

12.45 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF CONTINUANCE OF PROCLAMATION BY THE PRESIDENT IN RELATION TO THE STATE OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR—*Contd.*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up further discussion on Statutory Resolution regarding Jammu and Kashmir. Shri Madan Lal Khurana to continue.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was discussing about extending the period of President's rule in Jammu and Kashmir by 6 months. I do not have any other option but to support it. I said that we should have an introspection of ourselves and analyse our policies in respect of Jammu and Kashmir. In view of these policies which we are following, would it help in holding the elections in the State?

Pilot ji is an old friend of mine, but from the time he has taken the charge of Jammu and Kashmir, I have heard about a number of incidents taking place there. I will be glad if he makes an explanation in this respect.

While taking up the charge Shri Pilot had declared that a Kashmiri cell would be formed and accordingly a cell was formed which comprised 5 persons—V. K. Jain, Madhukar Gupta, Jai Ram Ramesh, Shri Habibullah, who was later on appointed as Commissioner of Kashmir and Ashok Patel, who is going to retire on 31st of this month. I want to know whether any official meeting was organised, I am least concerned about unofficial ones but whether any meeting was held about policy matters with a proper agenda. If there was any then I want to know about its proceedings and minutes.

Secondly, a point which was raised by an hon. Member last time also that a meeting on the issue of Kashmir was organised by the Cabinet Committee on Kashmir Affairs but not by the Cabinet. This Government has completed two and half years' period, during which two cabinet meetings have been organised. First time, when Dr. Murali Manohar Joshi set

out on his Rashtriya Ekta Yatra to unfurl the national flag and second one was held when Ammanullah Khan had declared a long march in P.O.K. and since then no meeting has been organised in which all the members of the cabinet are present.

I want that the information given by me on Kashmir cell should be verified by the Minister. A function was organised on the 3rd of August to release a book on Kashmir written by Shri D. K. Kumar. Two Ex-Governors of Kashmir Shri Jagmohan and Shri Girish Saxena were present in this function. A member of Kashmir cell Shri Jai Ram Ramesh said that it was incorrect that Pakistan is involved in proxy war in Kashmir, we can discuss this matter while sitting on a table. Secondly, he said that we should not trust the reports given by our Intelligence Bureau on Kashmir, these are often exaggerated. Thirdly he asked as to why the terrorist leaders like Satbir Shah and Yasin Malik cannot be released. These three points have been openly raised by a member of Kashmir Cell. I have myself watched its video tape and Pak Radio and T.V. have made propaganda about it.

I want to know as to what impression do you want to give to the world. Is it the policy of the Government to work in this manner. A retired I.A.S. Officer of Kashmir Cadre Shri Hamidulla Khan was doing his best as Advisor but you have hurt the feeling of Kashmir people by replacing him with Shri Syed of Karnataka Cadre. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Time is limited for this issue and there is a lot of business to be taken up today. Khurana ji, you have spoken some days ago and the time allotted to your party is only 19 minutes that is why I have rung the bell as we have to discuss Dunkel proposal and other subjects also.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: You have sent a person from Karnataka who even does not know the basic things about Kashmir. You have appointed as an advisor to such a person who had presented a memorandum against the Indian Security Forces in Human Rights Commission, you sent him to U.N.O. and now you are appointing him as Advisor and are giving him the rank of a minister. On 24th when there was an incident in

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Sopore then the Commissioner of Kashmir, D. C. of Baramulla and S. P. Shri S. M. Sahay went there, who were gheraoed by thousands of terrorists. A B.S.F. post was located at the distance merely hundred yards away from there but the personnel refused to come to their rescue. This news was published in Hindustan Times and Times of India that military did not come at that time.

[English]

"Reacting to the report that Army had refused him, the Deputy Commissioner told this correspondent on telephone that Army did not come at all and the BSF also refused."

[Translation]

The BSF refused to come to their rescue, this is the State of affairs there and you claim that the situation is under control and Election will be held in near future. If you go through the report given by the team of the reporters, which recently visited the valley then you will come to know about the real situation prevailing there. In this interview given by the Additional D.G.P. to Times of India and Hindustan Times, has said—

[English]

"The instructions from New Delhi also interfered with the *modus operandi* of the BSF to raid a suspected terrorist hide-out."

[Translation]

The Centre makes interference like this I, therefore, submit that the Government must give it a serious thought. I have already said that Pakistani Flags were hoisted there. The reporters who had been there three days ago have reported in Hindustan Times that they are conspiring to promote Islamic fundamentalism there and are opening schools for this purpose so that they can spread terrorism to other parts of the country. You should take action to counter such activities.

The Government do not have any policy on Kashmir as such, you should go for a policy. Neither any cabinet meeting was conducted nor opposition parties were consulted in

this regard. No concensus was made. The President of Jammu and Kashmir State Congress Committee Shri Kar has said that he is displeased with the Centre's policy on Kashmir. The Prime Minister has not visited Kashmir so far, although he keeps visiting other States, he should pay a visit there too. Recently a group of Members of Parliament had visited Kashmir and then Ladakh. One of your colleague in the Cabinet had promised to tell about the arrangements being made about the future of the Kashmiri refugees during the session, as we do not know anything in this regard. You, therefore, tell us what are your plans for their future. The result of the examination held three years ago, has been declared now, kindly tell us as to why the examinations are not being held at present. This is spoiling the future of the students. It is good that you are making a number of schemes to provide employment to the youth of the valley but kindly tell what are you going to do about the future of the displaced girls? The policy of the Government regarding providing jobs to the Shikara owners or Tonga drivers, who are jobless due to the terrorism in the valley. A number of displaced Kashmiri Government servants were retired during the last three years, how you are going to fill these vacant posts. Why do not you appoint displaced Kashmiris on these posts.

12.57 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

Some days back there was a circular in the newspapers that you are conducting a survey. This is a circular of Office of the Relief Commissioner, Jammu. It says that the people who have left their movable immovable properties are being asked to fill up the similar forms that were filled by the refugees from West Pakistan declaring that they do not want to go back. This is creating a lot of suspicion in the minds of the Kashmir refugees. You should come out with a clarification in this regard and remove their suspicion.

A conference of Human Rights Commission was held recently in Vienna. As per my information Pakistan made propaganda against India with all its might, India might have protested it but it did not plead her case in an effective manner.

13.00 hrs.

[English]

It seems that we were not able to present documents in a proper manner. The persons who are very much concerned about Kashmir say that this issue was not given wide publicity on T.V. and Radio on the contrary the publicity made by the Pakistan T.V. and Radio was very systemic and offensive. You should also take necessary steps in this regard.

My second suggestion is that a clear National policy should be framed on Kashmir. You may call a high level meeting of all parties and after deep consultation a consensus should be arrived at and then it should be decided as to what way we have to adopt in this regard. Actually the problem is that the Government resort to double talk tactics, the version of Home Minister is different from the one given by the Prime Minister. It should not be like this. I want to submit that the Prime Minister should himself visit Jammu and Kashmir and make a survey of the situation prevailing there.

Thirdly, before conducting a meeting of the opposition parties on Kashmir, the Government should issue a white paper as to how the situation worsened there and what action the Government want to take in this regard? First the Government should make its views clear than only we may hope for good results. My party thinks that the situation there cannot improve unless the Kashmiri refugees go back. It simply means that when peace returns there the situation will itself become normal and then we may declare elections there.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my next submission is that Pakistan should be warned of dire consequences if it does not stop intervening in Jammu and Kashmir. An action plan should be initiated in this respect. A committee, which was constituted to look into the problems of the refugees, should urgently pay a visit there and make announcement about the formation of a council for Ladakh for which you had made a promise because the locals complain that the Government do make announcement but do not implement them. I, therefore request the Government to do needful in respect of Leh as the people are agitated there.

I thank you for giving me time to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the Congress Party Member should get the chance to speak but since Shri Hannan Mollah has very very urgent work to attend, I will call Shri Umbrey later on. I hope he has no objection in this.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I also thank my colleague for allowing me to speak before him.

Sir, we are again forced to pass this resolution. We have to accept that this is a *fair accompli*. We have to pay for others' sins. It is not in the spirit of democracy that we deprive people from being represented in the Parliament. It is against the spirit of democracy that a State is not being ruled by its own Government but is ruled by the Government from Centre. This situation has been created by the decades long insincerity and by the wrong policies being followed by the Government. As a result of this we are forced to withdraw the democratic process from that particular part of our country.

Sir, now, we have no other way but to extend the President's Rule for another six months. There is no doubt that we have to hold elections there but talking of elections at the present juncture will send a wrong signal. We have to create a proper atmosphere for holding elections.

A few days back, one extremist leader said that Kashmiri people are not averse to elections. For that, we will have to have a proper atmosphere. I am sure that this will be the last time that the Government will extend President's Rule in Kashmir. I am sure this Government will be sincere in holding elections. I hope the hon. Minister is taking a lot of interest and is working sincerely to see that this will be the last time that the President's Rule is extended and after that democracy, greater autonomy and Kashmiri people's participation in all other activities will be established.

I would like to mention here that because of wrong policy, insincerity, discrimination and also because of wrong method of administration, we are going to create the types of pro-

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blems in other parts of Kashmir. That is a new challenge which I gathered after my visits to Kargil and Jammu. There, the people are having a feeling of discrimination for long. Because of that, we must take immediate steps to ensure the people of other regions that their sentiments will be honoured; they will be able to participate in the process of administration; and they will be able to get their autonomy viz. self-governance. Otherwise a situation may develop like the one where a Buddhists Association, some time back, were forced to raise a separatist slogan but ultimately, good sense prevailed and they came to the negotiating table. Then, they agreed to accept certain conditions viz. if the Government gives them some regional autonomy. So, we should not waste any time. Otherwise, it will take a different course which the Valley had already taken.

The people of Kargil also say that they are the most sincere people and they are fighting for India. Whenever there is an attack from Pakistan or others, they had to face it. In spite of that, those people think that they are deprived; they are not taken into confidence; they are not even taken in the Army and other forces; and they are not even trusted by the Government. The feeling is also there. If we have to ensure that the feelings of the people of Kargil, Leh and Jammu are not hurt, then we will have to give them adequate chance to participate in the governance. This demand is hanging for quite a long time. An immediate decision should be taken on that and that too within the framework of the Jammu and Kashmir Constitution. The Government is also aware of their feelings.

Secondly, there is a question of autonomy. That should also be taken up. We have to start a discussion without any precondition. We should try to see that we reach a consensus as to how we can give maximum autonomy within the framework of the Indian Constitution and within the framework of the Jammu and Kashmir Constitution. This is very much necessary.

So, both these demands viz. greater autonomy for Kashmir and within the framework of the Constitution, autonomy to the regions of Leh, Kargil and Jammu should be given, so that they can also get the benefit of the Hill Council-type of governance.

So, these two demands should be considered properly and with adequate emphasis. I am sure that the Government is working in that direction. But for doing that, the political process, as you are insisting, should be started and the people in the Valley should not think that most of the political leaders have left the Valley and they are living in Jammu or in Delhi. This is the situation. Therefore, we have to establish political leadership in the Valley.

Those political leaders should be involved in certain political activities. We are advising them that there should be an Advisory Committee with adequate powers. If that is constituted, if they are able to suggest to the Governor and their suggestions are accepted, then the people will feel that their words matter; and through them, we can solve certain problems.

People will come to them and gradually they will be able to interact with the people. In this way, if more and more people come to them, all the political parties, then the political process will be strengthened; and in the long run, we can go on talking to them. This is a suggestion which, I think, has been, hanging on for long; and that should be given adequate importance.

Now, as there is no Assembly, lot of problems are there. I would request the hon. Minister to take note of them. We had visited certain places over there. There they said that Jammu Udhampur railway line was their long standing demand. Nobody is there to listen to them with regard to this railway line.

In Kashmir, 1400 young boys are recruited in 1400 panchayats. They are working in those panchayats. They are getting Rs. 500 as their pay and they are working there for a long time; but they are not regularised. Now, they are on a hunger strike and *dhama*. But nobody is there to listen to them.

There is a panel of teachers. We had visited most of schools over there. But there is no teacher. Thirty to forty per cent of the posts are vacant in schools and colleges in various parts of Kashmir. In spite of the panel of teachers, they are not recruited. That also should be taken care of.

In hospitals and medical centres, there are no doctors. That is another problem espe-

cially in Leh and Kargil and other parts of Kashmir. But the people are complaining. We have to see how we can appoint doctors so that the people who come from distant places get the benefit of the advance treatment; at least a minimum number of doctors should be there in those hospitals. A large number of posts are vacant. But the doctors are not joining; they are going abroad after getting appointment letters. This type of complaint is there.

There is no airport at Kargil. They are demanding it for a long time. It is not a very big amount to spend; and the number of flights in Leh is very small.

