

that the Vehicle and Satellite function satisfactorily.

The collection of tracking data and the analysis are continuing.

This is a notable achievement for India and for Indian Science. I am sure the House will join me in congratulating our scientists and technicians of the Department of Space. The nation is proud of them and wishes them further successes. (Interruptions)

वाजपेयी जी ने सायंस की बात कही थी, इस लिये मैंने उचित समझा कि इसके बारे में इसी समय कहूँ।

14.15 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL), 1980-81—Contd.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE—Contd.

श्रीमती विद्यावती चतुर्वेदी (खजुराहो) : सभापति महोदय, सब से पहले मैं आप को धन्यवाद देती हूँ कि आप ने रक्षा मंत्रालय की अनुदानों पर, जो बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण हमारा मंत्रालय है, मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया है और उस के लिए मैं आपकी आभारी हूँ। निःसंदेह इन अनुदान का समर्थन करने के लिए मैं खड़ी हुई हूँ।

सभापति महोदय, आपको ज्ञात है कि हमारे वीर सैनिकों ने, हमारी सेना ने हमारे देश में जो ज्वलंत कीर्तिमान स्थापित किए हैं, उन में हम लोग निःसंदेह परिचित हैं चाहे वह पाकिस्तान की लड़ाई रही हो, चाहे सरगोघा में हवाई-भ्रष्टे को उड़ाने की बात रही हो, चाहे अमेरिका से भेजे गए पैटन टैंकों को ध्वस्त करने की बात रही हो और चाहे बंगला देश की आजादी की लड़ाई रही हो, उन्होंने हमारे देश का जो मस्तक उंचा किया है, उस के लिए हम उन वीर सैनिकों के आभारी हैं और उन को कोटिशः धन्यवाद देते हैं। आज भी हमारे वे वीर सैनिक, जब शक्ति का समय है, तो भी चाहे हिमालय की उंची बर्फीली चोटियां हैं, चाहे समुद्र की गहरी तल हो, चाहे रेगिस्तान की उबलती हुई बालू हो और चाहे गणन का विशाल आंचल हो, आज भी अपने देश की आजादी के लिए वे सतर्क रहते हैं सावधान रहते हैं और हमेशा चिन्तित रहते हैं, और उस जन्मभूमि की रक्षा के लिए जिस जन्मभूमि के लिए हमारे यहां के ऋषियों ने यह कहा है :

“जननी जन्मभूमिश्च स्वर्गादपि गरीयसी”

हमारी जन्मभूमि स्वर्ग से भी बढ़ कर है और उस की रक्षा के लिए वे हमेशा तत्पर रहते हैं। ऐसे हमारे सैनिकों का बल बढ़ाने के लिए, उन की शक्ति बढ़ाने के लिये उन का आत्मबल बढ़ाने के लिए, यह

जरूरी हो जाता है कि आज के युग को देखते हुए, हमारे पड़ोस में जो मुल्क हैं, हमारे जो नजदीक के मुल्क हैं उन में जिस तरह की गतिविधियां हो रही हैं, उन सबको देखते हुए, यह बहुत जरूरी हो जाता है कि हम अपने सैनिकों के हाथों में आधुनिकतम से आधुनिकतम अस्त्र दें, आधुनिक से आधुनिक साधन हम उन को मुहैया करें ताकि उन की शक्ति बढ़े, उन का आत्मविश्वास बढ़े। आज मुझे यह कहने में कोई संकोच नहीं होता है, वाजपेयी जी पता नहीं किस वजह से कहते हैं कि आज कोई एटम बम या परमाणु बम बनाने का कोई महत्त्व नहीं है। मैं कहती हूँ कि यह बहुत जरूरी है कि हम अपनी अणु शक्ति और परमाणु शक्ति को बढ़ायें। इसलिए नहीं कि हम दूसरों पर हमला करने जा रहे हैं बल्कि अपनी आत्म-रक्षा के लिए, हमारे पड़ोसी देश जो हथियार अमेरिका से मांग रहे हैं और अपनी शक्ति बढ़ाते जा रहे हैं अगर हमें अपने देश की आजादी को कायम रखना है हमें अपने देश को मजबूत बनाना है, तो हमें अणु शक्ति और परमाणु शक्ति का उपयोग करना होगा। हमें रचनात्मक कार्यों में भी इन का उपयोग करना होगा। आज हमारे देश की आजादी के लिए यह बहुत जरूरी है कि हम परमाणु बम बनाएं, हम परमाणु शक्ति को बढ़ायें। वाजपेयी जी कह रहे थे कि हम अपने वैज्ञानिकों की उपेक्षा करते हैं। वाजपेयी जी मुझे माफ़ कर के कि इन की उपेक्षा तो आ की जनता सरकार के जमाने में हुई। हम ने तो उन को प्रागे बढ़ाया है। उस की मिसाल आप के सामने मुझ से पहले बोल कर हमारी प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जो सदन को एस० एल० वी०-३ और रोहिणी नामक सेटलाइट की सफलता के बारे में कीर्तिमान को आपके सामने प्रस्तुत किया है। हम अपने उन वैज्ञानिकों के आभारी हैं।

सभापति महोदय, आपके समक्ष कल हमारे संसद सदस्य माननीय गाडगिल जी ने एक बात बताई थी कि हमारे भूतपूर्व प्रधान मंत्री जी ने अणु बम न बनाने के लिए कुछ घोषणा की थी। वह किस डर से की थी और किस दबाव की वजह से की थी, मैं नहीं कह सकती-मगर मुझे उस पर कोई आश्चर्य नहीं हुआ क्योंकि वे कब क्या बोल जायें, कहा नहीं जा सकता यह मैं जानती हूँ। हमारे वाजपेयी जी बैठे हुए हैं और उन को पता है कि एक बार महिलाओं के खिलाफ वे क्या क्या बोल गये और फिर माफी मांगते फिरे थे। जब उन्होंने यह घोषणा की तो मैं यह बात नहीं कहती पर आम जनता में तरह तरह की बातें कही जाती थीं। कुछ लोग कहते थे कि यह उन का तकाजा है और कुछ कहते थे कि यह खानपान की बात है, जिस से बुद्धि-विवेक काम नहीं करता। मैं नहीं जानती कि उन का खानपान क्या है। मुझे आयुर्वेद की जानकारी है, मैंने उसे पढ़ा है। हमारे आयुर्वेद में तीन तरह के खान-पान हैं—एक सात्विक, दूसरा राजसी और तीसरा तामसिक। तामसिक भोजन में कुछ ऐसे पदार्थ होते हैं जो कि शरीर के लिए तो उपयोगी हो सकते हैं लेकिन बुद्धि और विवेक के लिए उपयोगी नहीं होते हैं। उन्होंने जो यह बात कही है कि हमें अणु बम नहीं बनाना चाहिए। वह मुझे भी नहीं जमी और हमारे सदन के लोगों को भी नहीं जमी है। हमें अणु शक्ति और परमाणु शक्ति को बढ़ाना होगा। इस को बढ़ाने के लिए यह भी जरूरी है कि हम दूसरे मुल्कों पर भी इस के बारे में दृष्टि रखें।

