they have stayed back. They are building sinews where you want to import technology and destroy their morale. For what? Import of technology must have a meaning and content. Import of technology must enable us to build more into our sinews; it should only supplement but not substitute.

Therefore, Sir, in the final analysis there is no other go for this country than to have a stronger society, a society which can stand the challenges of our security environment. That society can only be a society of equals based on self-reliance and based on our own skill, resolve and will. There is no other substitute for this. These questions must be answered otherwise it will persist; otherwise it will continue to agitate and there is no use for you to talk about Swedish radio or this radio or that newspaper. Forget it. You give the answers.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was listening to Shri Unnikrishnan with great attention. I am not surprised at the figures he has presented. If the country does not prepare itself for defence, he would say then that the country was not prepared and when we are preparing ourselves, he is saying that although we are making preparations, we are not giving importance to the social system. India is in such a position that the Defence Department will have to make full preparations. President

Kennedy, of the United States of America had once said-

[English]

"The best way to prevent war is to remain prepared for war."

[Translation]

The need of the hour is to strengthen the defence of the country to meet the danger posed to it. The people will have to make sacrifices for supporting the Grants for Defence. Unless sacrifices are made, our defence systems will not be strengthened.

Every one knows that the country is surrounded by enemies from all sides. Danger to the country has not lessened from any side in any way. People say there is danger even from Sri Lanka. In the opinion of Shri Unnikrishnan the issue with China will be solved diplomatically. But all the issues cannot be solved with diplomacy. Although China is a Buddhist country but we fear danger from that country also. In such a situation it would be wrong not to keep the country prepared, specially from the defence point of view.

The expenditure on every item has gone up sharply. Due to the implementation of the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission, the expenditure of the country has increased. Taking this into consideration, the increase in the expenditure of the Defence cannot be regarded on the high side. Now one will have to pay more for buying materials for Defence because its cost has increased.

The main thing is that danger to the country is not only from outside. We have also to spend a lot on Police and other things. Our country needs new weapons. In this situation, what is required is to strengthen the defence of the country.

I will conclude by raising one more point. The population of the country has increased tremendously and this is resulting in the increase of our expenditure on every item. In the situation, the expenditure on Defence will also increase. These hon.

[Sh. Mahabir Prasad Yadav]

Members themselves ask for establishing factories and step up defence production. Then people will have to be engaged in the defence production. But if all these things are not done, they will say that the country is not prepared to meet the challenge and our defence has not been geared up to meet the challenge. With these words, I support the Demands for the Defence Ministry.

*SHRI A.C. SHANMUGAM (Vellore):
Hon. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to express my views in support of the demands for grants for defence for 1987-88.

The allocations for defence for 1987-88 is an 100% increase of what has been allocated for 1983-84. The allocations yearwise were: for 1983-84, Rs. 6309 crores, for 1984-85, Rs. 7175 crores, for 1985-86 Rs. 8389 crores and for 1986-87 Rs. 10000 crores. This year the allocation is about Rs. 12,512 crores. I welcome this 100% increase. Out of this, 50% is allotted for army, 12% for navy, 23% for airforce and rest for research and development and administrative expenses.

India is peace-loving nation. We have proved it on many occasions. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Light of Asia, was also the recipient of peace prize.

We are a peaceful nation. However, we must pay adequate attention to our defence. India must be made strong. Our jawans are full of morale. They acquitted themselves excellently in our wars with Pakistan and China. We must modernise our defence forces. We must increase the number of electronic equipments with us. We must indigenously produce and, if warranted, we may also import. There is nothing wrong in it. Modern electronic weapons are must in the present security context.

The Bofors defence deal is an unfortunate episode. Many vested interests and external elements envy the monumental progress of our country. Our Hon. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi is growing in stature day by day. We are making rapid strides in all fields. I, therefore, point out to this

House that this deal is nothing but an attempt to disrupt peace in our country by anti-national and anti-democratic forces. We should not allow such baseless charges by these elements. We must strongly refute them and tell the country the truth.

Pakistan, as an Hon. Member who spoke before said is spending huge amounts, some 60-70% of its total expenditure, on defence. The military power of China is growing menacingly. It has conducted many nuclear tests. Pakistan is also making a nuclear bomb.

Sri Lanka continues to affirm that it is a friendly country. But it in fact indulges in activities aimed at straining relations with India. It has in actual proved that it is not a friendly country. We should not forget whom they sided with during the Bangladesh war. They supported Pakistan openly and offered their land and shore for landing and docking of Pakistani planes and ships. They also helped to refuel these planes and ships. They have recently concluded an agreement with America giving them bases on their shores. They say that it is simply a scientific and technological agreement. Indeed it is a military pact.