In Jammu also. Akhnoor bridge has been broken for a long time. There the Government is sitting tight. No action has yet been taken.

Regarding the problem of refugees, during the last session, we said Comrade Indrajit Gupta also said—that 1947 refugee problems were not solved. Now, we have created another problem. Now, the refugees have come from the Valley; they are now staying in Kashmir. They are also in a very bad situation. When we went there, they were very much agitated. We could not visit their camps. But we came to know that they were living like animals in many of the camps, especially during rainy season. Their problems should be attended to. Otherwise, some other type of extremism may develop in their minds.

There is no power. In Kargil and Leh, they get power for 3-4 hours. But the power project is not completed. For 20 years, certain projects are not completed. I do not know why. We are sanctioning funds, but those funds are not properly utilised. More than 400 schemes are on-going schemes and going on for 20—30 years. If those projects are not completed, then the benefits would not reach these people.

First, we should complete those projects. More than 400 projects are hanging and are not completed. Those should be immediately completed so that people feel that whatever benefits we are giving them those benefits are reaching to them.

Corruption is also creating a lot of dissension in the minds of the people. Massive cor-

ruption is there, that also should get the immediate attention of the Government. In this situation, I will request the hon. Minister that all these burning problems of the valley and other regions of Kashmir should be taken care of, so that people feel that in spite of sitting at such a distance, we have not forgotten them. We are looking at their problems and we will do our best to give our help to them as much as possible. So a political solution should be sought through negotiations, through dialogue. We should give them greater autonomy and within that greater autonomy how can we establish the Hill Council for other regions, that is one political part for which the Government should take immediate steps.

Secondly, the meetings of all political parties at the national and Kashmir level should be immediately called. We should try to reach a consensus because from here some signals would go that we are united to solve their problems, to give adequate attention to their problems as much as possible. That also should be taken care of.

The third suggestions that we insist on is the question of political advisor with adequate power in Jammu & Kashmir. That should also be immediately constituted and they should be given help so that they are established from among the people of Kashmir. This way, in the long run we can go for a political process.

The other suggestion, as I said, is that Cabinet should also discuss it properly. The Cabinet in its full strength should meet once and should apply its mind so that Kashmir gets priority.

We talk about our enemy, Pakistan. Pakistan gives first priority to Kashmir. But India has not given first priority to Kashmir. It is such an old problem, so we should give our first priority to Kashmir with utmost attention. This way we can try to solve the problem as soon as possible.

I hope this will be the last six months of President's Rule in Kashmir. But we still do not know because this Government cannot be believed. This Government announced from the ramparts of Red Fort that on 6th December the Mosque would not be demolished, but it was demolished. When you give assurance here,

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we cannot believe that it will be kept. Still we hope that this Government will take care of all the suggestions that have been made, and the feeling of the House and send a message to the people of Kashmir, Jammu, Ladaakh and Kargil that we are trying to solve their problems. At the sametime their economic problems and other hardships are also taken care of. With these words, I thank you for giving me time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The time allotted to this subject is two hours. We have already consumed one hour and seven minutes. The remaining time is at our disposal and every political party knows its timing. Therefore, it is better to confine within the limitation. Sitting late, etc. does not amount to anything.

PRO. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur): It is a very important issue.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The issues are really good. But in the Business Advisory Committee, the time allotted to this subject is two hours and each party is allotted time according to its strength.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Sir, yesterday the Zero Hour went for three hours.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is it the fancy of the Chair that it wants to have Zero Hour for such a long time?

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: We have foregone Lunch Hour so that more members can participate. That is all.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is it not open to the Chair to tell the Members as to what is the time allotted for the subject and what is the time allotted to each political party?

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Sir, last week we had a detailed discussion on Kashmir. I have no objection if further discussion is held on it but that should be held within a time limit. Today there is discussion on Dunkel Proposals also which is a very sensitive issue. Such an important issue is being taken for discussion as a last item. I have said yester-

day also that the Government is not serious on this issue. Therefore, keeping this thing in view it would be better if brief discussion is held on other issues.

MAJ. GENL. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): We had to discuss it yesterday but two hours time was spent on an unlisted business. Was that item more important than this item. That item was also discussed earlier. Now it is not good to say that the discussion on Jammu and Kashmir was held earlier. So it should not be discussed again. I think full time should be given to this item.

[Interruptions]

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri, the whole thing was decided in the Business Advisory Committee consisting of the representatives of all the parties.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: In the meantime, one speaker could have spoken.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: My dear Sir, it is true that one Member could have spoken. Supposing if we do not bring it to the notice of the House, probably the hon. Members may be under the impression that three or four hours are allowed. In the end if I were to say that only two or three minutes were there—my experience is many times if he is not properly informed—the Member is bound to lose his patience. Shri Laeta Umbrey.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY (Arunachal East): Sir, the problem of Jammu and Kashmir as it stands today is the greatest challenge ever met, to our national unity, integrity and secularism. It poses a challenge for the very existence of our great nation. The situation in the Valley is deteriorating in every passing day. So, the problem is becoming extremely complex and sensitive. Therefore, I feel that it is required to be on the top of the national agenda today.

The responsibility for the deteriorating situation in the Valley today has to be shared by all the political parties, particularly the BJP and the Janata Dal, not the Congress alone. I am

very happy that even Dr. Farooq Abdullah has accepted in public that he is also responsible for it. We must admit the fact and we must analyse where we have gone wrong. If it poses a challenge for the very existence of our country, if Kashmir is not there today, you never know anything can happen in other parts of the country. So, I feel that it must be given the topmost priority on the national agenda.

Recently it appeared from the reports in the media newspapers that the situation in the Valley was improving and we must congratulate Shri Rajesh Pilot, the hon. Minister for Internal Security for this. But, unfortunately, the incident of indiscriminate firing on the innocent bus passengers on the 14th of last month, has shown that the situation has deteriorated. It was a deliberate attempt of the militants to create panic among the people who were gradually realising that whatever may be the reason, supporting the militants and the underground secessionist forces was never going to help.

Anyway, I really admire our dynamic Minister, Shri Rajesh Pilot. I would like to inform the Minister that we are all behind him and I request the Minister to go ahead. The Minister, Shri Rajesh Pilot, has more than once sought the support of all political Parties. I hope that all the political Parties will extend their support to the Minister. Some of the Members have said that they are willing to give their opinions or suggestions. I think, the Government should immediately call a meeting of the leaders of all the political Parties. But, here I will oppose the parliamentary delegation visiting the Valley because the moment they come to know that the parliamentary delegation is visiting the Valley, they might try to create panic again among the people.

Sir, we have seen many dynamic and young leaders coming from the Valley. Many of them are now in active politics and some of them are dormant. They can be revived. They will have to contribute. Shri Rajesh Pilot or whoever may be the Home Minister, they cannot pick and choose to mobilise the people. So, those leaders of the Valley will have to shoulder this responsibility. They will have to face the challenges and they will have to face the problems. If needed, they will have to shed the blood for the unity and integrity of the country. I feel that all other political Parties in the Valley will have to be reactivated.

Sir, I would like to mention one thing that I come from a State, which, when compared to Jammu and Kashmir, is most unpopular and it is one of the backward States. I belong to an ethnically minority community too. So, I know a little bit about the problems of Kashmir today. Why I am saying this is because the root cause of the problem is not merely the negligence of the Central Government but it is the continuous harassment and mental torture inflicted on the people of the Valley over the years. It is the result of total distrust shown to the people of the Valley. From the media, We had come to know that some of the students who were pursuing technical education in various parts of the country were tortured and were suspected. They had to leave their education and went back to the Valley. Can you imagine, what will they do there when they were suspected and tortured in the College hostels and in the Universities? Obviously, they will take arms. So, we cannot blame the enemies. The enemies are ready to take them. That is how all the drop outs, all the youth, who have nothing to do, have been recruited by our enemies and have been supplied with arms and ammunitions.

I would like to tell one more thing that even the people coming from the other smaller ethnically religious minority communities, like people coming from the North Eastern Region, are all suspected. Even the laws passed in the Parliament and in this House have no relevance with the situation in the North Eastern States. That is, the laws are being passed on suspicion. You cannot, by suspicion, rule the country.

Sir, the need of the hour today is how to win back the confidence of the people and how to restore the trust. That is the main thing. Sir, I have another reservation to make.

I have got the highest respect for all the Governors—the present Governor as well as the earlier Governors of Jammu and Kashmir—but I have noticed that whichever may be in the Government here in Delhi, they appoint some eminent people of certain fields. One may win the highest gallantry award, one may be conferred with Padma Bhushan or whatever is the highest award of the soil, but that does not necessarily mean that they will be good administrators also. The most important thing today is that we will have to act on war-

[*Sh. Laeta Umbray*]

footing and we will have to look for a Governor who has got a good political background, good track record as an administrator and is associated with the problems of Jammu and Kashmir.

We will have to restart the political activities, the political process to hold the elections. Unless we adopt this, as other Members also have said, it is not possible to bring back peace in the Valley.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now please conclude.

SHRI LAETA UMBRAY: Sir, I am speaking for the first time on Jammu and Kashmir, so, I shall like to take another one or two minutes.

As our hon. Minister has already said, we will have to win the hearts of the youth, the misled people, in order to bring back normalcy in the Valley. Generally, when good people are angry, it is difficult to console them also. The people of Kashmir were known for their hospitality. They were good and peace-loving people. But they had to face so much mental torture and distrust that they have become outburst. That is why, I think, it is taking time to heal their wounds. However, with the concerted efforts of all the political parties, I am sure, normalcy coming back to the Valley is not far off.

Another thing I would like to mention is that whatever BJP is doing, is not helping—whether it is in the case of North-East or Jammu and Kashmir or the minorities. I know there are very ambitious people in the BJP who are desperately trying to bring up the issues to come to power. But, I am sure, for those ambitious people I think the present Indian territory is also small for them. So if they continue to use the religious cards ultimately they may come to power but they will have a smaller territory to rule over. So, I think they will have to retrieve a little bit because in order to keep the unity and integrity of the country, the majority will have to make a little more sacrifice. If they are not ready to make sacrifice, I am sorry to say that we may not be able to keep the country together. Of course, I have found the BJP people being highly qualified, equally nationalist, but I do not know how they have failed to understand this aspect of the problem.

Sir, my last point is that for the lasting solution of all the problems of this magnitude, I think we will have to give more emphasis on education. I am very sorry to say here in this august House that even some of the hon. Members do not know the names of all the states and U/Ts. They may not know the names of all the constituencies but at least they should know the names of the capitals of the States. If this is the state of affairs of hon. Members, how can we expect the people of Kashmir knowing the people of Kerala and the people of Gujarat knowing the people of Arunachal Pradesh?

Until and unless we know each other, understand the problems of each other and try to sort out the problems with understanding, I think, we may not be able to solve the Kashmir problem. These are the other things which are complicating the issue.

Sir, besides the electronic media, we will have to give emphasis on education also.

Sir, I once again oppose the demand of Mr. Madan Lal Khurana for asking the Govt. to place a White Paper on Kashmir. I am opposed to placing a White Paper on Kashmir, because we have to keep secret whatever we have so far achieved in Kashmir. Otherwise, if we say that we have been to do this and that and if we start announcing, then I am sure, the militants who are having a better intelligent network will again try to create panic among the people of Kashmir. So, I think, it is not going to help in our attempt towards a solution. With these words, I support the Resolution for extension of the President's Rule for another six months in Jammu and Kashmir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, I call Shri Fatmi of Janata Dal. The time allotted for Janata Dal is eight minutes. You should confine within the time allotted to your party. I am saying this, because it is always better for the Chair to bring to the notice of the hon. Members who want to speak, the total time allotted to each political party and the number of names certified and sent to the Chair by the Whip of each political party. These two are very important aspects.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga): Mr. Deputy Speaker,

Sir, the Government has moved a Resolution for extending President's Rule in Jammu and Kashmir for another six months. I think generally the Government allows a discussion on Jammu and Kashmir twice in a year. Firstly, when it has to get the budget passed for Jammu and Kashmir and secondly when it has to extend President's Rule for another six months. The third occasion comes only when any tragic incident occurs there. Minor incidents are taking place there everyday.