[भीमती विद्यावती चतुर्वेदी]

बाजपेयी जी आप भूले नहीं होंगे जब हमारे पड़ोसी मुल्क के एक बड़े जिम्मेदार नेता यह ख्वाब देखा करते थे कि हम सुबह का नाश्ता अपने यहां करेंगे और दोपहर का भोजन हमारे देश की राजधानी लाल किले में करेंगे। ऐसे नेताओं के ख्वाबों को चकनाचूर और नेस्त-नाबूद करने के लिए भी यह जरूरी है कि हम अपनी भणु शक्ति को बढ़ायें।

सभापति महोदय, जहां मैं यह कहती हूं कि हम अपनी भणु और परमाणु शक्ति को बढ़ायें वहां मैं अपने सैनिकों की तरफ भी आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहूंगी। मैं सरकार को बहुत बहुत बधाई और धन्यवाद देना चाहती हूं कि सरकार ने हमारे सैनिकों और अफसरों की पदोन्नतियों के अवसर बढ़ाने की बात स्वीकार कर ली है जिन के बारे में समय-समय पर हमारे सदन में खर्चा हुई है। यह खुशी की बात है कि सरकार ने तीनों खांकों की मलाह से मेजर और लेफ्टिनेंट कमाण्डर को उन के जीवन में 60 प्रतिशत पदोन्नति के अवसर और 20 प्रतिशत सेलेशन लागू करना मंजूर किया है। सरकार ने यह भी मान लिया है कि लेफ्टिनेंट कर्नल और उस के समान पद वालों को 50 प्रतिशत पदोन्नति मिले। ब्रिगेडियर और जो इस के समान पद हैं उन के लिए सरकार विचार कर रही है। मैं अपनी सरकार से आशा करती हूं कि वह उनकी पदोन्नतियों के लिए भी कुछ आगे करेगी और शीघ्र ही वह इन के बारे में भी निर्णय लेगी।

सभापति महोदय, हमारी सरकार ने समयबद्ध वेतन क्रम में भी लेफ्टिनेंट कर्नल और उस के समान पदों के लिए प्रति मास सौ रुपया बढ़ाने का निर्णय किया है। अभी तक वे 18 सौ रुपया पाते थे अब उन को 1900 रुपये मिलेंगे। इसी तरह का प्रावधान सरकार ने पदों को भी बढ़ाने का निर्णय किया है जो सराहनीय है। जे० सी० ओ० के लिए भी 40 प्रतिशत की बढ़ोतरी की है। दूसरे जो हवलदार और नायक के पद हैं उनके लिये भी बढ़ोतरी की गई है हवलदार और नायक के क्रमशः 45 प्रतिशत और 50 प्रतिशत पद बढ़ा दिये हैं। दूसरे जो अवैतनिक पद हैं उन की भी सरकार ने बढ़ोतरी की है। इतना ही नहीं, हमारी सरकार ने, 30 जन, 1979 से हमारे जवानों का कार्यकाल बढ़ा दिया है। 15 साल को 17 साल कर दिया है या 40 साल की उम्र हो। इस के साथ-साथ जो हमारे तकनीकी क्षेत्र में काम करने वाले जवान हैं उन की 18 वर्ष की आयु अवधि 20 वर्ष कर दी गयी है या 46 वर्ष तक की आयु कर दी है। निस्सन्देह ये काम सराहनीय हैं।

सभापति महोदय इन सब के बावजूद भी यह कहना अनुचित न होगा कि हमारे जो सैनिक हैं या अफसर हैं उन में कुछ न कुछ असंतोष है। उस का कारण है कि चाहे अच्छे से अच्छा काम करने वाला अफसर हो, अगर उस का ऊपर वाला अफसर किसी कारण से नाराज हो जाता है तो वह उस की कांफिडेंशल रिपोर्ट को खराब लिख देता है और इस के कारण उस की पदोन्नति नहीं होती। सभापति महोदय, हमारी सेना में काम करने वाले भी इन्सान हैं, फरिस्ते नहीं हैं। यह स्वाभाविक है कि मनुष्य में जो कमजोरी होती है वह बोड़ी बहुत उन में

भी हो सकती है। मैं चाहूंगी कि जो इस तरह से कांफिडेंशल रिपोर्ट खराब की जाती है, उस की जांच के लिए कोई जरिया होना चाहिए।

आम तौर पर यह सुना जाता है कि जब वह अपनी सफाई में कुछ पेश करता है तो उस चीज को उसी अफसर के पास भेज दिया जाता है जिस ने उस की कांफिडेंशल रिपोर्ट को खराब किया होता है। यह तो उसी तरह से बात हो गई कि एक शेर के सामने बकरी को भेज दिया जाए और कह दिया जाए कि वही इस का फैसला करे। मैं बड़ी ही नम्रतापूर्वक निवेदन करना चाहती हूं कि इस के लिए कोई अलग से प्रावधान होना चाहिए। ताकि धोनों की बातों को सुना जा सके और सुन कर के न्याय किया जा सके।

हमारे सैनिक रात दिन देश की रक्षा के लिए कार्यरत रहते हैं। अतः उन को या उन के परिवार के आवास की तथा दूसरी सुविधाएं देना नितान्त आवश्यक है आप ने आवास के लिए जो प्रावधान इस बार किया है उस में सिपाही के लिए जो शादी शुदा है 25 परसेंट से बढ़ा कर 35 प्रतिशत कर दिया गया है, एन सी भोज जो शादी शुदा हैं उन के लिए पचास प्रतिशत कर दिया है, नायक के लिए अस्सी प्रतिशत कर दिया गया है। हवलदार के वास्ते सरकार ने 95 प्रतिशत किया हुआ है। बाकी जे सी ओ के लिए तो सेंट परसेंट है ही। यह जो बढ़ोतरी की गई है इस की बदौलत इन लोगों को काफी राहत मिलेगी। इस चीज को तीन साल में लागू कर दिया जाएगा, ऐसी मुझे आशा है।