Sri Lankans have provided facilities for the establishment of American base in Triconamalai. They have offered 108 oil wells to America for use by American Planes and ships which may conduct exercises on Sri Lankan land and waters. Sri Lankans have also established a high power transmission tower which would eavesdrop on all our ship movements in the Indian Ocean. Thus, the Sri Lankans with the help of Americans have intruded into our security zones.

Military strategists believe that if at all a third world war breaks out it will originate from Indian Ocean. I am, therefore, pained to point out the sordid fact that Sri Lanka has become an agent of America.

We must, hence, strengthen our naval

* The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

defence to be fully prepared for a threat that may come from Indian Ocean.

Sir, ships which come from Calcutta to Bombay, from West to East Coast or from Calcutta to Cochin, they have to go round Triconamalai which is an American base. They have to sail through dangerous waters. The commander-in-chief of the Southern Naval Command has expressed that this could be averted if we complete the Setu Samudra Project. It is the single project that would ensure security of our ships in southern waters. Even the former Minister of defence has stated that this project would be taken up as a defence project and executed on priority basis. That should be done expeditiously which may ensure the security of our ships coming around the Southern most tip of India.

It was unfortunate that we ceded Kachchathivu to Sri Lanka. We must take necessary steps to retrieve it especially when islets near Kachchathivu turning into American bases.

Let us consider our development of our navy over the past 38 years. During 1985-86, we allocated 4% of the defence expenditure for navy. During 1986-87, it rose to 8% and during 1987-88 it is now 12%. This is insufficient. This should be increased at least twofold. The expenditure should not be spent mostly on repairs and renovation work but must be spent on acquisition of modernwarships.

Since independence, we have imported militaryware worth Rs. 40000 to 45000 crores. However, we export iron ore at the rate of Rs. 100 to Rs.500 per tonne. When we import finished products we pay Rs.4000 to Rs. 5000 for the same quantity. I do not assail import of military equipments. But we should also engage in indigenous production. We must attain self-sufficiency.

Many public sector companies are engaged in the production of arms. 34 ordnance factories are their. This number

should be increased. Advanced equipments must be manufactured in our country.

We must also impart compulsory military training to all those, who have attained 18 years of age so that at an youngage, as in many European countries, our youth are prepared to defend our country when our security is endangered.

Requisite permission for expansion of Avadi Heavy Vehicle factory must be granted. Nearly 3000 skilled labourers are in that factory and I think their manpower must be tapped by expanding the capacity of the factory.

Many servicemen take retirement at the age of 35 to 40 years of their age. If they are officers, they easily catch hold of some job after retirement or get into IAS and other cadre services. In the case of ordinary sepoys, they do not have any go. These ex-servicemen must be provided with jobs and bank loans. Bank loans must be provided to these ex-servicemen, who were disciplined soldiers and who were ready to lay their lives for the sake of this nation, without cumbersome procedure and without conditions like mortgaging of property etc.

Let me also say a few words about Sri Lanka. Shri K.P. Unnikrishnan has rightly pointed out that Sri Lankan Govt. is committing genocide on Tamils, innocent civilians. Influx of refugees to India is a persisting problem. For the last one week, Sri Lanka is in turmoil. The whole atmosphere is surcharged with tension. Sri Lanka is enlisting the support of to other nations in committing this ignominious crime on innocent Tamils. Even our Hon. Chief Minister Dr. MGR has arived here to hold talks with the Hon. Prime Minsiter. We appreciate the sincerity of our Hon. Prime Minister in resolving the crisis. The Tamil problem in Sri Lanka is not a matter of relations with an alien nation, but it is a problem affecting the defence of our country viewed in the strictest perspective.

I thank you for the opportunity given.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): Sir, I am only intervening in the debate. The hon. Defence Minister will finally reply to the debate on Monday. I propose to limit my remarks to the points which are relevant to Defence Production and Supplies. The hon. Defence Minister will deal with many of the important points which have been made in this House with regard to security environment, threat perception, allocations for the Defence Ministry as such and many other aspects.

The debate on the demands has been, in my opinion, very good and encouraging. Excepting one or two, all the other members who spoke here, have supported the allocations provided in the Budget for Defence. Some members have also said that more money should have been made available. Criticism levelled by the members is also welcome. In fact, it provides an opportunity for us who are working in the Department/Ministry to evaluate in a critical manner, as to how we have been working and as to how to rectify the mistakes if there are any. The advice given by the members is also welcome and we would certainly like to make use of some of the good points that have been made by the hon. members.

Some members are also very kind to praise the activities of the workers, soldiers and officers in the Ministry of Defence. The words of praise showered by them will be very encouraging for all of us and we would like to thank the members for the kindness that they have shown.

Sir, the Department of Defence Production and Supplies deals with production, supplies, inspection and standardisation and a few other things. It would not be necessary to deal in detail with all these issues. But I would like to shed some light on how the Department of Defence Production and Supplies has been working.