The situation in Kashmir has deteriorated a lot and a number of innocent people have lost their lives. Recently a school boy named Hilal Ahmad was killed in cross firing. His parents went to lodge their protest but you will be sorry to know that the security forces killed them also. On that issue the people in Kashmir came out on the roads. You might be remembering incidents that occurred at Sopore and Lalchowk. It was an inhuman act. If you go through the figures you will find that about 6500 people have so far been killed in Kashmir. One of the BJP members was saying that Islamisation is taking place there, I do not say what actually is going on there, but the people who have been killed there are mostly Kashmiri Muslim youth. There is no dearth of patriots in Kashmir but I think the Government has not started any process to bring normalcy there and the Congress party is still following those wrong policies which are responsible for the deteriorating situation in the valley. You can see the cases of custodial deaths. Youth are arrested and sent to jail without any trial and they are being killed in jails.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Human Rights Commission and other International bodies have raised these matters. Last time, when I went to Budapest as a delegate, Pakistan and other countries raised the matter of human rights violation. They are of the view that atrocities are being committed on the people in Kashmir and Punjab. We do not have any campaign to tell the truth to the world that it is not we but the militants, who are committing atrocities there. We are taking action against the persons who are taking law in their hands. But on the Kashmir issue we have been isolated at the International forum. Therefore, I would like to submit that the Government should pay attention towards it and submit the factual position before the World community. The Government should

present it from human rights angle that we are protecting the innocent people and taking action against the militants only.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, secondly I would like to ask as to where the funds allocated for education, industrial development etc. are being spent under the President's Rule. Because people are not studying there and they are studying in other cities of the country. A number of Kashmiri students are receiving education in my city. Industrial development has come to a standstill and industries are being destroyed there. Land cultivation and fruit production have also adversely affected. The decreased production of carpet industries has also affected export. Under such circumstances, we would like to know as to where the funds allocated for industrial development and education are being spent.

Just now one of our colleagues was saying that Pakistan is interfering openly in Kashmir but today the people are not prepared to accept it and they are of the opinion that there must be other forces which are supporting Pakistan from behind the scene. The hon. External Affairs Minister is not present in the House. I would like to request the Government to look into this problem from this angle and find out the forces which are abating terrorism in the valley.

Some days back the Foreign Minister of Israel had come here. During the meeting of our colleagues, specially of BJP with the Foreign Minister of Israel who had been on a visit to India recently it was suggested that we should go in for large scale settlements in Kashmir. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is no solution of the problem but instead it will further complicate the issue.

Sir, in a recent book on Kashmir entitled "Crisis in Kashmir" and a few intellectuals of India having full knowledge of Kashmir like Dr. Karan Singh, Sayeed Mir Kasim, Saifuddin Soz, Tarkunde, P. N. Haksar and T. N. Kaul have suggested that the Government should hold meeting with the Kashmir militants to solve the Kashmir issue, because whenever the question of restoring political process is raised, militants in Kashmir try to vitiate the environment. I urge the Government to ponder over the suggestion of holding meetings with the Kashmir militants to solve the problem.

[Sh. Mohd. Ali Ashraf Fatmi]

A little while ago Shri Khurana stated that Kashmir is being driven towards Islamic Fundamentalism.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : All this has been reported by the newspapers.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Religion is not a strong tool available with the Government. Had it been so then neither Bangladesh would have been created nor Iran-Iraq war would have taken place. Religion is not a strong force at all otherwise there would not have been countries with a population of 5-10 lakhs nor East Germany and West Germany which have similar racial background and nor North Korea and South Korea would have existed. So religion is never a force. Had it been so, how could there be unity despite religious and linguistic differences. If the Government is sincere about solving Kashmir issue then in addition to making efforts to restore political process and holding parleys with the militants, better educational facilities should be provided to the youth and a development package programme be started.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The time allotted to you is eight minutes. Already you have spoken for ten minutes. Therefore, you can speak for two more minutes only.

[Interruptions]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is the single speaker. That is why the Chair has allotted eight minutes' time.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : In the recent past a Parliamentary Committee was constituted and I requested for convening of a meeting of the Committee before the presentation of the Budget which was not done. If not then atleast before the extension is sought after a period of six months the meeting should be convened. A little while ago a Congress Member urged that a delegation of MPs should not be sent there but I hold different opinion. Delegation consisting of intellectuals and Journalists must visit every 2-3 months and talk to the local people to have first hand information of the situation prevailing

there. As long as the hearts of the masses are not won over nothing could be achieved at gun point. I am a Member of the Committee on External Affairs and I submitted there that all over the world be it Islamic or Non-Islamic countries the image of India on the issue of Kashmir is quite bad. I submitted that the delegation of MPs and intellectuals should visit various countries and present the situation prevailing in Kashmir at every forum. I urged the Hon. Prime Minister in the Consultative Committee meeting to send delegations as no delegations have been sent yet. At Budapest we tried our best but could only talk to Cuba and North Korea. I submit that delegations of MPs should visit various countries to make the position of India clear as this is of utmost importance. Kashmir issue, our internal problem, is gradually taking international dimensions. If this happens then India will be in for difficult times. Last time also I submitted that the people in Kashmir hold two viewpoints. One section wants to go with Pakistan while the other wants to remain with India. Lately a new thinking has emerged in Kashmir that people holding any of the above mentioned viewpoints favour creation of an independent country by merging both the parts of Kashmir. Therefore, it is necessary that group's consisting of MPs, intellectuals and journalists should visit various countries to make India's position clear. This is to be done to prevent Kashmir issue from taking global dimensions. By holding parleys with militants democratic process should be started. The Government should implement the package programme for providing employment and educating the youth.

Delegation of MPs should visit Kashmir as well as foreign countries. During the extension of six months' period all efforts should be made to normalise situation in the State so that the need for further extending the President's rule after six months does not arise.

SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV (Shah-jahanpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the motion moved by the hon. Minister I would like to submit that at present the main problem confronting India is Kashmir issue. Every citizen of the country is in favour of solution of the Kashmir issue. Kashmir was not merged into India on the basis of population but on the basis of historical, geographical and political conditions. It is very unfortunate that ever since the integration of Kashmir into India this

issue has not been solved. I agree with the view point of Shri Khurana that Kashmir migrants living in Delhi or Jammu or any other place cannot go back as the conditions have not normalised in the valley. Nobody wants to leave his home or job. Therefore, it is quite clear that under duress they must have left because of the abnormal conditions in the State. The Government was never serious about Kashmir issue and did not take it up on priority basis. The Janata Dal Government headed by Shri V. P. Singh set up an independent Ministry to deal with Kashmir affairs. However, it would be quite wrong on our part to expect a solution of the Kashmir issue from the hon. Prime Minister. Shri Rajesh Pilot has to some extent understood the gravity of the Kashmir issue. We hope that he would find out some solution of the issue by accepting it as a challenge.

Though it is a fact that the Police has revolted in Kashmir but on the other hand rockets were also fired on the Police Headquarters. Killing of bus passengers on the eve of Independence Day i.e. 15th August, hoisting of Pakistani flags and Pakistan propaganda through microphones installed in Mosques in Kashmir, all point towards the fact that the situation in the valley is not normal. Situation has deteriorated to such an extent that last month 103 persons were killed in the valley and even 26 security personnel also lost their lives. I support the motion moved by the hon. Minister because in the present conditions it is not possible to conduct elections in the State. Shri Vajpayee referred to three lines of thinking. Muslim population holds in the State but I have heard of only two. About the third line of thinking only the leaders are aware. One section instigated by the militants is in favour of joining Pakistan while the other section wants to live in India. I urge the Government to warn the section in favour of Pakistan to migrate there and those in favour of India need only live in the State. I hold the view that this sort of warning will send proper signals to the anti-India elements. Nobody living in India should nurse anti-India sentiments or associate oneself with any foreign country. All this I am submitting as a citizen of India rising above party politics.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, regarding atrocities by security forces especially BSF and para-military forces I would like to submit that

while confronting militants often errors are also committed by the security forces. Newspapers reported about killing of 3 members of a family including head of the family, his wife and son, while having their food on 4th August. Militants writ is so effective in the valley that in the bylanes of Srinagar everywhere anti-India slogans could be heard. I would like to urge the hon. Minister that our security forces should be utmost vigilant because killing of one innocent initiates inenvironment in the entire Kashmir.

Development funds in Kashmir are being swindled away by the politicians. These politicians have built houses not only in Kashmir but all over the country. It is correct that Kashmiris are very honest and good at heart but even they are disturbed by these things. They have lost faith on the Government. The Government should instil confidence among Kashmiris and it is possible only when Kashmiris are given their rights. The Panchayati Raj Minister in the popular Government headed by Dr. Farooq Abdullah prepared and moved a draft Bill on Panchayati Raj on the pattern of Panchayati Raj System in vogue in Karnataka. Had it been implemented in the State its result would have been quite fruitful and also mistrust against bureaucracy and politicians in the State would not have been created. I think implementation of that Panchayati Raj Bill would have conferred upon the people of the State many rights. These rights would instil confidence among people and also brotherhood feeling would be established and mistrust would be eliminated.

14.00 hrs.

Sir, I think it is wrong on the part of the ruling party to bank upon USA for the Kashmir issue because since the disintegration of USSR America has changed its stance on Kashmir issue. USA was about to declare Pakistan a terrorist state but the move fizzled out and no attention is being paid now towards Kashmir issue. Therefore, on this occasion I would like to submit that not only the problem of Kashmir migrants need be solved but also there is the need to set up big industries, build roads and small bridges in the State. In addition the living standard of the poor is to be improved while taking reformatory measures, stringent measures should also be taken. A country of

[Sh. Satya Pal Singh Yadav]

the size of India should strictly warn small country like Pakistan that any attempt on its part to disturb peace will not be tolerated at any cost.

Sir, entire country is worried about the conditions prevailing in Kashmir. I would like to submit that the Janata Dal Government constituted a separate Ministry to deal with Kashmir affairs but I think the present Hon. Prime Minister will not be able to do anything. While supporting the motion to extend the President's rule I would like to submit that in the prevailing circumstances when militants are quite active elections could not be held in the State. Pakistan must be warned that any interference and efforts to create disturbances in Kashmir would not be tolerated and Kashmir is an integral part of India. With these words I conclude.

SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA (Guntur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I welcome the Bill that has been introduced for the extension of President's Rule in Kashmir. The Government extends President's Rule in Kashmir time and again. An All Party Parliamentary delegation had gone to Kashmir recently, and after assessing the situation there they came to know that people do not get even the essential commodities like rice, gas, sugar, salt etc. and the quantity of these commodities supplied by the Government is quite inadequate. People in the valley are in great hardship. We met the Governor of the State and discussed the problems of people with him. The Governor clarified that the Government was helpless due to finance constraints. Though we did believe on what the Governor said, but the people of the valley felt that they were being given step motherly treatment and that this should not be done. It was due to the excesses committed by our army that some of them turned into terrorists. Since some of the innocent persons were killed, the family members of such victims did not find any other alternative than to take to terrorism. I found that due to this reason, militancy in the valley has increased to a great extent these days. The press has also reported these things. When the soldiers deputed there, take leave and go to their homes, they are provided trucks. A truck carrying such jawans met with an accident a few days back in which several jawans died. But the hon. Members will be astonished to know that the truck

carrying the jawans*.....The hon. Members may well imagine from this incident what the situation is there. A report to this effect was published in all the newspapers.

MAJ. GENERAL (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : What evidence the hon. Member has got? How can he blame to whole army. He cannot say so in general. If an individual is guilty, the matter can be understood but it is not proper to level an allegation on the army in general. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my submission is that whatever allegations have been levelled by the hon. Member on the army in general, is not good on his part. He may mention the name of an individual.

SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : I am making a mention of the facts what has been published in the newspapers. Since the hon. Member had been in army, it is quite but natural that he will be agitated, because he himself was an army officer. However, I am referring only to what happened there and what has appeared in the newspaper.

[English]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : This is not fair. He is making an allegation about the Army without any basis.....[Interruptions].....

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : It should not go on record. There should not be any aspersion on the Army.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Basha, leave that.

[Interruptions]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That will not go on record.

[Translation]

SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : I am making a mention of the things that were recovered from the truck. Cannot I make a mention of the accident? It has already appeared in the press.

*Not recorded.

MAJ. GENERAL (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: What do you mean by army. You cannot blame the army in general. You may mention the name of a jawan.

SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: I am not talking of the army but making a mention of the things that were recovered from the truck. Everything has already appeared in the press. What objections do you have in this regard?

We want the Government to be aware of what problems a common man faces in Kashmir at present and take measures to remove them. Why there has been a considerable increase in the number of militants? Why people are taking recourse to militancy. The Government should know all about it.

Mr. Minister, I would like to submit that when we were sitting with the hon. Governor, some of the local residents came and told us that earlier, it was difficult to find an ordinary knife even after searching 5-6 houses; but today the situation is such that everybody is possessing machine gun. How far the situation has changed, the hon. Minister may well imagine. The Government should think seriously as to why the present situation has arisen in Kashmir.