सभापति महोदय : आप जल्दी समाप्त करने की कोशिश करें।

भीमती विद्यावती चतुर्वेदी : मैं इस मदन में प्रथम बार बोल रही हूं। इसलिए मेरे साथ आप थोड़ी नरमी बरतेंगे, ऐसी मुझे आशा है।

हमारे अफसरों की भी कुछ दिक्कतें हैं जिन की ओर आप का ध्यान जाना चाहिये। जब वे पीस एरिया में आते हैं और काम करते हैं तो उन के सामने यह समस्या आ कर खड़ी हो जाती है कि उन को बहुत दिनों तक मकान नहीं मिलता है। उन को बैरेक्स में रहना पड़ता है। मकान मिलने में उन को छः-छः महीने और साल-साल भर लग जाता है और वे अपनी फैमिलीज को बुला नहीं पाते हैं। आप तो जानते ही हैं कि कोई भी अफसर किसी स्टेशन पर तीन बरस से ज्यादा समय तक नहीं रह सकता है। साल डेढ़ साल तक अगर जगह उस को रहने की नहीं मिलती है तो इस का नतीजा यह होता है कि जब फैमिली बुलाने की बारी आती है तब उस की ट्रांसफर हो जाती है। इस वास्ते आवास की सुविधा उन्हें भी प्रदान की जाए और जल्दी की जाए, इस को देखना बहुत आवश्यक है।

महिला होने के नाते बच्चों की शिक्षा की तरफ मेरा ध्यान जाना स्वाभाविक है। सरकार ने बीस केन्द्रीय विद्यालय जो हायर सेकेंडरी तक हैं खोले हैं। केन्द्रीय हायर सेकेंडरी विद्यालय खोलने की स्कीम के अन्तर्गत इतने ही विद्यालय अभी तक खुल पाये हैं। रक्षा

मंत्रालय को 121 इस तरह के विद्यालयों की जरूरत है। इसकी पूर्ति नहीं हो पा रही है। केवल 54 विद्यालय ही प्राप्त हो पा रहे हैं। मैं आशा करती हूँ कि उन की जो मांग है उसकी पूर्ति शीघ्र ही कर दी जाएगी ताकि हमारे बच्चों की शिक्षा-दीक्षा के ऊपर खास तौर से ध्यान दिया जा सके। जो सैनिक रात-दिन अपनी जान की बाजी लगा कर हमारे देश की रक्षा करता है अगर उसको हम निश्चिन्त कर सकें, उस को इस बात का विश्वास और भरोसा दिला सकें कि उस की पत्नी के वास्ते सिर छिपाने के लिए शौपड़ी मुहैया होगी, उस के बच्चों के लिए उचित शिक्षा-दीक्षा का प्रबन्ध होगा तो निस्सन्देह हमारा सैनिक बहुत ही निश्चिन्त होकर अपनी ड्यूटी भ्रदा कर सकेगा।

आप सहमत होंगे कि एक नारी होने के नाते जो वार विडोज हैं सैनिकों की जो विधवाएँ हैं उन के बारे में भी मैं अपने कुछ विचार रखूँ। वार विडोज के लिये सरकार ने बहुत सी सुविधाएँ दी हैं, यह सही बात है। अगर कोई सैनिक लड़ाई में स्वर्गवास हो जाता है, शहादत हो जाता है तो जब तक उस की सविस् होती है, उस की विधवा को पूरा वेतन दिया जाता है और उस के बाद जो पेंशन बनती है वह दी जाती है। इसी तरह से और भी सुविधायें दी जाती हैं। लेकिन अगर हमारा सैनिक तीस एरिया में काम करते हुए ड्यूटी पर मर जाता है, उस का स्वर्गवास हो जाता है तो उस की पत्नी को जो सहायता दी जाती है वह नगण्य है। अगर मैं गसती नहीं करती हूँ तो ऊँचे से उँचा अपसर भी अगर कोई इस तरह से मर जाता है तो उस की विधवा पत्नी को दो सवा दो सौ रुपये महीने से ज्यादा पेंशन के रूप में नहीं मिलता है। सिपाही के लिये तो 40, 50 से ज्यादा नहीं मिलता है, जो कि बहुत कम होता है। आज के समय को देखते हुए मैं चाहूँगी कि उन की जो पेंशन बनती है, उन के मरने के बाद वह उन के परिवार वालों को दी जाये ताकि वह अपना भरण-पोषण कर सकें। इस के साथ ही साथ और जो सुविधाएँ दी जाती हैं मैं कहना चाहती हूँ कि उन में से बहुत सी पढी-लिखी बहिन होती हैं, उन की उम्र का प्रतिबन्ध हटा कर उन्हें स्कूलों में या आफिसों में काम दिया जाये। इस के अलावा इन के जो काबिल बच्चे हैं, जो सयाने हो गये हैं, उन को मैडिकल आदि में दिक्कत आ जाये तो उन नियमों को थोड़ा ढीला किया जाये और उन के बच्चों को रक्षा मंत्रालय की सेवाओं में लिया जाये। ऐसी मझे उन से उम्मीद है और मैं आशा भी करती हूँ।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं प्रधान मंत्री का आभार प्रकट करती हूँ कि उन्होंने राष्ट्रपति से सिफारिश कर के कीर्ति-चक्र देने की बात हमारी वह नन्ही कलियों को, जो जनता के शासन काल में इन की नाक के नीचे अराजक तत्वों द्वारा और इस तरह के असामाजिक तत्वों द्वारा ममल दी गई, उन को खत्म कर दिया गया, उन के लिये जो आप ने कीर्ति चक्र का प्रावधान किया है, वह बहुत ही मही है। मेरा अभिप्राय निस्सन्देह संजय चौपड़ा और गीता चौपड़ा की ओर है।

बिरोधी दल के लोग छोटी-छोटी चीजों को लेकर यह इस तरह का हल्ला मचाते हैं, समापति नहोदय, आप स्वयं उस समय यहाँ होते हैं, उस समय किस तरह की