The Director General of Inspection is

responsible for inspecting the goods, items and equipments which are procured and produced in the Ordnance Factories and public sector undertakings. They ensure that quality goods are procured, quality goods are produced and quality goods are supplied to the defence forces. This organisation is scientific and technical staff oriented. About 20,000 staff are working in it. It inspects the stores worth in the vicinity of Rs. 2600 crores.

The Supply Wing is responsible for getting the goods, equipments and instruments from the civil sector as such. Their responsibility is also to see that the sources for producing the equipments, goods, assemblies and components are established in the civil sector. This was a separate Wing, but now it has been merged with the Defence Production, I think in January 1985. The production is done in Ordnance Factories and public sector undertakings. We have 34 Ordnance Factories. The first factory was established in 1801. We have about four or five factories which were established more than 100 years before. In these factories, we are producing tanks, guns, rockets, bombs, ammunitions, small arms, uniforms, goods, buckles, tents and so many other things. About 1,86,000 people are working in these factories. The gross value of the production in the last financial year is in the vicinity of Rs. 1500 crores.

While replying to one of the questions in the morning, I had occasion to say that the capacity which was established in this factory has been utilised. The utilisation of the capacity ranges between 70 to 90 and in some cases it has gone beyond that also. These factories are producing equipments and goods required by the defence forces. They do not earn profit. They are giving the goods which they produce to the defence forces on cost-price basis. So there is no question of Ordnance Factories producing any profit. We propose to establish six more Ordnance Factories. In the morning, I had informed this august House that we would be spending, about Rs. 1800 crores on these new factories.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: We want one for Kerala.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: At Avadi, we are establishing a factory to produce the engines for T-72 tanks and the BMPs.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar): What about Medak?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Well, at Medak, we are establishing a factory which will be producing BMPs and I have great pleasure in announcing in this House that this year, within a few months' time, a few T-72 tanks and BMPs, the infantry combat vehicles will roll out of these factories and they will join the defence forces.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: No harm in clapping for that.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Who extracted the answer? You forgot that point.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: We are going to establish Optro-Electronic factories which will produce Optro-Electronic instruments, which will be fitted in Tanks and BMPs and other vehicles which will be used in many other areas. One more factory is coming up at Bolangir, a filling factory. Then the propellant factory is likely to be established at a place which will be suggested by a committee appointed for this purpose.

While discussing 155 mm. guns, a question was asked whether we were going to produce them here in this country, or not; whether the ammunition required for these guns would be produced in the country, or not. The answer is 'Yes'. We want to produce these guns in our country. We are in the process of preparing the detailed project report; and after the report is prepared, we would like to see that this kind of a factory comes up; and we will be producing these guns.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: What is the production schedule?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: That can be given after the detailed project report is ready..(Interruptions)

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Only the intention is clear.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The public sector units are producing many, many sophisticated things. These public sector units have been producing aircraft and helicopters; they are producing submarines, frigates and corvette ships. For ONGC, some of the yards are producing platforms, rigs and the supply vessels; and they are producing many other things. One of our public sector undertakings is producing super-alloys, and alloys which are required for Defence purposes - not only alloys required for Defence purposes are produced in this public sector undertaking, but the alloys which are required by the Space Department and other Departments are also produced. So we have this kind of an arrangement also available here. Then we produce missiles and things like that. The value of production in the last financial year viz. 1986-87 is in the vicinity of Rs. 1800 crores, and the profit earned by these factories, I am happy to inform this House, is Rs. 74 crores - Rs. 74 crores in 1985-86. But in 1986-87, the profit earned by these factories is Rs. 111 crores. They had given dividends which are in the neighbourhood of Rs. 16 crores in 1985, and Rs. 18 crores in 1986. They employ about 106,000 officers and workers. Capacity utilization has been in the vicinity of 72% to 100%*

I am giving this information, because this is the only opportunity when we can, in totality - in entirety - have a look at the performance of the ordnance factories and the public sector undertakings. If you ask me as to how these ordnance factories and the public sector undertakings have worked, have performed, I would not hesitate in saying that they have worked, satisfactorily, they have produced all the things which could have been produced, and are required by the Defence forces; and that the quality of goods produced by them has been acceptable to the users. But we are not satisfied with this, and we would certainly like to see that they perform better. The proposals are there with the Department, with the ordnance factories and the public sector undertakings; and we want to implement them and see that the performance of these factories is bettered.

[Sh. Shivraj V. Patil]

One of the things which we would like to do is modernization itself. Many of the Members, while speaking on the Demands of this Department, also suggested that modernization was a key to progress and success.