During this period, the Minister paid several visits to the valley and if he found any change the Government should take interest in the matter and take measures to further improve it. This is my submission. Kashmir is an integral part of this country and would remain so. People of the valley want to stay with India but they are discriminated in the matters of education and employment. The reason is that 93 percent of the total population of the valley are Muslims and 7 percent others belong to minorities. Despite this, they do not get any representation either in jobs or in other matters. They complain that injustice is done to them in every matter. The Government should keep this fact also in view and give representation to them in jobs and other fields as per their existing population. Discriminatory attitude towards them has created an impression among them that they are not given equal treatment and that rather they are given step motherly treatment though they are the citizens of India. I would like the Government to keep this factor in mind and instead of bringing any Motion for the extension of President's Rule in the valley it

should make efforts to solve the problem at the earliest. At the same time, the Government should take all the political parties into confidence and start the election process because it is not the concern of any particular political party. All the parties should make efforts to find out an amicable solution. Kashmir is a good source of earning foreign exchange to us because tourists on a large number come there through whom the country gets foreign exchange. However, due to the deterioration in the situation there the tourists have stopped coming there. Therefore, in the prevailing circumstances it is very essential to help Kashmir. Keeping this fact in view I support this Bill and submit to the hon. Minister not to prolong it any more.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): Sir, there are very important items listed in today's list of business and this being the last day of the session, I request that if we restrict the discussion to the given time, then I think we will be able to complete the business. We have the Resolution, Rajasthan State Electricity Board, Extradition (Amendment) Bill, Transplantation of Human Organs Bill and two more discussions. Only if we restrict our discussion within the given time, we will be able to complete it. Otherwise, we will not be able to pass it.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: (Mandsaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Kashmir issue being discussed is very important. The Government wants to extend the President's Rule there while the law and order situation is not improving and terrorism goes on increasing and even then you do not allow the Members to speak.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: On Jammu and Kashmir, we had a threadbare discussion. This is not the first time that we are discussing it. Every political party and every hon. Member had given their valuable and construction at that time.

[Translation]

MAJ. GENERAL (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we sat late the day before yesterday. We also sat till 8 PM yesterday. In spite of this, if the hon. Minister has failed to get the Bill passed what is our fault?

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Mr. Deputy Speaker, we are not at all blaming the hon. Member my only submission is that today is the last day of the session and we are to pass 2-4 more Bills. Therefore, I would like that the discussion should be completed in 2 hours as decided.

So far as the submission of Dr. Pandeya is concerned, I think that he is a very wise and sensible person. Therefore, I hope that he would realise the situation.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr. Minister, that cannot be completed today.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Jha, I would like to bring to your notice that the time given for CPI is three minutes.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Then, it is better not to speak anything.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do not get annoyed. You are a senior most Member and you are representing in the Business Advisory Committee. Certain time is allotted and within that time, we have to function.

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will not go into details. The Kashmir problem originates from 1947 and in that regard, our State Minister, Internal Security, in the Ministry of Home Affairs is not personally responsible for it, as he was not there at that time. We, the freedom fighters, cannot relieve ourselves from our responsibility, but today it will not do by just weeping on it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, recently a Committee was formed on Kashmir and along with it, we toured Leh, Laddakh, Kargil and Jammu on the 25th. I feel somewhat guilty for the people of

Jammu, because we were not able to listen to them for want of time. We could not listen to those persons, who have become displaced in their own country and are living in Jammu and Delhi after migrating from the valley. What can be said about giving assurances. Our delegation promised them to see them again. Now it is upto the Government to decide when and how the next delegation will go there.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will be brief to save the time. A part of the valley is in favour of free Kashmir and the other part is in favour of India, but this part is unable to voice its views, as it is being suppressed.

Since 1986, when the slogan to demolish the disputed structure in Ayodhya was raised, the voice of the Kashmiris favouring India was weakened and it has become more weak after the incident of 6th December. The bases, on which they used to favour India, have weakened. If we throw a ball towards a wall, it hits back to another wall.....[Interruptions] I am not expressing doubts about anyone's intentions, but only telling about the result. [Interruptions] The Government gave one view about the Babri Masjid dispute and the others gave another view about it and the activists were provoked to demolish the structure and thousands were killed. The people were not apprised of the factual situation. I brought it before the House and the entire media went on strike. They did not find it appropriate to bring out this information that 14 temple pillars of Gupta era were found under the ground and the mosque structure was raised on them. Those who call themselves secular suppressed this information and kept the fact away from the people. That is why, I had asked at that time to table the photographs. I am still having it and you can take it from me. That is why, I am calling it a disputed structure. Had the fact been brought before the people, the country could have been saved from the communal riots and the structure could also have been saved. They would not have got the opportunity to demolish it and no communalism would have spread in its name.

The voice of pro-Indians have weakened. Pro-Pakistan people are in minority, but their

voice is loud, as they are getting accommodation, means and money support. Our media or our political parties do not want to tell this fact that a large number of people, who want to go to Pakistan, want to remain independent and our political, defence and propagation policy should be formed according to it. Just now, an hon. Member was saying that for the first time he heard that there is a third opinion. But it is true that the number of the people, who want independent Kashmir, is larger than those who want to go to Pakistan.

Due to shortage of time, I will not go into details how the delegations of the people and the lawyers came to meet us in October, despite the restrictions imposed by the terrorists. This mental division has taken place in Laddakh also. Whereas, Leh is dominated by Buddhists, Kargil is dominated by Shiya Muslims. Even a group, named Ayotollah Financial Corporation was formed in Kargil. Though at present, the group looks innocent, but we cannot close our eyes from the impending danger. As the Kashmir valley is dominated by Sunni Muslims, they are not much attached with them. They are demanding a separate Lok Sabha constituency and a separate State. May be the Home Ministry is aware of these things. If not, they should get it. The Government of India should set up a tourist centre at the place, where River Sindhu originating from Mansarovar, enters into our country. It will serve as a tourist centre and cultural centre for the pilgrims going to Mansarovar and Kailash and will also work for the development of the Laddakh region. It is a very important place.

We have an agreement with Pakistan that we will not utilise the water of River Sindh more than a fixed limit. Laddakh is entirely a desert area. Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru had said at that time that there was not even a single leaf of grass. May be, the situation has changed a little, but it's still the same. Water will not be needed for generating power. I think, we can do electrification of Laddakh and Kargil through minihydel project. If electricity can be provided to them at cheaper rate, small scale industries and cottage industries can be developed there. So, hydro electricity can be produced from River Sindhu and Pakistan will also not get any chance to object.

Whenever any initiative is taken to solve the issue, something adverse is done. The Congress

Government made the issue more complicated by removing Shri Farooq Abdullah and appointing Shri G.M. Shah as the Chief Minister of the State. The Congress Party did this unjustified thing and we had to face its consequences. May be, they felt their mistake. Shri Farooq Abdullah again came to power but the Janta Dal Government supported by us, sent Shri Jagmohan there to force Shri Farooq Abdullah to resign. The State Assembly was dissolved. I think neither we, nor the B.J.P. can become free of this charge. From time to time, the State Assembly was dissolved, we have only the relation of gun with Kashmir. There is no elected Government. So, it is the fault of the Congress Party. We are sorry for the mistake we have made. The daughter of the then Home Minister was abducted, but he acted as a loving father of a loving daughter and got her released. As a result, the terrorists were encouraged. The Union Government had to eat the humble pie. The security forces were demoralised and the country lost its face. This also gave rise to such incidents in the country. If anyone is abducted, he is either released on ransom or is killed. I am not saying that this is the fault of any particular person. But you cannot shrug off the responsibility.

I would like to submit about what should be done in the next phase. Kashmiri language should be encouraged. This is an old language which has its own folk-literature, folk-poetry and folk-songs. They should be encouraged. Kashmiris are very cordial people. This quality is slowly disappearing from all the sects. It is there in speaking, but writings san this quality. Kashmiri language should be given encouragement under the literacy campaign. This will help a lot in linking the conscience of Kashmir with our country. Dogri language is still used in the Jammu region, but Kashmiri language is losing its existence in Kashmir. The State Government has always tried to suppress. You should pay attention towards this. If there are doubts in this regard, I am myself ready to talk. In Kashmir, the Ministers talk in Kashmiri, but do not understand its necessity, once they come here. You should immediately decide in this regard. It will bring stability in the region. I think panchayat elections should be held there after judging the situation. The Government should take the initiative now. Shri Pilot should muster courage today. The election of Gram Panchayats provided under the Constitution should be held. Necessary amendments may be

[Sh. Bhogendra Jha]

made in the law and free and fair elections should be conducted sincerely. Whoever, wins, whether he is pro-Pakistan, extremist or peace-loving, should be allowed to come. Those who will work for development through Panchayats will be known among the people. If one will misuse his post and alienate himself from the people, they will themselves oppose him. At present, the Government is working for their good, but still it is being defamed. The country is being defamed. Corrupt officials help the terrorists and they take their side after being bribed. The situation is very bad, so, even if we spend more funds, we cannot stop his mental division. Whoever wins the Gram Panchayat elections will not pose a threat to our national unity.

I would urge that the Lok Sabha elections should be held in the second phase.

In the next phase, I am knowingly, separating them, as I could understand, the elected Members, whether 6,5,4 or 3, will come in this House and say that they want to go to Pakistan. Everyone is free to express his views in this House. Democracy is a means as well as end also. They will see that everyone here has the right to freely express his views, which is not possible in many other countries.....

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The time allotted for you is over, I am ringing the bell for the third time now. When I was ringing the bell, probably, you could not hear it. So, you have to respect the decision of the House.

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: I want full two minutes. I am going to make my suggestion.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We are receiving suggestions in plenty.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: I will conclude precisely in two minutes and listen to the bell.

The Lok Sabha elections should be conducted in the second phase and there is not much danger in it. Those who will be elected may express their wrong or right views here. We say a lot of irrelevant things in the House, as everyone is free to speak. This is the quality as well as

drawback of this House. Maybe, 4 or 5 Members more will say unreasonable or reasonable things. This will not do any harm to the great democracy like ours. This will only have a favourable effect on our unity. In the third phase, elections of the State Assembly should be held, which hold more meaning. I am not going in to its description, as it can be taken up separately. So, State Assembly elections should be conducted in the third phase. But, the Panchayat elections should be announced and it should be held before winter. No harm is going to be caused. The Government will be able to bring about a very good change through this step. Those who want to do something constructive, bring improvements and want to promote themselves will be encouraged through this step.

Kashmiri youth should be provided employment outside Kashmir. The Kashmiris should be assisted to set up productive industries under self-employment scheme. Setting up of industries run by the outsiders will not give the desired result. They are apple-growers. But, at present, apples are being sold at very cheap rates, which has ruined the farmers there. The Government should buy apples from them at minimum support price and market them, so that the consumers get them at cheaper rates and the growers also get remunerative prices for their produce. This system should be strengthened, which will bring democratic development as well.

There has been repeated interferences from the group of muslim countries. Earlier, Afghanistan and Iraq used to give a favourable view towards our country. But, we did something wrong with Iraq. On 30th of September, 1990, the then Janta Dal Government, allowed the American war planes to cross over our sky for going to Iraq. Chandrashekharji also allowed the bomber planes to take fuel at Bombay, Iraq was shocked at this decision. I would say that a delegation of Iraq along with the Foreign Minister wants to visit our country. A convention of All India Kisan Sabha was held at Madhubani. We had sent invitation and the President of Iraq, Shri Saddam Hussain had sent a personal representative in the convention. On the basis of these things, I can say that Iraq can be our friend on a secularist basis. We should tell the Islamic countries not to interfere in our internal matters, as it is not at all a friendly action.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Chairman who was sitting in the Chair before I occupied the Chair, he had noted the names of the hon. Members who are to be called. I have not made any manipulation here. Of course in the list Prof. Dhumal's name is there. At that time, I do not know, whether you were there or not. If there are any mistakes, those can be rectified any time, if they are brought to our notice. After Prof. Dhumal, it will be Mr. Chitta Basu.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: What about my name?

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Let Mr. Khanduri speak first.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All right.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: We are here once again to discuss the extension of President's Rule in Jammu & Kashmir. This has become a routine. I do not know whether it could be called a farce or a fashion to come every six months. Everybody makes his own speech, gives his own suggestions and then we get back to the same old routine and nothing seems to happen. I do not know how long this will carry on. I do hope this does not carry on too long. But the way things are going on, there seems to be not much hope, because things during the past 3 1/2 years of President's Rule instead of improving are deteriorating. The road that we are following. If it was on the path of improvement towards those eventual elections, probably, there would be some hope; but I think, we are on the road to nowhere the way things are going on, the way things are deteriorating, the things are getting worse; and I do not know how and when eventually we will get over this business of extension of President's Rule.

Now, before I come on to some of the major points, I would like to quickly recapitulate my impression of the genesis of the problems in Jammu and Kashmir. I, after getting commissioned in 1954, landed in Jammu and Kashmir; and thereafter, I had a number of tenures. So, one could say that almost for the last 40 years, I have been in some way or the other connected with Jammu and Kashmir.

Recently also, when there was trouble in Doda, I had gone there. Again, when 16 people were massacred in a bus by militants, I had gone there. Therefore, I would just like to submit that I have some close association with Jammu and Kashmir. Therefore, when I say what has been the genesis of trouble, I say it with personal knowledge and experience, I think, there are two main reasons why they are landed where they have landed today.