बातें पेश की जाती हैं, किस प्रणाली तरीके से उन का चित्रण किया जाता है, यही जिम्मेदार सदस्य जो चुनकर आते हैं बड़े जिम्मेदार हैं, लेकिन यह भूल जाते हैं कि इस सदन में भी महिलाएँ बैठी हैं, हम किस तरह से इन चीजों को पेश करते हैं हमारा सिर शर्म से झुक जाता है। हम खुद समिन्दा हैं, कुछ हमारी बहनें भी घड़ियाली प्राप्त बहाके उन का साथ देती हैं। आज वह कहते हैं कि सरकार की सारी जिम्मेदारी है। मैं पूछना चाहती हूँ कि पुलिस वाले ने गसती की, या मिलिट्री वाले ने गलती की, वह तो ठीक है उन्हें फांसी की सजा मिलनी चाहिये लेकिन जिस आप ने अपनी 13 वर्ष की बेटों के साथ मुंह काला किया हो, उस के लिये आप क्या करेंगे, इस समाज की पुरुष जाति जो पशुवत हो रही है उन के लिये यह बड़ी शर्म की बात है। मैं यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि यहाँ सदन में नहीं, अगर तुम्हारे खून में कुछ गर्मी है, या जरा भी इनसानियत है, तो बाहर जाओ और इस तरह के कसक को घोने की कोशिश करो, तब तो मैं मानूँ कि आप में कोई दुख है, लेकिन यहाँ बैठ कर चित्तलाने से हम समाज को सुधार नहीं सकेंगे।

इन शब्दों के साथ समापति महोदय मैं आपकी आभारी हूँ, जो आपने मुझे बोलने का समय दिया।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Chintamani Panigrahi. You are a seasoned parliamentarian. That is why I am asking you to restrict yourself to ten minutes.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar): We are very happy today to know the successful launching of SLV-3 satellite. It failed once, but it has succeeded now. This is a great achievement on the part of our scientists who have made this a great success. This shows that our scientists who are capable of developing nuclear technology, are also capable of developing a delivery system which will take a missile to any desired target.

Shri Vajpayee in this House previously was vehemently arguing that we should go in for nuclear bomb. He was here when the first explosion took place. I do not know why he has changed his mind today. Perhaps if anybody becomes a Foreign Minister for some time, excepting Shri Narasimha Rao, he changes his attitude regarding Atom Bomb. I do not know what reason there was for him to change his attitude so far as the atom bomb is concerned.

I would also like to submit that it is not weapons alone which can

[Shri Chintamani Panigrahi]

safeguard the integrity and sovereignty of a nation. We have seen the heroic struggle of the people of Vietnam for a number of years against the mightiest Super Power. After long years of struggle, the mightiest of the super powers was brought to the knees by the heroic people of Vietnam. We have seen how, near to our borders, in Bangladesh, truck loads of armaments, the most modern weapons were dumped in Bangladesh. But the people of Bangladesh could see to it that those weapons could not be used and Bangladesh was ultimately freed. Of course, what Bangladesh is doing now is a different thing. We have seen that armaments alone would not help in safeguarding the sovereignty and integrity of a nation unless the nation stands invincible.

One should go through the Report of the Ministry. It has stated very objectively and correctly about our present national security environment and other developments. It has stated how the conflict between the super-powers has come into our border and in the Indian ocean areas. It has also stated that it was thought that there would be a kind of durability and irreversibility of the super-power detente. But now the Ministry had objectively reported and taken note of the fact that the situation has changed. If that is so, naturally our defence preparedness and the thinking on that line also must have to be changed. It has in fact changed. We see the increase in the presence of super-powers in the Indian ocean. Pakistan has already, by purchasing arms from various countries, gone into an arms race in the sub-continent. It was not the case earlier. Some years before, there was some kind of a stability in the Indian sub-continent and the countries around us. But today, it is not so. Because the balance of military power around us has been disturbed, the Ministry has taken note of it in its report. In view of the changing

conditions, the Government of India is also thinking of updating its defence equipments. Though the Government is trying its best to defuse and ease the situation, which is creating a kind of confrontation between the super powers in this region, I will submit that we shall have to acquire new generation of weapons by manufacturing them here. The security requirements of our country requires us to see whether, with whatever weapons we have, we will be able to match the weapons that the other countries are developing. I hope that the Government has thought of these things also. As the military balance of the sub-continent has been completely disturbed, we would also like to have further information from the Ministry about the impact of the recent meetings between the American President Carter, and the Chinese Premier in Tokyo.

I was reading a very interesting book on the Third World War in August 1985. Very surprisingly, what the Military expert, who had written this book it is a fiction, no doubt—had said—many of these things are coming true today. He had said that the Third World War would be over in three weeks, but the first two weeks were fought with modern tanks on the ground and with most developed supersonic aircrafts, towards the last week, only two bombs were used, one over the Minsk city of the Soviet Union and the other over Birmingham in Britain. At the end of the War, the author prepares a position paper for the EEC countries and there it has been stated:

“At the end of 1939-45 War, there were two super-powers, the USA and the Soviet Union. At the end of 1985 war, there are again two super-powers, the USA and the China-Japan co-prosperity sphere.”

That is the word which has been used. We find President Carter taking so much trouble in visiting Japan

and the Chinese Premier having important discussions with him in Tokyo.

When we look into these things, I would only suggest that we have to have new generation of weapons. But any new generation of weapons takes not less than 10 years to prepare and it takes another 5 years for its production. So we have to undertake such projects from now on. All our research institutes and different departments should try to see that we develop new knowledge, know-how, so that we do not go in for more and more imports. We shall have to manufacture everything in our own country and make it self-reliant. Therefore, greater sophistication and modernisation of our three Services has to be done. About the Vijyantha tank, I think, efforts were being made to improve it. I hope, that is continuing. We have good scientists in the Indian Space Research Institute also. Why should their services not be utilised to develop our knowledge?

Lastly, so far as military intelligence is concerned, it should be revealing to note that even the total annual defence budget of India is less than half of the total intelligence budget of USA and USSR. The reports have appeared that American satellites spotted digging of a channel for testing of first nuclear Islamic bomb by Pakistan. How is it that we could not know it? Similarly, our military intelligence shall have to be more prepared today because in the north-east India many things are happening. We do not know what is happening there, where the arms are coming from. Therefore, it requires a lot of coordinated effort. I am quite sure that the Defence Ministry is seized of these new developments, testing of ICBM by China and others and the military weapons that are coming to this region. I feel that the new defence policy that we have adopted should be implemented so that we shall go in for new generation of weapons to make our army

and the entire three Services up to date.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Karan Singh: 9 minutes.