We would like to modernise our administration; we would like to have new technologies, new processes; we would like to have the latest machines and plants/to be used in our factories; and we would like to see that the production, the efficiency in these factories increases, productivity increases. In order to get technologies, we are mainly relying upon two or three factors. One of the most important things is that in our own laboratories under the Department of Defence or R&D, the technologies which are developed in Defence R&D are used there. I would not be going into details as to how the technologies are developed and as to how they are used in the defence production, but I would say that some of the things which have been done by the Defence R&D Laboratories are really very good and we are proud of what has been taking place in the Defence R&D Units. There are national laboratories which are producing technologies. I had the good fortune of knowing from close quarters as to how the national laboratories for which many other departments and Ministries are working are doing it; we are relying upon the technologies which are developed by them and we are helping them also. We do realise that all the technologies and all the equipments which are needed for modernisation cannot be developed in our country alone; it is necessary for us to take the technology from outside also if it is available - depending upon its availability. We do not want to shy away from taking and making use of the technologies from outside and using them also. In fact, the development of the technologies in India has followed a particular route. First of all, we have become acquainted with a technology. Then we have acquired it and understand it. Then we have analysed it and we have improved upon it and then we have developed the innate capacity; we have developed the technologies ourselves and

we have used them. This is the route which is followed in many other areas also - in agriculture, in industry, in sophisticated area as space technology and atomic energy technology also and defence technology also. By and large, this has been the route and this is what we are following but with one objective and with one view in mind and that objective we do not lose sight of and that objective is to become self-reliant. Knowledge is a common heritage of mankind. If it is available in India, we will make use of it if it can be made use of; if it can be given to others, we will give it to others; if it is available from outside, we will like to take it also.

The third point which we have been thinking about is the planning itself. The national plan will be there and the defence plan will fit into the national plan; and naturally defence production and supply plan will fit in the plan which is made for the entire defence by the Defence Ministry. One of the points with which we are very particular about is that the plan should be very accurate, the plan should be made meticulously so as to avoid the time over-run and the cost over-run. If the concepts are wrong, if the plan is inaccurate, then the results cannot be good and we cannot have the production on schedule in a cost effective manner of the quality goods. So, we are trying to emphasise that let us have more information, let us use modern method of planning, let us use modern gadget, if necessary, let us pool the knowledge and information and plan in a fashion which would really help us in all respects. In the last two or three years, one of the most important things which has been given to the country as a whole is the emphasis on actual implementation of the plans. If a plan is correct and accurate, but if the implementation is not good, the results cannot also be acceptable. So, emphasis on monitoring, emphasis on implementation is there. Hon. Prime Minister has been emphasising on correct planning, on modernisation and on implementation also. At every stage we have introduced a method of monitoring, monitoring at the shop floor level, at the board's level, in the Ministry and at every level, at the Minister's

level, at the State Minister's level at the Secretary's level at the board's level and at the Manager's level, monitoring has been done in a meticulous manner and intermittently the results have certainly been very good. The productivity in the Ordnance Factories has gone up. The value of the productivity of per man per annum in Ordnance Factories was in the vicinity of 35000. It has gone up to 75000. This is the result of accurate planning and it is a result of constant monitoring.

Training is one of the things, it is very important and we are trying to train the workers, the supervisors and the officers in the factories, in the institutions and we are helping them to get trained outside the country also.

Quality control is very very important. We have been paying enough of importance to that.

The welfare of the workers and the officers is also one of the points to which we have been paying lot of attention. In my opinion, the man behind the machine is more important. In my opinion, man is more adroit than any sophisticated machine can be. A scientist told me that a computer, the most sophisticated computer is not as intelligent as a living cell in the body of a human being, with respect to receiving information and giving out the information. If this is so about one cell, in the human body we can understand the adroitness and the skill of a human being as such. So, the man is very important and we want to see that he does not work only because he has to work, but he is willing also. His spirit is also ready to work, his spirit is willing and he is working. And in order to create this kind of conditions we have tried to see that all that is necessary to create a condition of this kind in material terms is to provide schooling, housing, recreational facilities like many other things, and opportunities for promotion, remunerative emoluments and things like that.

One of the things which we have been emphasising in these public sector undertakings is the environmental

protection. Industries produce goods, but at the same time it is also seen that environment is affected because of the industries also. Water is polluted, air is polluted and even land is polluted and they create lot of problems. It is the responsibility of the public sector undertakings and the Ordnance Factories and the factories run by the Government to see that the environment, the very source of existence, the very source of wealth, it is not got polluted. So, it is our responsibility to see that the water, the air and the land does not get polluted. We have tried to see that the pollution is not there. But we are not satisfied with only with this kind of approach. We would like to do something more than that. The approach is not only to protect from pollution, but the approach is to do better also, with more plantation of trees and things like that we would like to protect the environment.

I am very really happy to inform this House that one public sector undertaking, HAL has planted saplings the number of which is 32 lakhs!

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY
(Katwa): Is it? Well done.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: This is the kind of approach we would like to have with respect to the factories and our public sector undertakings.