The first is corruption—corruption of two types, namely political and financial. As far as financial corruption is concerned, I think it has become a fashion in this country to say that it is an international phenomenon. Well, in Jammu and Kashmir, I think, it has been going on for a long time. Otherwise, Rs. 70,000 crore of money that had been spent, that had gone there till 1989, we do not see any development, any improvement there. Therefore, this corruption has not only created terrorism but increased terrorism. There are many examples of it; but I would not like to go into all of them. Today's *Indian Express* has mentioned about it. I do not know whether it has been brought to the notice of the Minister; may be it will be brought to his notice later on. This gives an example of Poonch area. The people who want to go across, Pakistan is abetting them. What does this newspaper say? It gives a long report. It reads as follows:

"The extent of bureaucratic corruption at the root of the public disenchantment in the area can be gauged from the fact that the vigilance department has been probing bunglings in the distribution of Rs. 65 lakh for flood relief."

And the heading is that people from Poonch area are leaving Poonch and going over to Pakistan. This is the type of corruption that is going on in Jammu and Kashmir; and there seems to be no apparent bid all these years to stop it. Now, we do hear some more people getting punished in the last couple of months; but there has been no effort to stop it; in fact, there has been an impression that we are encouraging this corruption in order to encourage political manipulation. So, I would suggest that, unless we are really sincere, truthful and try to control this corruption, we would not be able to succeed in the eventual aim of bringing the people of that area, particularly the Kashmir Valley, into the national mainstream.

[Maj. Gen. Bhuwan Chandra Khunduri]

Initially, if we go into the causes, we would know that the trouble started mainly with the corruption. People were fed up with corruption. During the earlier period, when Mr. Jag Mohan was trying to control it, various things happened. But I would not like to go into them. One of the main reasons was corruption. As far as political corruption is concerned, it is equally bad. The political corruption in this also goes back to a long time. We have done various things. Mr. Bhogendra Jha just now spoke when Farooq Abdullah was not desirable, was not friendly, Shah was brought in. When Farooq Abdullah became friendly towards Congress and along with him, you manipulated 1987 elections so blatantly that people got fed up and they got an impression of Kashmir Valley, particular and entire Jammu & Kashmir in general that there was no democracy in India; that is why that has been the main reason. Therefore, I say, the second aspect is the political corruption which is going on. I think this needs to be stopped; and that is why, unless we take stock of the things and unless you yourselves are truthful, I have no hope.

There is no point in merely making speeches here and giving long lectures and thereafter trying to do the same political corruption, which is going on all these years; it must stop.

The second reason for Terrorism as per my perception is that the habit of various political parties, who have been in the power in the centre, of fishing in troubled waters. The Congress has developed an expertise of manipulating, creating problems and thereafter fishing in troubled waters.

You have the credit of separating Hindus and Sikhs in Punjab which nobody could even think of. As I have said, I had been in the Army and we in the Army did not even know what is the difference between the two. Now because of your political manipulations you have done this. For heavens sake, please get over this problem. You will not reach anywhere if you continue with this. People have become wise now and in the national interest, kindly do not try to create problems and then have benefit out of this. I think, these are the two main reasons why problems have been created in Jammu & Kashmir.

What has been the manifestations of these? I would not like to repeat it because Shri Bhogendra Jha has just now talked about as to how elections were manipulated. But I would like to disagree with him on one point. He said that when Shri Farooq Abdullah was in power some Government had dismissed him. I think that Government had no legitimacy. If you come by pure and 100 per cent rigging, how is it that Government got any justification to stay in power? But when Shri Jagmohan was doing a good job there, people were coming into mainstream, he was fighting corruption and he was controlling terrorism and then, again whichever political party was there, same political manipulation, same fishing in the troubled waters, something, trying to get your own man there, some people got him out.

If we say that Shri Jagmohan was very tough then why Shri Saxena was changed? Was he being very tough or was he being very soft? What is it? In any case, I ask you that if Centre has a clear cut policy, how does it matter whether A or B or C is Governor. Of course, you should have a good man. But if Centre gives direction to the Governor, Governor will follow that. But today what are we doing? They say, 'I want this fellow, that fellow, somebody for own personal reasons, etc.' This is the type of thing that is happening and which is creating problems.

Now this happened earlier on. The political dishonesty, corruption, laissez-faire, weak-kneed attitude towards terrorism are the reasons which have landed us where we are today. Now what happened in the last two years? We have become masters of ad-hocism. Earlier on, there seemed to be no policy. Then Shri Rajesh Pilot came and we had a different impression. They say that three different centres were working. We hear of Rajesh-Farooq friendship which resulted, I am told, in appointing a particular Governor, in appointing a particular Advisor, in appointing a particular Chief Secretary about whom we have already talked. What sort of a background they had? If this sort of a thing is to be done on individual personal basis, things are not going to work out.

We talk of discussion with the opposition. Did the Government take opposition into confidence? Call all the opposition leaders and

say that here are the people, we want to give charge in Jammu & Kashmir, here is the Governor we want to appoint. It is not going to be your personal affair that just because Shri Farooq Abdullah wanted to put his people, you must get the whole team back, which had, in any case, proved to be unsuccessful. This type of things have been happening and it is not good.

The figures have been given for the last three years as to how many have been killed. All that, I would not like to repeat but just to say that 572 security people have been killed and 1934 have been injured, in addition to the other figures that have been given. There are a large number of houses and bridges which have been burnt. This has been the achievement in the last three years.

The causes of deterioration have been many. I would not like to stress on those but as far as external agency is concerned—about internal I have talked in brief—we have been saying that Pakistan is responsible. Now this Government openly blames Pakistan for creating troubles for us and for proxy war. What has the Government of India done? All that we do is to go crying to USA, weeping, sobbing, 'please put Pakistan on terrorist list'. So what, if it puts it or does not put it? Are we not capable of taking any action ourselves? Can we not teach Pakistan a lesson that 'you mind your own business'? The proxy war can be played by two people. Can we not create similar trouble for them? What are we hesitant about? Why are we not doing it? America can go and bomb Iraq just because they thought that some conspiracy was there to kill Bush. They could do all these things and here in India we cannot even bomb the terrorist training areas and hideouts in occupied Kashmir.

When BJP suggests this, you say that we are anti-Pakistan, we are this, that and all these things. Now it is to tell you that this sort of an advice is not merely a military man's advice or BJP's war or fundamentalism or fanaticism or anti-Pakistan attitude.

I would like to read out to you what Shri T.N. Kaul—I am sure that we do not have to talk about his credentials and how long he served the country—and what he says in a long article. He says—

"India has the right and duty to retaliate and even bomb the Pak bases and training camps in POK, if necessary. Has the Government of India the courage and guts to do so? Nothing else will deter Pakistan."

Why do you not do it? What is stopping you? How long will you tolerate this nonsense from Pakistan? How long will you play this friendly game when Pakistan is stabbing you in the back and not only in the back but in the front also?

I can tell the hon. Minister who is an ex-serviceman, from my personal experience, as I had served in Jammu and Kashmir that Pakistan in these issues understands the game only when you give them two slaps if they give you one. They do not understand any other game; and unless we do this, unless we stop the infiltration from across the borders, the Government's problems are not going to be solved.

We talk of sealing the international border. The Hon. Minister and I know how difficult it is. Can this stop infiltration? Blatantly they are coming and we are doing nothing about it. So, I feel very strongly about it and I request that some thing should be done. I know that it has to be done at a particular level in a particular manner. That message to Pakistan must go loud and clear, that, "You mind your business; otherwise if you can play this game, we can play this game better than you." I request that this matter may be given serious consideration.

I next come to handling of insurgency or terrorism. Shri Rajesh Pilot is an ex-serviceman; so am I. He knows that insurgency 'has never been and can never be finished by half-hearted, weak-kneed measures. History has taught us that in many countries. When toughness is required, it is foolish to be soft, lenient or vacillating. Use of force without relentless firmness is counter-productive in insurgency. It sends the wrong signals and it creates problems for the Government. The force meant to curb insurgency should not be used against innocent people, against our own brothers in the case of Jammu and Kashmir, and it should not also be used against people who are being misguided. But there is no justification for the

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Government not to use force—but full force—against the terrorists and criminals who have been trained in Pakistan and who are day in and day out killing our own people. The Government has no justification for not giving the exemplary punishment to those mercenaries who have come from other countries. They should not only be punished exemplarily, but they should be punished publicly. Some say that they are mercenaries who have come from other countries and it may create problems. Insurgency is not going to be controlled by this sort of a policy. We will only be playing the game of Pakistan. That is what exactly Pakistan wants. It wants you to exhaust your energy by slowly burning yourself and your energies out and at the appropriate time they will do something which we will not be able to resist.

The other point is about unified command. We have been hearing off and on that there is some sort of unified command. I am just coming from Doda district. I had gone to Kishtwar also. On 20th and 21st I was there. I saw that some Army deployment was there. But the concept of unified command, as it should be in a practical concept, was no where there. I do not know; again it is said only for public consumption that we say that Army is taking over, or has taken over. It is not fair. Therefore, I request you that there should be a proper unified command under the control of the Army, accountable with all the necessary intelligence resources and communication resources. I would also like to tell the Government that both the para-military forces and the Army do not have the communications system or the intelligence system that the terrorists have today. The type of radio sets the terrorists have even the Army does not have. Unless you are one better than them in terms of intelligence and communication, things will not improve.

As far as insurgency is concerned, I would like to tell the Government, that they should not do these things in instalments. They have to take one strong definite action against insurgency. Then only they will be able to control it. Otherwise it cannot be done.

My next point is also a very important point. I do not know frankly why this is not being done. There are a large number of ex-servicemen in Jammu and Kashmir. I have given this figure in my report. There are 10,000 in Doda district alone.

They are now fighting against the terrorists with their own ordinary weapons. Somebody has got 12 bore gun or a single barrel gun. Even with that they are fighting. All that they are saying is: "Please give us semi-automatic weapons or automatic weapons, and give us ammunitions. We do not want anything else." I do not know why this Government is not using them. I would certainly like to know from the Minister as to why this force is not being used. It is all over in Jammu and Kashmir, in all the Districts. You have got over 12000 AK 47 captured rifles lying in your stores. A large quantity of ammunitions are lying in your stores. Why are these rotting in your stores? Why are they not being used? I can tell you that if you organise this properly, then within a month you will see a dramatic change in the terrorist activity in Jammu and Kashmir. So, kindly take note of this seriously. We have been requesting you time and again but nothing has happened so far. Every exsoldier says: "Kindly give us weapons, ammunitions. We will handle the people on our own. We do not want anybody."

Then, I would like to mention a word about my visit to Doda, where 16 people had been massacred. A very good thing had happened there. I reached Doda on 20th. Both Hindus and Muslims had formed a Joint Action Committee. This massacre took place on 14th. Immediately, all Muslims condemned this incident. The Muslim organisation at Kishtwar condemned this. Shops were closed. There was a *bandh* on that day. Therefore, there was some sort of a semblance of ill feelings between Hindus and Muslims getting reduced. Hindus and Muslims are organising joint action there. It was very encouraging.

Now, the administration is creating problems so that the Hindu-Muslim unity does not succeed. And shall I say, they are interfering with Hindu-Muslim goodwill. I will give you a few examples how the Hindus feel that they are alienated. They feel that the administration is only now playing to the games of the terrorists.

Sir, I had given a report. I had mentioned about this last time also. In this report, I had given some suggestions on my 6th May visit. One Mr. Thakur was killed in Doda in

December last year. He had written a letter to the Commissioner that he was going to be killed and asked him to do something on that. Within seven days, he was killed. Till today there has been no inquiry about it. Between 6th and 8th May I was there. On 10th, one Mr. Bhandari was killed in Kishtwar in his shop during daylight. There has been no inquiry on that. Thereafter, the ladies of Kishtwar took out a procession on 18th and the police opened firing on them without the authority of the Magistrate. Please understand this. The Magistrate authority was not given. One boy was killed in that firing. It was a firing on the ladies. Till today no inquiry has been carried out even after the unauthorised firing, wherein one boy was killed. Simultaneously, a Muslim person was killed during this trouble by the Hindus. There is no doubt about it. Immediately, within 24 hours, thirty people were arrested. Twenty of them were put under TADA and IPC 302. They were tortured and mercilessly beaten up badly and five of them are in custody till today under TADA and IPC 302. On the one side, two persons were killed and no inquiry was conducted. On the other side, police arrested and tortured 20 people. When I asked the Deputy Commissioner of Doda as to why no enquiry had been ordered, he said: "I have just come. I do not know what has happened." This type of a problem is creating ill-will between Hindus and Muslims. The administration is responsible for this. Unless this is cleared out, things will not improve.