DR. KARAN SINGH (Udhampur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Gen. Sparrow was a real General. But I am also an Hony. Major General in the Indian army. Please give me 10 minutes more at least as a gesture of grace.

I would like to start my speech by paying a glowing tribute to our armed forces which are definitely amongst the best in the world. In the last three decades, I have had the occasion of very close association with them in the Kashmir operations in 1947, in 1962, in 1965 and in 1971. I have been up to Ladakh and Chushul, the highest airport in the world where it is 40 degrees below freezing in winter, and I have been in the scorching desert sands of Barmer, Longewala and Kishangarh where it is 45 degrees above freezing in summer. Wherever we have been, we have seen the way our armed forces have conducted themselves with dignity, with self-confidence and with a very high morale. I would submit that not only are our armed forces an important aspect for national security, they are also a major force for national integration because today our armed forces draw their sustenance from every State, from every region, from every linguistic group and from every religion. It has become truly a national defence service and they have specially an important role to play in the present situation.

The nation is passing through a very difficult and delicate period. Externally, as has been pointed out, the detente established between the super powers seems to be on the verge of collapsing. The rivalry has now come to our very door-step. We have unfortunate developments in Afghanistan, and the dangerous developments in the Indian Ocean have

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brought danger very much closer to us than it was before. Despite denials the possibility of Pakistan's nuclear programme cannot be ruled out. There have been talks between the Foreign Minister of Pakistan and our Foreign Minister. Our Foreign Minister today gave us a resume of his talks with Mr. Agha Shahi. But the fact remains that Indian territory continues to be under foreign occupation—thousands of square miles of territory. It is also true that the construction of the Korakoram Highway poses a grave security threat to our nation. These are external developments.

Internally also, unfortunately, there are some disturbing developments on our border area.

In the north-east, despite the fact that there are genuine grievances and despite the undoubted fact that, as Shri Vajpayee has said, the whole area has been neglected for many decades, it is also true that certain fissiparous and secessionist tendencies seem to be developing in the north-eastern region which are a source of grave concern to us. In Punjab some misguided people, you may have read, have started a new movement for a Sikh homeland. In the northern-most State of the country, the distinguished Chief Minister says that "nobody would be allowed to interfere in our affairs, whether it is India or Pakistan, whether it is Zia-ul-Haq "or Indira Gandhi", as though Kashmir is equidistant between the two nations.

I am not going into details. I am simply saying that when the population in border areas is thus being disturbed by irresponsible utterances and dangerous activities, it adds to the defence burden of this country. We do not have to panic, because panic is the worst possible reaction to any crisis. A cool, careful appraisal of the critical role of the armed forces to safeguard national security,

to strengthen national integration and uphold national honour has to be made.

The Demands totalling Rs. 3600 crores will not be grudged by this House provided we are assured of two things: firstly, that the gaps in our defence preparedness will, as far as possible be filled, and that includes the Army, the Air Force and the Navy because, geopolitically situated as we are, we cannot afford to neglect any of these services.

The second thing we would like to be assured of is that there would be optimum utilisation of the grants that are voted and that infructuous and wasteful expenditure would be reduced to the minimum.

I do not have very much time at my disposal. I will mention some salient points which I hope the Prime Minister and the Minister of State for Defence will take note of and give us the benefit of their views in their reply. It is well known that Defence planning involves a 'holistic' or a total view of national resources—human resources, economic resources, industrial, scientific and financial resources. For this purpose, there is a Committee for Defence Planning which is convened by the Cabinet Secretary. This Committee has replaced the former Apex Committee. Now, Sir, my information is that this Committee for Defence Planning has met only once in 1980. Surely, if you have an Apex Committee of this nature and if the job of this Committee is to coordinate the totality of our resources, it is essential that it must meet regularly so that it can take stock of the rapidly changing situation. This is something on which may be the Prime Minister will be able to assure the House.

Similarly, Intelligence plays a very important role in any Defence situation—gathering intelligence. There are many agencies which gather intelligence: there is RAW, there is the

Intelligence Bureau, there is the Military Intelligence Service and there are the State CIDs. Often these are overlapping and we know from personal experience that, very often, there is some rivalry also. For this purpose, a Joint Intelligence Committee has been set up under the Cabinet Secretariat but my information is that the post of the Chairman of the Joint Intelligence Committee has been vacant for the last eleven months—almost a year, since August last. For a critical role of this nature, where the coordination of intelligence activities is essential to safeguard the national interest, why should a crucial post like this be allowed to remain vacant for even a day more than is necessary?

The third point I would like to make is, as has been mentioned by my friend Mr. Panigrahi, the time scale for defence industrial planning is between fifteen and twenty years (this has also been given in the Report) as against five year plans. I would like to know from the Government what exactly is the agency which is doing this perspective thinking. Has a perspective plan till the year 1000 actually been drawn up? What is the agency which will ensure this long-range perspective planning? As far as Defence is concerned, we have a very substantial industrial and scientific base largely due to the foresight and wisdom of Shri Jawaharlal Nehru in the early days of Independence, who saw to it that our industrial sinews are made and that our scientific pool is developed, and that we are able to stand on our own feet and not be constantly depending upon other countries.—And the very welcome announcement that the Prime Minister has just made with regard to the successful launching of the satellite is, as it were, a symbol of this self-reliance towards which we are working. On behalf of the House, I would join the Prime Minister in warmly congratulating all the scientists and the others who have been associated with this task.

But the important point is that there must be constant coordination between the various research organizations in this country, between the various scientific organizations and industrial organizations for an integrated perspective scheme of defence production. Any new purchase has got to be related to our indigenous production capacity and to the development of our own knowhow. There has been a great deal of talk in this House and outside with regard to the deep penetration strike aircraft, whether it is going to be the Jaguar which we thought had been decided, or whether we are going to go in for the MIG 23 or as one of today's papers suggests, we are going to go in for the Mirage—2,000. We do not even know whether this new aircraft has actually been flown, whether a prototype has been prepared or not. These are decisions which can only be taken keeping in view the long range requirements and the essential necessity of developing the indigenous knowhow. A nation of our size, of our strength, of our capacity, cannot indefinitely be dependent upon foreign nations, however friendly we may be at any point of time. Therefore, I would say that this perspective planning is one of the most important aspects in any defence policy which has to be looked into.