Having said this much, I would like to come to some of the points which have been raised by some of the hon. Members. I must say that they have been very kind and nice to the entire Defence Ministry as such in this debate at least. And we are very thankful to them for what they said on Defence Production and Defence Supply departments.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: They are only unkind on special motions.

15.00 hrs.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: One point which was raised by a few hon. Members on the floor of this House relates to using

[Sh. Shivraj V. Patil]

the capacities in the civil sector or private sector. One of the Members got up and said that there is a capacity, use it; if you do not use it, you are not using the national capacity in the best possible manner. And a suggestion was given that if necessary, give incentives also to the private industry to take up the production of the things which are required by the Defence Forces. And other hon. Member was very categorical in saying that this kind of thing is not necessary. Except these two extreme stands taken by two Members, the other stand taken by the other Member was really the stand which the Government has taken. We have accepted the principle of mixed economy. We would like to produce things in the public sector. We would like to see that the private sector develops. There is a joint sector also which is acceptable to us. This is the kind of philosophy which we have accepted in this country. Upto this time in the civil sector there was not enough capability. So separately the factories had to be established even to stitch the uniforms and to make the boots and things like that. They are existing with us even now. But when we see that in the private sector, cooperative sector, joint sector and in other public sector units which are not with the Defence Ministry these kinds of capacities have been developed, is it not necessary for us or is it not going to be profitable for us to use those kinds of things? And the philosophy, the policy which is accepted by the Government is that we would like to utilise the entire infrastructure and the capacity which has been established in all sectors in the country for the defence purposes also.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY
(Midnapore): By starving the public sector?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I have not yet completed. I am going to dwell upon this point in a little detail. We will not like to starve the public sector. You can take it from me. The second assurance which has been given by my predecessor on the floor of the House is that no retrenchment will take place. We are not going to throw out any of the workers from our public sector

simply because we are using the civil sector. I would like to inform you that some of the things we have off-loaded and given to the civil sector. The making of uniforms has been given to the civil sector. But two years before, the value of the production of clothing in our ordnance factory was in the vicinity of Rs. 120 crores. In the last financial years the value of the production has gone up, even after giving this production to the civil sector, to Rs. 175 crores.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: That is because of inflation.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Not because of inflation. The prices of cloth have not gone up very much. That is not simply because of that. But we are producing more items. We are producing in large quantities and they are given to our forces. I would like to make a very categorical statement that by having this kind of policy we would certainly like to rationalise, use the human resources to the maximum. We do not want to waste the energy in our brother workers and our fellow beings in the country, but we would not like to throw them out also. Rationalisation is something else but we would not like to retrench them from the ordnance factories. You can take it from me. And we would not like to do that.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: You would not reflect the number of posts in a factory. After the retirement of a person, will you fill up that post?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I will come to that point later on. I made it very clear in the morning while replying to a question which was put in a very very pointed manner and these points were really raised by the hon. Members and I had an occasion to reply to them. Our approach is that if there are small things which can be done by the small sector units, should we not give it to the small sector units; should we not give it to the private sector? Supposing I want some buckles, belts and badges. They can be produced by anybody. Even a single human being working there with a

machine can produce those things. Should we not give it to them?

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Then why the policy was formulated at that time that private sector should not be allowed to enter the defence production?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I am coming to that. While explaining, I said that there was a time when this industrial infrastructure was not available in the country, but that is not the situation to-day.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Buckles.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Would you like to see that the workers go on producing boots and buckles only?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: After my completing my say on this point if you have doubt, you can raise that and I will reply. If the uniforms have to be manufactured, is it necessary for us to manufacture these uniforms in the Ordnance factories? I would rather like to have uniforms from the private sector.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: While preparing pockets, at least lining must be done properly.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Yes, that is the pocket of someone else and not of the military people.

Well, if uniforms have to be manufactured, what kind of uniforms we would like to manufacture in the ordnance factories? We would like to manufacture

SHRI SURESH KURUP: This is a question of arms and ammunition.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Let me explain. After that if you are not satisfied, you can ask the question and I will reply.

I was trying to say that if uniforms have to be manufactured, would you like me to get these uniforms manufactured in the ordnance factories? There are other kinds of