One very important point—in fact I started speaking about this in the beginning of my speech—is about human rights. Lot of people have said about this. They are blaming and they are talking about Army, BSF and CRPF.

I would like to ask these people here as to how many of them know that the people who are manning these areas are fighting the criminal terrorists and are being killed in cold blood by these very people whose case they are projecting. It is very unfair on the forces—our Army and Paramilitary Forces that you blame them for being harsh on the terrorists. Why should they not be harsh? Sir, I want you to see yesterday's issue of the Indian Express.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Khandurji, we have sufficiently discussed the

Jammu and Kashmir matter. The time at our disposal is really very little. You have already taken more than fifteen minutes.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Sir, I will take two more minutes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The cooperation of the Members is absolutely essential. The time cannot be made elastic. It serves no purpose. Please conclude now.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Sir, this is one most important point which I feel very strongly about and which I would like to convey here. The Services and our Paramilitary Forces are being misrepresented and the Government is also responsible for this. You see this particular incident. A man of 28 years had been shot by the terrorists when they came surrounded with young girls. This sick man from the B.S.F. did not fire at the terrorists because they were with the girls. From a position where surrounded by girls, the terrorist fired at this man. Today he is seriously injured. He cannot even talk. Are you expecting this gentleman who is fighting against terrorists to call that man and ask—'Are you a terrorist; then please let me know; then I will fight with you?' It is very unfair. All these people are talking so many things here. I want to know how many of their children are serving there? Would they like their children to be killed like this at a place where the terrorists are coming and hitting from the back? You talk of human rights here. Why should you bother about Amnesty International or Asia Watch? We should satisfy ourselves. We should look after our interests.

I request you not to get deterred by this unnecessary issue of human rights. We should do the right thing. But, at the same time, you cannot tie the hands of troops behind their backs and then ask them to fight the terrorists. They will not fight them. You demoralise and discourage them. Then you will have a situation where they will say that they will not go there. Why are the people not wanting to go to J&K today? Everybody who is posted to J&K comes out with a request for change of posting. This is the type of impression that is being created.

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Therefore, I would request that the views of the Services side should also be seriously considered. I would request the Government to bring more and more such cases to public knowledge where the troops have been killed or maimed because of such incidents, when they play decent—when they were decent with the local people and the terrorists harmed them misusing their decency.

Sir, I thank you very much for the opportunity given. I support this motion. We have to support it. We have no way of not extending the President's rule in J&K. But I do hope that some concrete measures will come under the present set up.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Chitta Basu may speak. Shri Basuji, you belong to a small group consisting of seven political parties and all put together have four minutes. You will not take more time.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Sir, I know my limitation.

I rise to support the motion because it is a *fait accompli*. There is no other alternative at the present moment with the Government. Therefore, I feel that this motion is to be passed by the House. But, at the same time, I want to make it clearly known to the Government that they should take advantage of the coming six months for taking certain concrete steps so that the election could be held; democratic process can be resumed and a democratic administration or democratic governance becomes possible.

At the outset I want to make my position clear. Kashmir is a problem which is a national one. This national problem has no military solution. Any attempt to have a military solution to this national problem would be disastrous. The only way out is a political solution of the problem. There may be different views regarding the ingredients for political solution. Now the basic point has been raised that there should be larger autonomy as one of the solutions of the Kashmir problem and a very important of political solution of the problem.

In this connection, I simply want the reaction of the Government and that is the purpose of my intervention at this stage. Now, in

Kashmir a section of the people has raised the demand of 'return to 1952 status of Kashmir'. Naturally, when the Government says that they also want to work out a political solution within the framework of the Indian Constitution, Indian Constitution also envisages autonomy for the States. I am not coming into the controversial aspect of this point. This demand of 'return to 1952 status' and system of the Government then prevailing would amount to, according to me, a quasi-independent State. And what is the Government to that particular suggestion made by many?

Sir, the Kashmiris have been alienated and there cannot be any doubt about it. But, what are the reasons for the alienation of the Kashmiri masses? Unless we identify them, we will not be able to find out the remedial measures. To be very brief, the main reasons for the alienation of the Kashmiris from the mainstream of politics are, family rule, dynastic rule, corruption, suppression of opposition, suppression of people's genuine aspirations, subversion of the democratic processes, rigging of 1983 and 1987 Assembly elections and the Lok Sabha election of 1989 and Pakistan's State-sponsored terrorism. These are the main reasons for the alienation of the Kashmiri people from the mainstream politics. I think, the Government of India should take appropriate and proper steps to see that all these grounds are removed as early as possible and the people's involvement in the Government of Jammu and Kashmir is ensured.

14.57 hrs.

[SHIRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA
in the Chair]

Madam, coming to the point of 1952 status, I also want to remind the House of certain historical facts. It is known that between 1953 and 1975, a large number of Central Laws and Institutions were extended to Jammu and Kashmir. This enabled the people of Jammu and Kashmir to get enhanced Central assistance on the basis of 90 per cent grant and 10 per cent loan. That also led to further integration of Kashmir into India. There was a question even in the 1975 agreement which was made between Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Shri Sheikh Abdullah. Under that agreement it was agreed that even if the Sheikh Abdullah Government wants that certain Central Laws

should be withdrawn, the Government would accept it. That was one of the conditions of the agreement of 1975 made between Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Shri Sheikh Abdullah. As a matter of fact, Shri Sheikh Abdullah appointed a three member Committee in 1977. The term of reference of that Committee was to identify those Central Laws which are considered as injurious to the State's political and economic interests. I have got all the details of the deliberations of that Committee and its recommendations. The recommendations are not unanimous and there are two contradictory recommendations. Mr. D.D.Thakur, one of the member of that Committee, then observed that the hands of the clock of history cannot be turned back and the application of Central Laws produced more positive results. This is one view. Of course, a contrary view was also there. Now, in this situation, I want to know whether the Government is considering to have a comprehensive and integrated policy on Kashmir which envisages the involvement of the people and more autonomy to the State.

15.00 hrs.

If that constitutes the basic approach of the Government in so far as formulating the future programme with regard to Jammu and Kashmir is concerned, what would be the reaction of the Government in this matter?

My second point is that India's propaganda in regard to Kashmir situation is very weak abroad. Chitra Subramaniam wrote, only on 24th of this month, from Geneva. She says :—

"The average foreigner now believes that Kashmir is occupied by India."

She further goes on to say :—

"Western media mentions Kashmir along with Bosnia."

This is one of the impression which one of the noted journalists of India has been having and it has been printed here in this country.

It is reported that United Nations Human Rights Sub-Commission on Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, have decided to send a representative of the United Nations to visit Jammu and Kashmir and have a first-hand knowledge of the situation prevailing there.

It relates to the Ministry of External Affairs. I was emboldened to raise this question when the hon. Minister was here. But he is not here now. What is the approach of the Government of India to it and what is the Government of India's decision in allowing and not allowing the United Nations representative to peacefully visit Jammu and Kashmir?

One of the Indian citizens who is now in Geneva who is ex-Justice Rajinder Sachhar is on record to say :—

"India's position is confused one and New Delhi had failed to make its case on Kashmir strong in any international fora. So, people here believe that India has occupied Kashmir".

Unless these issues are dealt with properly and unless the international media are properly educated and unless the international opinion is organised, the people will understand outside the country that we are occupying Jammu and Kashmir. As a matter of fact, that is not the policy of the Government. We are not occupying Jammu and Kashmir. Kashmir to us is not a territory. Kashmir to us is not merely a mountain. Kashmir to us is not merely hopes. Kashmir to us means the fabric of Indian unity and India's stability.

Therefore, this approach of India should be made known to the people outside so that international community could be won over and their support is also ensured and Pakistan's war policy can be combated and the terrorism sponsored by Pakistan can be effectively dealt with.

I feel the Government of India should take note of it and take appropriate political, administrative and economic measures to meet the situation arising out of the stalemate in Jammu and Kashmir.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur): Mr. Chairman, through you I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards some important points. A question was earlier raised by some hon. Members regarding the change in population and the imbalance in the

[Prof. Prem Dhumal]

earlier population. I would like to give some figures in the House regarding the population of Kashmir. In 1941, the population of Muslims, Hindus and others were 83%, 15% and 2% respectively. In 1981, the population of Muslims, Hindus and others were 92%, 5% and 2.9% respectively and according to the latest figures, the population of Muslims and Hindus in 1991, are 97% and 0.1% respectively. It is clear from these figures that the number of Hindus is constantly decreasing and the number of Muslims is constantly increasing and this is a matter of grave concern.

Sir the present situation is such that more than 3 lakh Kashmiri Pandits have left Kashmir due to terrorism and more than one lakh pro-India Muslims have left the valley and migrated to Amritsar, Delhi, Jammu, Chandigarh and other parts of the country. So, we support this proposal of extending the Presidents Rule in the State for 6 more months. Our party has always been in favour of this fact that elections cannot be held there until the situation in Kashmir becomes normal and more than 4 lakh displaced persons, who include the Hindus, who have become refugees in their own country and the pro-India Muslims, go back to their houses.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to mention here about Sopore town. You will be surprised to know that there are 300 hired foreign soldiers, who have M-16 rifles of American-make, which can be used for firing a bullet as well as a cannon-ball. They have such automatic and latest weapons. Sir you will be surprised to know that Mohammad Akbar Qureshi alias Akbar Bhai, a former associate of the Prime Minister of Afghanistan, Gulubuddin Hlikmatyar, used to have total control on the terrorists of Sopore. On 7th of August last, he was killed in a big operation carried out by the security forces. It is being said that now his place has been taken by his cousin brother, Shamsher Ahmed. A mourning procession was taken out in the lanes of Sopore after the death of Akbar. He was killed near Iqbal Market in this colony. The terrorists have even named the road leading to Bandipur as Akbarpur Road. Akbar used to be the so-called Chief Coordinator of Hijbul Mujahiddin in Sopore.

Mr. Chairman, our security forces are fighting a fierce battle under adverse conditions in Kashmir valley. But charges are sometimes

levlled here in the House and outside against the security forces which demoralise them. My submission, through you, is that those who are fighting for the security, unity and integrity of the country should not be subjected to charges of violation of human rights. Human rights do not belong to a particular person. Human rights are equal for everyone. The soldiers do have the same human rights as are enjoyed by civilians. When terrorists attack our security forces and kill them, then the human rights of security personnel are also violated. I, therefore, would like to warn you that those who are endangering their lives in the service of the country should not be blamed.

Mr. Chairman, there is a journalist who was earlier of opinion that this embroglio should be resolved through talks with them. He rang me up the day before yesterday and told me that there are around 14 thousand people at present who are active with sten-guns and A.K.-47 rifles. Shri Rajesh Pilot is dealing with them himself. He may contact the persons also who could assist in resolving this problem.

Mr. Chairman, the hon. Member Shri Satyapal Singh who spoke before me also said what I would like to say that a message should be sent that the traitors who are spreading terrorism would not be spared and stringent action would be taken against them.

Mr. Chairman, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister, through you, to my State Himachal Pradesh whose Chamba district border touches the border of Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir. Terrorists are infiltrating from Doda district into Chamba district. Some incidents have occurred there. These must have been brought to the notice of the hon. Minister. I request that additional funds should be provided to Himachal Pradesh to enable it to make its own security arrangement because it is not a good thing if a peaceful State falls in the grip of terrorism spreading in other State. Security forces should be reinforced there to avoid that.

I would like to bring to the notice of Mr. Rajesh Pilot in particular that on the day the Budget had been passed I had sought to know that when a situation has arisen in which people belonging to a particular community are being made to alight from buses and killed, has he issued orders to deploy security guards in the

buses? In the case of Punjab in such a situation security guards used to be deployed in buses. You had also given an assurance. You are requested to make it clear in your reply whether the buses plying in Jammu and Kashmir also carry security guards in them?

Our stand is becoming weak abroad. Some colleagues have suggested that a delegation of our Members of Parliament should go there and present our viewpoint. To what extent it is going to be possible is another matter. But what our Embassy is doing there. Anti-India news items are carried and pamphlets are distributed. I have come to know that our Ambassador has failed to seek an audience even with the secretary of State. He goes on a sightseeing of America. You know the person who has been sent there as Ambassador, belongs to your State. What did he do in Punjab? He never enjoyed a good reputation anywhere after that. The only official he has met in America said that whoever has spare time would fix a meeting with him. Such an Ambassador should be called back.

I gave 2-3 suggestions earlier also. In 1989 when the situation was worst he was the Governor there. Even his advisors are not effective. I understand that one of his advisors has come to Jammu from Srinagar and wants to be posted elsewhere. If the highly-placed officials who are well protected by security forces are not willing to discharge their duties how can you expect ordinary citizen to remain in the valley amidst terrorism.