Connected with this is the question of delays. Unfortunately—and I speak from some personal experience—the bureaucracy in the Government of India is not really geared to expedite issues, it is geared to stall issues. And the same ethos, as it were, also pervades the Defence Ministry. There are interminable delays at the lower secretarial level as far as Defence requirements are concerned. And, in Defence, there are two aspects which must be kept in mind: there is the rapid price cost escalation, and there is the obsolescence factor; if something is delayed, by the time it is finally cleared the prices have gone up and the equipment itself may well have become partially obsolete. It is, therefore, essential that specially streamlined procedures be developed

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in the Defence Ministry, particularly *vis-a-vis* Defence Finance. I would respectfully submit that the Finance departments generally are not geared to expedite issues. I am not saying that we should not look into everything carefully. I am not saying that there should be hasty decisions. But unnecessary delays that take place must be short-circuited; a new system has to be devised whereby the defence requirements are processed expeditiously by the bureaucracy and are not dealt with in the normal, very prolonged and attenuated manner in which normally files of the Government of India move.

Also, as far as delays are concerned, I would say the deliveries of defence equipment from the public sector and sometimes from the private sector have got to be on schedule. I know personally that, as a result of delays in delivery, in many cases our defence preparedness gets impaired. Therefore, it has got to be given the highest priority, whether it is HAL or the ordnance factories or any other factory dealing with defence. There must be an absolutely rigid production schedule and delivery schedule, and on no account should that be allowed to be overruled.

Gen. Sparrow has very rightly congratulated the Prime Minister for the cadre review that she has undertaken. This has been on the anvil for a long time. But one point I would like to make here is this. The cadre review that has been sanctioned so far is only upto the Brigadier level and not beyond. The whole of the army and the military cadres are an integrated whole. You cannot stop your cadre review at a certain level: you have got to take it to its logical conclusion. May I, therefore, suggest that the Government should take this cadre review to its logical conclusion, so that it covers also those ranks which have not so far been covered. Because my understanding is that the implementation of the review already sanctioned

has been held up as it is partial and not complete. On this perhaps somebody may throw some light.

While speaking about the cadres, I have two suggestions for the consideration of the government. Firstly, there should be more seconding of Service officers to para-military forces, specially, the Border Security Force, which works, as you know, under the operational command of the Army. It should have more service officers there so that their prospects are improved. Also, I see no reason why Service officers cannot be seconded to the Government of India itself. We get people from the Excise Service. We get people from the Postal Service. Why not start the process of seconding some Service officers also to the Government of India, and particularly in the Defence Ministry, so that their expertise may become increasingly available to the Government of India.

Regarding Prisoners of War, I am very happy at the announcement made by the Foreign Minister to-day that they are discussing with Pakistan the question of exchange of prisoners. This must be followed up. Coming as we do from a border area, many of our villagers inadvertently wander across into Pakistan's territory and often they get caught there. If I may take one minute of your time, Sir, in a lighter vein, during my election campaign one of my over-enthusiastic young workers who was campaigning for me, went into a village and he said, 'All of you must vote for Dr. Karan Singh.' They said, 'We will be delighted to do so but it so happens that you are in Pakistan. We wonder whether you will safely get back to your place across the border before the security forces come and nab you.' In this case, of course, the villagers were friendly and the young man came back along with his flag. Sometimes what happens is that these villagers drift across and they get caught and they are languishing in Pakistani jails. I know, as parents of these people meet me when I go to

this area. Mr. Girdhari Lal Dogra will bear me out because he also comes from that area. This is something which has to be looked upon in a compassionate manner.

My final point—I know my time is limited—deals with the problem of ex-Servicemen's welfare. I would like to say that the report does mention it in Chapter 13, but it is rather an unsatisfactory and perfunctory mention. No figure is given, for example, with regard to the total number of ex-Servicemen in India. My information is that there are as many as 6 million—60 lakhs ex-Servicemen in India to-day. Their problems fall into two categories. One is pensions and the removal of disparities as was mentioned by Gen. Sparrow. The Indian Ex-Servicemen League has given a Pension Memorandum to the government and I would urge that it should be given sympathetic consideration.

The second aspect is resettlement, and here. I must say the record is very unsatisfactory. We have reservations in public sector. We have reservations in government but those reservations are very seldom adhered to and we have a situation where state governments bear the burnt. Now, some governments do very well; for example, Punjab and Maharashtra have a particularly good record of looking into the welfare of ex-servicemen. But some States do very badly. Let me give you, for one minute, a shocking example of what happened in my State. An ex-Serviceman went to a Minister. Sir, I will complete in exactly five minutes from now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only one minute.

DR. KARAN SINGH: Sir, this is something which is worth listening to. The ex-Serviceman went. His name is Bhagwan Das. He took his son, Mool Raj to a Minister of Government in the Secretariat. And he said, 'Here is his application.' He requested the Minister to please write a recommendation on it. While he was

writing, a man with him from his Party, also said. This man got a Vir Chakra in 1965.' 'The Minister looked up. 'He got a Vir Chakra? Saying that, he tore the application and threw it out. He said, 'In 1965 I was in the Plebiscite Front. I brought the raiders across here and you got a Vir Chakra for shooting down those people? You go to India and get whatever you want.' Sir, this is the attitude of a Minister of a State Government sitting in the State Secretariat. What I say is, the ex-Servicemen in Jammu and Kashmir are as good as the ex-Servicemen of Maharashtra or Himachal or Tamil Nadu. The Government of India must take the responsibility for looking after the ex-Servicemen and I would suggest that instead of this rather unsatisfactory Director-General, Resettlement, there should be an Ex-Servicemen Settlement Commission, a full-fledged Commission, which should look into this.

15.00 hrs.

Shri Gadgil spoke about computerisation. But the human factor would always remain the most important factor in any defence preparedness.

I will conclude by saying that this House represents the collective wisdom and collective national will. Let the defence services be secure in the knowledge that the entire House, irrespective of party or group affiliations, is united in its support and appreciation of their role.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the hon. Minister of State for Defence. How much time will you take? I think you may take forty minutes.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): I will take forty minutes.

'SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Durgapur): What about my Resolution?