uniforms also which would be required to be manufactured. If a uniform which provides protection to our soldiers against nuclear fall out, against the chemical weapons, which provides some protection against fire, if this kind of uniform is manufactured, we would rather like to go from the simple uniforms to this kind of uniforms and go to the small people who are living in the villages, in the townships and other places who, to the specification, will manufacture these things. You will ask me you say that, well, you produce these boxes for carrying the ammunition and weapons from one place to another, would you like the ordnance factories to manufacture the boxes? I would rather like to manufacture ammunition itself, the most advanced sophisticated ammunition and the weapons and the human power which is available with us, we will give them this skill. We will import skill. We will give them knowledge and train them and we will see that they become producers of more sophisticated things and through this process they would be able to earn more also and they would have pride in what they are doing. If you ask me if the ordnance factories and Government would be interested in producing tanks and BMP Vehicles, I would say, yes, we will be doing that and I have explained that - we are establishing new factories for all these things and in new factories, I had an opportunity to say in the morning that there will be more employment potential generated, created. Now, if we are not using say 1,000 people or 2,000 people in one kind of activity, we would have generated with the same amount of saving in other areas more than that, sometimes more than that, not in all the cases, but sometimes more than that. When we are establishing new factories - six more factories are coming - I would like to give you a work, the employment potential generated in these six factories is going to be more than 15000 workers. Would you like to spend money in stitching the uniform and making boots and would you not like to do that? If we are relying on the foreign firms, if we are getting things from outside, should we not rely on the people who have capability

[Sh. Shivraj V. Patil]

to do these things? With this approach we have accepted this philosophy.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: You have told that there would not be retrenchment; you have agreed that there will not be any retrenchment, will there be any shrinkage in work force? In a factory there are 1000 persons. 200 persons retire or go away. Will you fill up those vacancies? You are not retrenching. Without retrenching you can keep these posts un-filled.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Have you specifically decided about the items which are to be given to the private sector? That is a point. Buttons, all right.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The answer to your question is, if you take the totality of the work force with which the ordnance factories is concerned, it is not going to shrink. But if you think that if there is a small factory doing something over there...

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Whether you will be getting them according to your specification?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Well, that is not possible. We will train and retrain them. The second question asked by the hon. Member is: what kind of items are you going to give to the civil sector? The kind of items that may be given to the civil sector is not going to be done in an abrupt manner, without considering the difficulties which may arise out of this for the workers, without considering whether the supply will be continuous or not, without considering whether the quality goods will be supplied or not. Now, all these factors will be taken into account while taking a decision on doing it and we want to do it, but not in abrupt manner, but in phases, namely, first phase, second phase, third phase, etc. And things for which we are going to the civil sector are like this. I will read out that. But I think you do not want me to read out all those things. I would read out some items which may give you some idea. They are:

Jacket combat disruptive
Trousers combat disruptive
bit kits, anklets,
Barett knitted
coat combat disruptives,
vest cotton,
Shirt - Angola,
Mosquito nets and things like that.

Are you having any objection to this of kind of things?

Now, when we are establishing the factories to manufacture tanks and BMP, even for them there are small nuts and bolts which have to be manufactured. Now, small cables and things like that are to be manufactured - and if you want that all those small things should be manufactured in the factory itself, the investment that will be required will be enormous and if we have the capacity developed in the vicinity of that factory, then we would rather like to give this kind of job to the factories which are existing in that vicinity and the decision taken by the Government in producing BMP and the tanks is to give 40% of the materials, components, assemblies and other things that are required, to the private sector and even for that a huge amount of money will be spent on establishing all these things. The approach is to use the totality of the capacity available in the country and not to develop the capacity separately in the Ordnance factory for small and big things. This has been the approach and I don't think there is any objection to that. I want to assure the hon. Members on the floor of this House that there will not be any retrenchment.

The second thing is that we will be producing more and the total work force will be more even after following this policy because we are establishing these things. But some rationalisation in some factories will be necessary, some training and re-training will be necessary, shifting of the work-force from one place to other work place in certain cases will be necessary. But taking that into account, this kind of approach has to be done. I think no hon. Member can have any

objection to this. I am really very happy that I have been able to put before you these points in a manner which seem to be convincing to my friend Shri Choubey and other hon. Members.

Sir, one of the points which was made by Mr. Indrajit Gupta was that whether we have reduced the allocation to the Defence Production and Supplies Department. The answer is that we have changed the method. This year, the Defence Production and D.G.O.F. will get Rs. 1893 crores as against Rs. 1283 crores given last year. But some other method is accepted in giving these figures. Previously, the capital expenditure and the revenue expenditure were clubbed and the allocation for capital expenditure and the revenue expenditure was under the head of army. Now, the revenue expenditure is included in the allocation for DGOF. Previously the supply was free of cost. Now the Army will be giving some price to the ordnance factories for the supplies made. In this fashion we have tried to have some different kind of accounting system. But the allocation is not reduced. Last year 12.59 per cent of the allocation to the Ministry was made available to the DGOF, but this year 15.10 per cent of the allocation is made available. This means there is an increase of about 3 per cent over the last year. That goes to show that we are emphasising indigenisation, we are emphasising self-reliance rather than arms import.

A point was made by one of the hon. Members about the administration in ordnance factories. I would not like to deal with it in detail on the floor of the House. I have taken note of it and whatever is necessary will be done in that respect after examining all the points relating to it.