I urge that people who want to do something for the country and who would be able to solve this problem effectively should be sent there. How many times will the delegation of Members of Parliament go and present our viewpoint. This is what the Embassy is supposed to do. You should contact the Ministry of External Affairs to see what the officials of department of External Affairs are doing. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting should also be contacted to ask them to ensure that they can watch our programmes. People in Jammu mostly watch Pakistan Television. We may be able to resolve this imbroglio by cooperating with each other. We have to keep Kashmir with us by rising above party interests.

One committee has also been constituted. But its meeting is not held. Please take everybody into confidence. The whole nation is with you. The first and the foremost thing to ensure is that Kashmir is in India and will continue to remain in India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now the hon. Minister may reply.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): Sir, first of all I would thank all the hon. Members for coming out with candid views. Everybody put his suggestions here. This is a good practice in democracy. When somebody puts his views before the Parliament the Government takes steps acting on those suggestions which are in the interests of the country. Some views were expressed today. I have repeated it time and again in the House that the Kashmir problem is not solely of the Government nor of a single party, but it is the problem of the country as a whole. As everybody said we should rise above party interests and see how we can solve this problem. Our neighbouring country has put a very big challenge before us. We should meet the challenge together. We should remember the sacrifices made by thousands of our brethren. Our those brethren had made sacrifices to keep India united. India faced war twice in 1965 and 1971. Besides, small conflicts are taking place everyday. Our soldiers who are keeping vigil at the border have also kept Kashmir a part of India by making sacrifices. We should respect those sacrifices and work together to maintain the status quo in Kashmir as was just said by Dhulaji.

Some other points were raised simultaneously. Either those points could not be conveyed properly or our colleague Shri Khurana was misinformed. He said that discussions are not held in the Cabinet. This is not so. We not only discuss in the Cabinet but we have open discussion with our Council of Ministers in the same manner as we are doing it here. I don't know how he was misinformed. Anything said about our country, no matter I'm saying it or the Minister of Home is saying.....(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Was the meeting of the Cabinet held by including it in the agenda?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Please leave this thing to us whether we work by including it in the agenda or not. We keep inviting Ministers for holding talks. The Government is run with collective responsibility.

We had received a statement in which it was alleged that the Government had not taken the opposition into confidence. I had tried myself in this regard. Shri Jaswantji is sitting here. He was also called therein. Shri Vajpayjeeji and Shri Chandrashekharji were also there. They were told the facts. The Government is contemplating to take such steps. We had discussed the matter openly. We had removed all shortcomings and also tried to implement those suggestions which came from opposition members. I think that we should also meet once more after the adjournment of the House. So that any member who wishes to put his ideas, he will do so. This is our future plan.

Every one is concerned with Kashmir problem. We do not want to adopt any other policy in this regard. It is correct that we are lagging behind in publicity. We could not project our view point upto the extent of our satisfaction. Now we have taken a distinct step in foreign as well as in internal publicity. We hope that it will take turn. We are strictly monitoring this programme in coordination with the Ministry of External Affairs so that it may not create an impression in the world that human rights are being violated in Kashmir. Shri Khandooriji was saying that the world should also know about the happenings of Kashmir. The job of army personnel working there has become very risky. They do not know from where the firing will occur. In army they are given training by giving a target. They have their target before them. They know whereto fire. In the language of army the jawan is taught about the angle of fire. The angle should be of 45 degree or 60 degree. But the training to fire in the angle of 360°, is not imparted anywhere in para-military forces. They are playing such role. They are instructed to stand under a tree. The jawan does not know from where the militants will attack and what would be their number. There may be one jawan and the number of militants may be 25. There may be 25 jawans but at the same time the number of militants may be 100. The para military forces are in such circumstances. We are not paying heed to their plight but

to human rights. Some countries are preaching India about human rights. It is a historical fact that India has itself fought against the cause at international forums. India has always been leading against the cause. I would like to assure that we will keep both aspects in mind. We will not allow any excesses to be committed and human rights violated. Besides this we will also look into the matters relating to our para-military forces, and see that forces should be not defamed.

Some other things are also told. A particular thing. Which I have noted is the feeling among the people that no action is being taken there and we are trying as the situation warrants. It is not our intention. I, personally, tell you honestly that I used to go there when I was in the Ministry of Communications. You should concede it a fact that people did not come out from their houses. I used to ask the concerned officers to make my contact with those people. Sometimes, I took my car and used to visit a particular house and request to offer him a cup of tea. I found the people panicked. They were struck with terror. There were only one or two families who used to welcome but they were also panicked. Now, a change has come steadily. I visit there, thousands of people reach there at guest house without information to convey their grievances. Earlier, the people were so much panicked that they used to hide their faces and refuse to see the team of Doordarshan. Now, that fear is decreasing steadily. Last time when I was on tour and was passing through the bye-pass of District Headquarters, people were stopping me on road and were talking about their grievances. They were saying why did you not listen about their freedom and some times they were saying that they needed freedom. At one place when I was crossing Fulvama people were sapling paddy plants, they came there to see the sticker of police department on my car. An old man complained me that his son who secured 70 per cent marks could not get admission in Medical College whereas another boy of his village who secured 55 per cent marks got admission in medical college. I said that I will look into the matter personally and asked him to send his son with me I will try for his son's admission in any college. I brought him here and took him before Shri Shankaranandji and talked about his admission. Now such feeling is coming there that they are complaining against the injustice.

There were talks of corruption, such type of irregularities are order of the day there. As you have seen recently that a case of bungling of Rs. 8 crore was detected in the office of DC Anantnag. We took steps. Action was taken against 20-21 officers. The DC was arrested. We took such actions else where also in Kashmir. Now it is known to all that so long as corruption is there, they can not be self confident. Now they feel that they are not getting their due share.

Secondly, an incident was cited. A boy and his parents were killed in that incident. It is a fact that they were killed in cross firing when armed search was going on. As I was explained, the boy was going to his house and the police fired at him after his arrival at his residence. As soon as I heard this news, I ordered for an inquiry, and the concerned Police Inspector was arrested. In this way, an action against him was initiated then and there. You should also concede that such incidents throw us one or two months back. We are trying to improve the situation but due to such incidents we are taken aback.

We are issuing instructions to our para military forces, police and army from time and again that though they are working in such a hard conditions yet they have to act intelligently so that our brethren of Kashmir may not move away from the main stream and stern action be taken against the militants continuously. It is a difficult task. Therefore, we are thinking about unified command. Maj Gen. Khanduri said that unified command was established so that all problems could be sorted out at single table. B.S.F. should operate after consulting army and army should operate in consultation with the B.S.F. C.R.P. and local Police should consult each other every day and their problems should be sorted out in a team's spirit. It is quiet possible that we may not get desired success by these actions. But I am confident that the situation will be improved steadily. While they were working separately, if anyone was first apprehended by the BSF and later on released, thereafter army arrested him. Thus the confusion was there. Now the situation is changed. Today if anybody is arrested, his relatives are told about his whereabouts within 24 hours of his arrest in such case. Thereafter the meeting of screening committee which is comprised of S.P., Collector, Army Officers of para-military

forces is held on every Monday. They examine their cases. If the committee finds anybody innocent, it released him immediately, if the committee finds anybody guilty, it recommends for legal action. I agree that there are some loopholes in this process. There are complaints. We are not getting the success upto that extent as we were expecting. This time when I visited Kashmir, people complained me that though in some districts screening committees have got success yet in some other districts they are not getting as such success as we were expecting. Now, when I shall visit there during September I will try to go to all these districts and will try to get all these loopholes removed.

I would like to inform the House when I visited there some Government officers were accompanying me. They were from the departments of—Tourism, Power, Finance, Telecom. Rural Development, Banking, Insurance, Agriculture and Medical. I had made up my mind that we would resolve their problems then and there in those meetings. When I went there the people used to ask that the amount of their loan had gone up very high and that should be rescheduled and the bank interest was also very high they could not pay it. They have income from tourists and those who were engaged in pony or small boats are jobless now. I would like to inform the House about the decisions taken in this regard there.

Tourism, should be declared as an industry and all facilities which are being provided to industries should also be given to tourism. At least the people who are engaged in handicrafts and other works, may get assistance. There was a vacant Hotel which we have handed it over to State Government for starting a training course in catering so that the young Kashmiri people may get employed after completing the course of Hotel Management and Catering. The training period would be 9 months to 1 year and the number of trainees would be 50 to 60.

Accordingly, we are thinking to open the areas of Laddakh, Nubra Valley, Tasomoritica, Drokafa in Kargil for tourists. Laddakh is a nice place. The people could not visit there owing to some restrictions. So long as the situation in valley particularly in Kashmir is tense. We thought to divert the tourist flow to

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that area. We have proposals to provide all facilities to that area. There is also a proposal to set up Karagil airport. It was a long standing demand. This time when I went there, the State Government put up a proposal that total expenditure on this project should be divided between State and Central Government on 50-50 basis. The estimated cost of this project is Rs. 10 crore. We have acceded to their proposal and now an airport will be built at Kargil.

So is the case in the matters of rehabilitation. Tourist related loan was rescheduled for house boats, Transport Service and Pony carriers, and we had tried to reduce the bank interest upto 6 per cent to give them relief.

So far as power is concerned, there is an acute shortage of power. Instructions were given to complete the 25 M.W. ongoing unit of Pampore Gas Turbine by October 1993. Accordingly the construction was going on in Dolahasti project. This is the opinion of foreign experts that after the completion of this project there will be no shortage of power in Jammu-Kashmir. Besides this the state will give power to those states who will be in need of power. The 220 K.W. Udhampur Transport Transmission Line will be completed by December, 1994. There was a shortage of telecom facilities. S.T.D. facility was not available in Srinagar. After my talks held with hon. Communication Minister and the department five thousand lines and Electronic Exchange were sanctioned. STD facilities will be made available in other Districts also particularly in industrial sector. Industries are running at present at one or two places in Jammu where S.T.D. facility will be provided on priority basis. So that it may reach there by the end of September.

The repair work of those bridges which were blown off by terrorists, is going on rapidly. Akhnoor bridge was referred to. I would like to tell you that this bridge will be opened by 16th September. Consignment has already been sent by the Ministry of Railways and construction work is going on expeditiously. A special package has been prepared for roads and bridges. After negotiating with the Ministry of Surface Transport. I have talked with Dr. Manmohan Singh so that maximum funds may be allocated to this scheme. Thus the renovation work of roads and bridges would be

started and the opportunity of employment would be generated. Accordingly it has been decided that the Central Government and the State Government will provide their share of 50%, for Mughal Road Project and it will also help to solve the problem. It was said about rural development that Rs. 16 crore should be deposited in J.R.Y. so that employment opportunities could be generated. At the very moment I told officers that this fund should reach direct to villages and its accountability should be fixed. I prepared a proforma with the help of the officers so that the entire work could be carried out properly. In the same way the work of Operation Black Board was started.

The functions of banking and insurance were resumed. During the last three years some shops were burnt at Seopore and Lal Chowk during the course of cross firing with militants or in other actions. Some goods was burnt and some goods was looted. At the outset, they were refusing to accept the claim. Anyhow, they are ready now to accept it. The Banking Insurance team has been visiting there since 16th and a list of property is being prepared after conducting survey. The object of conducting this survey is not to assess the property belonging to Hindus and Muslims. But it is being conducted to get the claims settled. That team was instructed not to come back until and unless all the claims were settled. Otherwise, the claims will have been pending for two years in completing formalities. In this way, these people will get the benefit of insurance.

A decision was taken by banks in this direction.

[English]

Banks will provide 50 per cent additional working capital limits to SSI units on ad hoc basis.

[Translation]

It was a big problem that the facility of bank limit was not provided for meagre jobs.

[English]

In the same manner, banks will also implement a scheme for rescheduling past loans in respect of these units which are viable. This

would include concessional interest at 6 per cent and moratorium on payment of interest for one year.

[Translation]

They have been asked not to make the payment up to one year and the interest will be charged at the rate of 6 per cent. Thus the viable loans after rescheduling them can be revived. I hope that it will help the young people in getting the opportunity to work in industries.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: The facilities the Government is mentioning are very good, but I would like to ask whether the Kashmiri migrants who are at present residing in Jammu and Kashmir are also being granted these facilities.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: I am coming to that point. I am talking about the State Jammu and Kashmir. The viable units there can be revived and they can provide employment. The Government has the intention to provide again the employment to the youth. They should work in industries. The Government has taken measures in this regard.

Similarly—

[English]

The house-boat owners and non-star hotels shall also be eligible for rescheduling the past loans.

[Translation]

Small hotels are lying vacant due to lack of tourists. The amount of loans was increasing. Such borrowers have also been taken under this category and it will prevent the excessive burden on them.

[English]

For enabling disbursement of loans under various banking schemes, a committee of representatives of banks and State Governments shall also be set up and the committee will identify viable loans in all districts and loans shall be disbursed in a time-bound programme.

[Translation]

This was also provided to help the graduates.