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have been a little lenient to the Hon. Members. After the Minister, the House may sit late for ten more minutes.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: The House will not agree.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Minister finish with his speech first. Now, the hon. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH). Mr. Chairman, Sir, first and foremost let me seek the indulgence of this House because I have to inform you about the essential feature of Defence.

That is why I have asked for your leave for this intervention. Before proceeding, I have one happy announcement to make. The Government had already announced in March this year grant of productivity linked bonus to the workers of Defence Production establishments under this Ministry. I am happy to announce that it has now been decided to bring the eligible categories of civilians employees of the following establishments/organisations of the Department of Defence under the purview of the scheme of productivity linked bonus:

- (a) Naval Dockyards/Repair Organisations and Supporting Units;
- (b) Directorate of Ordnance Services;
- (c) Static type of workshops under the EME Directorate; and
- (d) Air Force Depot/Repair Installations.

Detailed schemes in respect of these organisations/units are being worked out. Pending finalisations of details, the Government have decided to grant 15 days wages on *ad hoc* basis to the eligible categories of civilian employees of these establishments for the year 1979-80. This will benefit roughly 1,18,000 civilian employees. Government trust that with this, the

employees of the units will strive to improve the productivity and work efficiency of these organisations.

As the hon. Members would have noticed, the Defence Services Estimates for 1980-81 indicate a projection of Rs. 3600 crores as against Rs. 3,300 crores (net) reflected in the interim budget 1980-81 and Rs. 3,273 crores (net) included in the final estimates for the year 1979-80. Taking into consideration the fact that our Armed Forces have been entrusted with the task of defending a land border exceeding 13,800 kms. in length and keeping constant vigil on a coastline of more than 6,000 kms. the demands of our Ministry, which are in the region of 3.5 per cent of our Gross National Product, should be considered less than modest. Our immediate neighbour, Pakistan, had spent 6.3 per cent and 5.7 per cent of GNP on defence during the years 1977 and 1978 respectively and during the current year also it may be well over 6 per cent, representing, as per reports, 45 per cent of its total expenditure. The comparable figure of China is in the region of 10 per cent and that of U.S.S.R. varying between 11 and 14 per cent. The per capita expenditure on defence in U.S. Dollars of India is approximately \$5 as compared to \$14 of Pakistan, \$481 of U.S.A., \$574 of U.S.S.R., \$252 of U.K., \$273 of Iran and \$878 of Israel.

We can, however, assure the Members that we have not relaxed in any way in our preparedness to meet any eventuality as it turns up. Though we have not territorial ambitions and have never in the past cast a longing glance on the possessions of our neighbours, our armed forces are being kept in readiness to meet any kind of threat to our territory from whichever direction it may come.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to emphasise in this connection that defence effort is not a one-time operation to be organised and executed by the Armed Force or the Defence Ministry. It is a part of the nation's

effort to stand on its own legs with confidence and courage. It is intimately connected with a nation's economic development and the prosperity and happiness of its people.

Members must have already noticed that during the current year, defence expenditure accounts for only 20.2 per cent of the total expenditure as compared to 22.5 per cent during the year 1979-80. This used to be in the region of 30 per cent a decade ago. It will, therefore, be clear to the hon'ble Members that defence efforts are not being made at the cost of economic development. In fact we are conscious of the fact that a sound industrial base labouriously built up during the earlier decade has contributed substantially to our defence capabilities.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am happy that the hon'ble Members are appreciative of the heroic spirit and high morale of the armed forces defending our motherland. From the side of my Ministry we are keen to keep up this morale and the high standards of performance our armed forces have registered whenever occasion arose. We are also conscious of the fact that proper inducements are necessary to attract the best talent to this field. In all branches of the Armed Forces we really want the best of men. Those who enter the Service not only think about their immediate prospects and chances of advancement but also the future after they run through their career. Keeping this in view the Government have recently taken a number of decisions to effect substantial improvements in the career prospects of the personnel of the armed forces and to redress many of their long pending grievances. With your permission I would like to touch upon some of them.

A cadre review has been undertaken at all levels and career prospects of officers improved considerably. Under the revised rules officers in the rank

of Major and Squadron Leader will be having nearly 60 per cent prospects of career improvement, about 20 per cent of which will be through the introduction of Selection Grade posts in these ranks. In the case of Lt. Commanders the career prospects including Selection Grade posts has been fixed at 65 per cent. As for Lt. Colonels and equivalent in the other two Services promotion prospects will be 50 per cent including Selection Grade posts to the extent of 10 per cent. A number of upgradations to the rank of Brigadier and equivalent in the other two Services have also been effected. Similar action is being taken in respect of the higher ranks also.

Steps have also been taken to increase the number of posts in the rank of J. C. Os' Havildars and Naika alongwith increases in Honorary Ranks also at various levels. Terms of engagement (Colour Service) for Jawans have been enhanced with effect from 30th June 1979. Similarly, terms of agreement for non-technical and technical trades have been enhanced by two years.

We have recently decided to enhance the existing percentages for eligibility of compensation in lieu of quarters to personnel below officers rank in the Army and equivalent in the other two Services. Such compensation has been increased from the present level of 25 per cent of married accommodation for sepoy and equivalent to 35 per cent and from 50 per cent to 80 per cent in respect of Naiks and again from 50 per cent to 95 per cent in respect of Havildars and equivalent. The net result of this enhancement in the percentage will be that all married personnel above the age of 25 years not provided with Government or hired accommodation will be entitled to CILQ. This decision, which has been warmly welcomed by all the three Services will be implemented over a period of 3 years and will

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benefit more than 3 lakhs personnel of the three Services.

Government have also passed orders for substantially increasing the pensionary benefit and to treat a portion of the Dearness Allowance as pay for purposes of terminal benefits. This along with certain other steps taken will result in additional benefits to retiring Service Officers ranging from Rs. 75 to Rs. 300 per month and from Rs. 28 to Rs. 133 per month in the case of personnel below the officer rank.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are very well aware that the majority of personnel of the Armed Forces retire at an age when they are physically active and in a position to continue to contribute to the service of the nation. Every attempt is being made to induct ex-Servicemen into the civilian stream of the country. Concessions are being allowed to them in age and educational qualifications for entering service and exemptions allowed from the payment of examination and application fees. They are also being helped in the process of self employment in small scale and cottage industry sector and various other vocations of ten with the active assistance of the nationalised banks. Our Ministry has also been helping ex-Servicemen in obtaining preferential treatment for allotment of industrial plots and procuring loans, machinery and raw materials for setting up industries.