One of the points made was that we would like to have indigenisation and self-reliance. Well, I am sorry, Mr. Unnikrishnan came to the conclusion that we have demoralised the scientific community. That is not the case. I had the opportunity of working in the Scientific Ministry for a pretty long time, about 3 to 4 years I was there in the Ministry and I

was really very happy to have worked there and understood as to what is happening in the entire world as such. You can take it from me that the scientific community in India will have more opportunities to prove their skill. The investment in scientific research and development is going up, we are providing more money to the scientists in DRDO and other organisations also.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): What about their salaries and allowances?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: They are also going up. Salaries and allowances are also going up, we are giving them better emoluments. More than that we are giving them better equipments, more than that we are giving them better opportunities, opportunities to work in space technology, opportunities to work in genetics, opportunities to work in many other most advanced areas and once the decision is taken by the Government to see that investment is done in advanced areas, the scientists would, I am sure, be very very happy. If we are asking them to complete the project in time and if we are asking them to see that the results are quickly made available to the entire country, I don't think that the scientists who observe and understand the compulsion of our society and what is required in the country would take any objection to that.

One point which I would like to make is that as far as the defence production is concerned, if the defence research is alpha and the defence forces are omega, it is a link between the two. We start from there and the final produce is given to the Defence Forces. The job of the Defence Production is to utilise the technologies developed in the research laboratories and produce the final goods which will be required by the Defence Forces, and we are very happy to say that many of the technologies which are developed in the defence laboratories are being used by the Defence Production and Defence laboratories are making use of the talents which are available in the defence factories also. If a project is taken up and it is at the stage of Research and Development, the officers and

[Sh. Shivraj V. Patil]

the scientists in the production unit are associated with the development and this has helped us in producing the technologies and not keeping them on the shelf, but using those technologies in the best possible manner.

One hon. Member made a statement about radar and all those things. I am given a Paper and I will just read out, if you permit me, about that and if more explanation is required, it will be given later on by the hon. Defence Minister.

"Some apprehensions had been expressed about the state of technology transfer in the case of Low Level Radar Indra. I wish to categorically assure the House that the highest level of coordination between the Department of Defence R&D and the Department of Defence Production exists in this case.

"In fact, the production order has already been placed on Bharat Electronics Ltd., Ghaziabad, immediately after the evaluation and acceptance by the user of the low level radar. Technology transfer for INDRA I equipment has already been completed and the radar is going to be produced by Bharat Electronics in a phased manner. Quantity 3 of INDRA I is expected to be produced by the end of the year 1988 itself and the existing order quantity for both INDRA I and INDRA II will be liquidated by the end of the year 1991.

"There is another project for the manufacture of FSAPDS ammunition, wherein a factory is being jointly set up by the Department of Defence R&D and the Department of Defence Production. After setting up and successful initial run of production, the factory will be handed over to the Department of Defence Production for subsequent regular production."

This, I am putting before you because I would like to say that the development of technology and the development of the equipment are going hand in hand. It is not enough to develop the technology, but it

should be translated into manufacturing goods on the basis of that technology. If those who are working in the production units are associated at the initial stage of development of the technology, it helps, and that is the kind of approach which has been adopted and which has been very helpful also.

At the end I would like to say that, whenever we discuss the Demands for Grants of the Defence Ministry, very rightly we say that we salute our soldiers and officers in the defence forces, but while intervening in this debate I would like to say that the workers in the factories and the officers in the factories and the officers in the Department are helping our soldiers and officers to protect the integrity and the sovereignty of the country, and they are also to be saluted. I would like to salute the workers and officers in the public sector units, in the ordnance factories, in the Inspection Wing and in the Department; also when I would be saluting the officers and the soldiers who are ready to protect the integrity and the sovereignty of our country ...

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI (Satna): We all join you.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I am very happy that you all join in doing that.

If you ask me whether I am satisfied with what is happening in the Defence Department, in the Defence Production and Supplies Department, without hesitation, but in a very humble manner, I would like to say that the workers and the officers in factories and in the offices have tried their best, to give their best, for the defence of the country to support our soldiers and officers. We would like to congratulate them and we would like to thank them. Ultimately, I would like to thank you all for the patient hearing.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: We want to seek a few clarifications ...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Your can do on Monday.

Mr. Bhadreswar Tanti.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI (Kaliabor): Sir, this matter would not have come up for discussion if it had not been raised by one of the Members in the House the other day. It is a very important matter for discussion. I thank the hon. Minister for taking steps to bring up the matter for discussion in the House.