[English]

Banks will conduct special recruitment to fill up the vacancies. A senior officer of GIC will be stationed in Srinagar to ensure speedy settlement of claims.

[Translation]

What I mentioned above is related to the claims. The victims of terrorism etc are unable to get the compensation for the damage made by the militants. I came to know that thousands of persons can get employment in Sericulture Institute and it has been stated that the Sericulture Institute will be revived.

[English]

Central Silk Board shall provide a subsidy of Rs. 100 per bag of raw silk and Rs. 50 per bag from the State. I am told that under the National Sericulture Project funded by the World Bank, 2750 hectares of mulberry plantation will be taken up and this will provide employment to 30,000 people in a span of time. This is the real project to give employment because sericulture is very important in Kashmir.

[Translation]

Some rural people met me and they told me that if sericulture was developed, a lot of employment opportunities would be created and the figures presented by them would be of a great help. It was mentioned only because the Government wants to launch the development activities simultaneously so that the attention of the people can be diverted and they may not stick to one point only i.e. law and order problem. Contrary to that they should do their best to bring the militants into the main stream. Last time also, I told in this august House that the common people are very much afraid. On the one hand they are afraid of the militants and on the other hand they are unable to express their opinion because of fear of para military forces. That is why, they need to be encouraged. Those who speak the language of bullets, deserved stern action and the Government has already time and again warned that it would combat the terrorists very harshly. I can

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point out to this august House confidently that our forces have been taking the maximum possible stern action against the terrorists during the last three months. Infiltration has not totally ceased; but it has been controlled to a great extent and the ammunition supply has also been prevented. Our forces have now started getting assistance from the villagers. Therefore, we will entertain the grievances of the common people and will continue to work for redressal of these grievances. This action plan can restore normalcy in Kashmir provided this plan continues. A single incident thwarts all our efforts made in this direction. Shri Khanduri has just mentioned the incident of Kishtwar. A Hindu-Muslim committee has been set up there and they have tackled the situation very shrewdly. The committee are of the opinion that it was the design of the people who wanted to divide the country. It was their plan to term it as communal. They had planned to call 16 persons of a particular community and to kill them. So that in that area of the State, a communal hatred might be created. In the three or four districts like Doda, Kishtwar etc., the Hindus and the Muslims have been living very amicably. Their relations were cordial even at the peak of the militancy. Shri Khanduri has stated that the enquiry is not visually held but death incidents do occur. When Shri Bhandari was shot at, I went there. The magisterial enquiry was ordered and there is some progress in the enquiry. So far as the death of a child is concerned, a magisterial enquiry has also been ordered. The magisterial enquiry was held on the police firing too.

MAJ GEN. (RETD). BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: (Garhwal).....(Interruptions)..... I had stated that nothing of this sort had taken place and the people belonging to other community were badly beaten and I had talked with the District Commissioner regarding the death of the child but no order for inquiry could be issued up to the 21st.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: I would look into it personally. Lastly I would like to state that the situation in Kashmir is not normal. We are passing through a very crucial stage. Sometimes the situation there gives good hopes and in the circumstances, we make some further plans enthusiastically but sometimes abrupt incidents give setback to our hopes. But we have not lost our heart on account of these

incidents; because the militants want only this much that the Government, para-military and the civilians lose their heart and they may succeed in their mission. Therefore, we need not be worried. Panic will not serve the purpose. We have to fight against them strongly. We have to fight against the ideology they are propagating. I have gone there many times in four or five months and I have witnessed changes in their psyche. They are eager to have a talk. They themselves ask as to why dialogue is not held with them and they say that they are also prepared to hold dialogues. But if on the one hand they threaten of guns and on the other hand they exhort ideology, the Government is prepared to talk with anybody who wants the welfare of the people of Kashmir. This has been our policy from the very outset.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Bus passengers have been massacred there. What arrangements have been made in J&K to prevent such incidents in future?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Security Guards have been deployed in the buses. Earlier there were check posts on the roads at every ten kilometres. We are also examining the situation as to why there had been no checkpost at that time. Now we are making arrangements to depute security guards in buses. It is only out of compulsion that we resort to impose President's rule in Jammu and Kashmir. The Government actually does not intend to impose President's Rule there.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): The Government is dealing with it strictly through the administration, but what is it doing to bring about conducive social atmosphere as has been suggested by Fatmiji that a delegation of some intellectuals should go there.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: I forgot to mention it. Two months earlier we had set up a small group. This group included the persons like Sardar Swarna Singh, Field Marshal Manekshaw, Smt. N. Kaul, Shri M.K. Narayanan, Shri Arjun Singh etc. and all these persons had been somehow associated with Kashmir. Meetings have also been held with them and we together are going to Kashmir in September; we shall stay there for three or four days. The organisations which are willing to visit there as social workers and hold talk with the people

there, are not prevented. We are ready to assist them. The arrangements for their journey, food and security will be made by the Government. The more they interact, the more the problem will be solved. The problem cannot be solved with the close door policy. The Government is well aware of it.

We are introducing this proposal under compulsion. We want that no part of the country should be deprived of election. But there is no proper time for holding election there. The situation in Kashmir does not permit us to hold elections there. But efforts are being made in this regard. Ours is a democratic country. Therefore, in order to strengthen democracy it is essential to hold elections in every part of the country. This is our policy and it is a great key to our success.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: What is the plan for the ex-servicemen there?

The District Commissioner had stated that he had sent a package to the Governor mentioning about the mode of assistance which the administration wants. Please throw some light on the package. Physically work is not being done on the Dul Hasti project. I therefore, want that the work should be started on it.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: I have asked whether the Government is going to have any package deal for Kashmir, migrants and whether it is likely to be announced; but it has not been mentioned.

SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI (Gazipur): The Government has stated nothing about Gram Panchayats.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Madam, two things have been stated. Shri Khanduri has mentioned about the ex-servicemen. In this regard, I would like to state that we want that the services of ex-servicemen should be utilised. I had stated last time that they should be issued licences on priority basis.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: The Government has stated that licences are likely to be issued and on the other hand they state that they have not received any orders like this. I would give you the report.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Just now a reference of AK-47 rifles was made. These rifles are thousands in number which are confiscated from militants. Such AK-47 rifles have been supplied to all the States. For example, Tamilnadu had demanded 500 AK-47 rifles. Its demand was met; but the token price of the rifles was fixed at Rs. 3000 per rifle. In order to prevent them from rusting, it has been supplied to the police force. Its total number was 12,000 and all of them have been allocated. So far as the supply of buses is concerned, I assure you that I would look into it personally. Shri Bhogendra Jha has stated about the Panchayat Rule but I would like to state that at present it is very difficult to forecast as to when the elections of Panchayat will be held. But we are under pressure to maintain the status quo situation. The militants should be subdued and the problems of the rank and file should be removed so that an atmosphere may be created and a confidence may be created among the people so that they may live with love. So far as the issue of migrants is concerned, I would like to go there. I have received their complaints.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: But I would like to state that you have gone there so many time but what achievement you have made through your visit. I am not opposing the measures taken to tackle the problems of the Kashmiris. But you want to go there now; this testifies as to how careless you are regarding the Kashmiri migrants.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: The migrants have been provided with some concessions, facilities etc. Perhaps I may not be able to give you the details of it at present as to what facilities are made available to them. They get assistance from Banks at concessional rate of interest. They may get loan at Delhi against their property in Kashmir. But they have problems, and there are no two opinions in it. They have lodging problems also.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: You must be knowing that they are leading a dog's life.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: I admit it and while replying to a question 3 days earlier I myself had stated that they were living in their decent houses in Kashmir.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: But on the one hand you say that you will provide every facility, on the other hand you say that you will visit there. I cannot understand it.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: I did not say so.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Just now you stated that you would visit there in the month of September.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Shri Khurana, please do not play the politics of Delhi. I told that I would visit there in the month of September. Let me put the records. I have stated that once I had gone there but I would not be able to tell you as to what I had discussed there. They have asked for the enhancement in the allowance of migrants, because they get Rs. 1000/- only at present and they get ration free of cost. They stated that they had been getting that amount or ration for the last four years and so, it should be enhanced. We are preparing proposals after consulting the State Government. I have told that I would sit along with them and discuss their problems patiently and would try my best to resolve their problems. Actually there are so many difficulties in it and it is not such an easy task as can be performed within a couple of days, so it would require some time for the Government to solve these problems.

With these words I express my thanks for all of my colleagues for their suggestions and feelings and I hope that this resolution will be passed and we will pray to God that there should be no need to bring such Bill in future and the situation in Kashmir becomes normal.

[English]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR (Faridkot): Madam, I just wanted a small clarification from the hon. Minister. We are very much convinced about the policy on Kashmir and we are proud of the dedication and commitment of our hon. Minister. I just want to know that since the last two days, there have been news items that the Director-General of Police, Punjab, Mr. K.P.S. Gill is being sent to Jammu and Kashmir to contain terrorism in that disturbed State.

As you know, Punjab has suffered for the last twelve years and this is a very sensitive matter that at this junction and at this point of time, the Director-General of Police, Mr. K.P.S. Gill is withdrawn from Punjab and he is sent to Jammu and Kashmir.

I want to know from the hon. Minister, is this merely a news item—it had appeared in all the national newspapers—or whether it had appeared under the name of Mr. Rajesh Pilot that he is considering to send Mr. K.P.S. Gill, a very competent police officer, to Jammu and Kashmir.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): Madam, as far as I am concerned, it is a news-item. I had just read the report.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL: You did not look at it, you had just read it!

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Let me tell you how this report had come. Nearly three months back, Mr. Gill was called on me. He was showing his interest on Kashmir. He said that wherever his services could be used he is always ready. Because, this is a challenging job. I must appreciate the offer of the Director-General of Police, Punjab. So, he said that it is a challenging job and he made an offer by saying that if anything he can do to help it out, his services are available, though he is retiring in September. But at no stage, the interest of Punjab or the success which we have achieved will be compromised. It is because we have brought peace and we cannot disturb Punjab and take a decision which would disturb peace in Punjab.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Middanapore): We all appreciate the work done by Mr. K.P.S. Gill in Punjab, but Kashmir and Punjab are not same.

Secondly, I do not think 100 K.P.S. Gills will be effective unless the security forces are able to function in an environment where the local population is not hostile to them. Nowhere in the world have security forces been able to be effective when they function in the midst of a hostile population.

Merely harsh measures will not serve the purpose. Stern measures must be taken against the terrorists and militants. But unless the local population is won over, nothing substantial can be achieved.

[English]

I hope you will send some priorities that will be correct.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Madam, we are aware of that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the Statutory Resolution moved by Shri Rajesh Pilot on the 26th August, 1993 to the vote of the House. The question is:

"That this House approves the continuance in force of the Proclamation dated the 18th July, 1990 in respect of Jammu and Kashmir, issued under article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months with effect from the 3rd September, 1993 be adopted."

The motion was adopted.

15.54 hrs.

[English]

RESOLUTION RE: RAJASTHAN STATE
ELECTRICITY BOARD

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V.
RANGAYYA NAIDU): On behalf of Shri
N.K.P. Salve, I beg to move the following
Resolution:—

"That this House, in pursuance of sub-section (3) of section 65 of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 read with clause (b) of the Proclamation issued on the 15th December, 1992 by the President under article 356 of the Constitution with respect to the State of Rajasthan, accords approval for fixing the sum of one thousand six hundred crores of rupees as the maximum amount which the Rajasthan State Electricity Board may at any

time have on loan under sub-section (1) of the said section 65."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution moved:—

"That this House, in pursuance of sub-section (3) of section 65 of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 read with clause (b) of the Proclamation issued on the 15th December, 1992 by the President under article 356 of the Constitution with respect to the State of Rajasthan, accords approval for fixing the sum of one thousand six hundred crores of rupees as the maximum amount which the Rajasthan State Electricity Board may at any time have on loan under sub-section (1) of the said section 65."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, with respect to proposal for increasing funds for Rajasthan State Electricity Board, I would like to submit that Rajasthan is a desert area which gets only one percent of the total water available in the country. It is the 2nd largest State in terms of population in the country. Today silting has taken place on a large scale in Gang Canal. Today Rajasthan is not getting its full share of power being generated in the country. All the proposals relating to share of Rajasthan in Yamuna water, Ganga water, Tehri Dam, entrusting work to Bhakhara Beas Management, Ropar, Harikesh or Ferozpur control, Chambal Project, Narmada project and providing additional funds for the completion of work of the Indira Gandhi Canal are lying pending with the Central Government.

Many a Chief-Minister came to power in Rajasthan and made efforts in their own way. The former Chief Minister, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat did his best, but it did not put any impact on the Government of India.

Today, the entire Rajasthan is experiencing drought. There was no rain. All the crops have ruined. There is scarcity of drinking water in villages. There is no water for cattle in the villages. I think never before this such a