The velocity of circulation of arms deal has —tremendously increased in the neighbouring States of the sub-continent in recent times and our country has become birds of prey at the instance of the big and super powers. It has caused a direct threat to the national security environment of the country and every citizen of the country is very much concerned about it. To guard the security of the country is more important than anything else as has been enunciated in our Gita

"Janani janembhoomisch swadipi griyaci"

Sir, my apprehension is that why the Government should be a silent spectator when the security is at the stake? For instance, China is repeatedly threatening the North-Eastern States since 1962 and recently their intrusion in Arunachal Pradesh, they have constructed helipad, they have collected taxes from the local men and they have abducted some Indian citizens from Arunachal Pradesh and our action is nothing but a mere protest. The protest has become a rule in our country and the protest has become the force and strength of our security. On the other hand, Pakistan has acquired more sophisticated weapons from USA and also preparing nuclear weapons. Apart from that they are indulging in terrorist activities in India. Bangladesh has put an end to the construction of border fence and every moment, Bangla nationals are coming to our country illegally and we have no method to stop it.

Our Defence intelligence has hopelessly failed to alert the Government to take action in appropriate time. It is known to

us that unlawful organisations like TNV MNF, ULFA, NSC, Khalistan extremists and other organisations always cross the border. That news comes to the Government through the media, through the press but not through our Defence Intelligence. How could you fail to trap them while crossing the border in Burma. Manipur and other bordering areas?

Secondly, a Member of Parliament recently from this House has gone to Burma in an Air Force plane, in an army plane, on an unscheduled trip. This is very serious. And he did not make any statement in the House.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): What is the use of referring to it?

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Yes, this is very much essential. When an Air Force plane has been used by unauthorised person, people of the country are very much concerned about it.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: There is no relevance.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Could you explain what for he had managed to take the plane from Air Force and landed for refueling in Burma?

Thirdly, the purchase of 155 MM gun, the Bofors.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please wind up.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: You cannot suppress the democracy and the parliamentary democracy. We the Members of the Opposition wanted a stable Government, but you are keeping silent. What prevented you to make an enquiry, a Parliamentary enquiry committee with the members of this House instead of judicial enquiry? The security of the country is stake and every citizen is concerned about

[Sh. Bhadreswar Tanti]

it. That is why the Government will not last long. The people are very much concerned. Remember that 77 will come again.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.C. PANT): It may leave a wrong impression Sir. I would like to make it clear that no unauthorised person has gone to Burma in an Air Force plane.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: It appears in the media Sir.

SHRI K.C. PANT: I have just made enquiry from the officials sitting here and on that basis I am telling you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: When he says it, you have to take the word of the Minister.

AN HON. MEMBER: There must be a check on this kind of things. It is very unfortunate...

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Truth will prevail. We believe in God and we believe in truth.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please wind up. You speak for two or three minutes. On Monday the Minister has to reply and we have to take up Agriculture Ministry also. I cannot give you more time.

AN HON. MEMBER: Don't go to Burma.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): You can go to Sweden.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: I don't like to go to Sweden Sir.

The north eastern region has been neglected like anything. If you go to the States in the north eastern region, you will not find a single defence public sector unit. Nothing of the sort has been set up there. You will not even find a person of this region in the Army also. What is the percentage of people belonging to the north eastern region in the Army, please tell us.

About corruption in the Army, you will be stunned to know that we are the worst sufferers. When there are floods, Army is called in by the civil authorities.

(Interruptions)

In 1983 when there were elections in Manipur and in Mizoram when there were terrorist activities,** and the Government has not taken any steps *(Interruptions)* You may not know it because you will not try to know it. We know it that in the north eastern region what is happening and how the Army treats the people.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): He is casting aspersion on the Army Sir. That remark should be expunged.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This kind of things you can write to the Minister. Don't make that remark. You please withdraw that remark. You don't make this kind of remark. If at all there is anything, you write to the Minister. Withdraw that statement. I hope you have withdrawn that remark. Therefore, that can be

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: No Sir, it must go on record.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you are not withdrawing it, then I am expunging it. I am not allowing it to go on record. You write to the Minister and he will look into it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: You cannot take away my democratic right Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will not allow this kind of statement on the Army.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: But the Minister will agree that the Government knows what has taken place in Assam in 1983, what has taken place in Mizoram and what has taken place in Manipur

(Interruptions)

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That won't go on record.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: I have my paper cutting and I will give it

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please conclude.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: People of India have respect for Defence personnel but Government must take note of it and properly deal with it.

15.35 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS'
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Thirty-fourth Report

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE
(Chandrapur): Sir I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Thirty-fourth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 22nd April, 1987"

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Thirty-fourth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 22nd April, 1987."

The motion was adopted.

15.35 1/2 hrs.

CONSUMER PROTECTION (PUBLICATION
OF PRICE WITH THE ADVERTISED
PRODUCT) BILL*

[English]

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK
(Cuttack): Sir, I beg to move for leave to

introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory publication of price of the advertised products in the advertisements.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory publication of price of the advertised products in the advertisements."

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: I introduce the Bill.

15.36 hrs.

STATE OF GOA, DAMAN AND DIU BILL*

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of the State of Goa, Daman and Diu and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of the State of Goa, Daman and Diu and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, I introduce** the Bill.