At the instance of the Ministry, various State Governments have also made reservations for ex-servicemen in the allotment of housing plots and purchase of built houses under the hire-purchase schemes. Some States give preference to ex-servicemen in the allotment of cultivable waste land and other available surplus lands.

Government have recently approved the scheme "on the job training"

to service personnel during the last year of their service in order to make them suitable for employment in civil jobs. Initially, 2000 service personnel will be trained every year in various public sector and departmental undertakings. It is proposed to augment this training programme, depending upon the experience gained, to 10,000 per year.

Another scheme to provide vocational training to all Service personnel in the last 18 months of their service is also being considered by the Government so that they are able to get gainful employment on their retirement.

It is also proposed to utilise ex-Servicemen in a major way in the massive programme of tree plantation to be taken up in foothills if and when the proposed Ecological Development Corporation is established. The main objective behind this proposal is to check rapid deforestation in the foothills of Himalayas which has led to soil erosion on a wide scale. I have also asked my Ministry to examine yet another proposal to utilise the technical skills of the ex-Servicemen in the industrial field this could take the shape of an Industrial Development Corporation of Ex-Servicemen, which can be provided seed capital for either setting up small industrial units themselves or to take over the management of some sick units. I am given to understand that in some of the neighbouring countries such industrial corporations of ex-Servicemen are working very well.

A unique example of what can be achieved by imaginative action is the organisation of the Coal Transport Corporation in Bihar, which is a Private Limited Company run by ex-Servicemen. The Company is owning 38 trucks and it is reported that the Union Ministry for Energy is particularly happy about the performance

of this company in helping the movement of coal. The rate charged by them is much lower than what is charged by the private truck operators. Here is a fine example of the ex-Servicemen having helped the nation in helping themselves.

Sir, maintenance of full defence preparedness at all times is one of our principal national objectives. In planning for this objective we have to take note of many factors, more specifically, the challenge of a modern technological age as also the rapid technological changes in our Defence environment. Therefore, when we devise plans and programmes for Defence, we have to build in an adequate response to these factors. The need for modernisation is of great significance so far as Armed Forces are concerned. Here is an area in which we cannot afford to fall behind the needs of the time.

We have been pursuing this policy of planned re-equipment of our Armed Forces since 1962. While for obvious reasons it is not possible for me to spell out the details of the various modernisation measures, I shall be glad to share with the hon. Members some illustrations to show that full attention is being given to this aspect.

Let us take the Army first. Modernisation is being undertaken here with the following objectives:

- (a) Imparting adequate fire power, mobility and communication facilities to the ground forces so that they can effectively deter aggression; and
- (b) to introduce modernity in training as well as management of the substantial inventory of equipment and stores we hold.

Going into the field of armour, we already possess a very fine battle tank of our own, 'Vijayanta'. Its

effectiveness is proposed to be enhanced by increasing its mobility, fire power and first round kill probability by incorporation of the latest fire control system, laser range finders and the use of more lethal ammunition. Efforts are also under way to improve their night fighting capabilities. Meanwhile we are searching for the next generation of tanks. Our R & D Organisation is hopeful of developing the Main Battle Tank of our own design to meet our future needs.

Similarly, in the area of Field Gun and Artillery in general, we are developing very powerful guns to meet our future needs in replacement of the older vintage. The emphasis is on mobility and mechanisation hand in hand with more fire power. Replacement of our ageing Field Guns and Mountain Guns is well underway. As hon. Members are aware, armour always poses a major threat in the main battles. Therefore, the use of multiple defence devices against tanks is another item which is receiving attention in our modernisation programme, including Anti-Tank Missiles.

I can assure you, Mr. Chairman, Sir, and the hon. Members of the House that we are straining every bit of our nerve to keep pace with the rapid developments in the field of Guided weapons, Radar and Guns. Taking note of the developments in the defence environment and greater potentiality of air thrust on our defences, necessary steps have been taken to introduce an important family of integrated weapon systems like Short and Medium-Range Missiles. Our scientists are doing a good job in the field of missile technology and the production units are being geared, both for imbibing the technology developed within our country and to utilise the knowledge acquired from different sources.

So far as our Air Force is concerned, you are all aware of the capabili-

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ties of our airmen. While we are providing them with the latest type of interceptors which we have started producing recently, the replacement of the strike aircraft is also being given high priority. We are conscious of the fact that the best of men also deserve the best of weapons. Steps have also been initiated for modernising our reconnaissance capabilities. Our capabilities in aerial close combat have considerably improved with induction of modern missiles. Important programmes are already under implementation to provide powerful and modern Radars and communications. A number of stations have already come up and more are under way. Improvements are also being brought about in the area of ground support and ground control facilities. The avionics equipment of existing aircraft are being improved and updated from time to time. While the H.A.L. built light weight ground attack fighter aircraft—AJEET—has been introduced into the Air Force, induction of a suitable medium transport aircraft to replace the obsolescent Dakotas and Packets is also receiving attention. Action is also being taken to replace the older version of helicopters with more modern and effective ones to serve the needs of the Army, Navy and Air Force.

In the case of the Navy, we are having a newer generation of modern frigates with better sensors, better weapons, better communications system and the capability of carrying air support. The aircraft carrier *Vikrant* is being modernised and refurbished to infuse a fresh lease of life into it. The ageing Sea Hawks, which were good in their own time, are being replaced by the more modern Sea Harrier.

Emphasis is also being laid on missiles replacing older guns as well as improvement of communications. Another major area of modernisation

will be the shore facilities being built up in Bombay as well as in Visakhapatnam.

While it is true that we have got a fleet of submarines, we had to take notice of the fact that these vessels of fairly old design do not adequately meet our present needs. Since large strides have been made by various nations in the field of submarine technology and anti-submarine weapons, it was found necessary to acquire some modern submarines. Steps have been taken to fill up this gap, not by going in for simple purchases but by developing a collaborative project of production within our own country. The capabilities of our own shipbuilding companies will be fully utilised for constructing submarines in our own country.

Our Defence Research and Development Organisation is reorienting its activities to achieve greater capacities for design and development of major systems required by the Services. This calls for coordinated efforts of DRDO laboratories, the industrial units both within and outside Defence, and a long-term appreciation of the requirements of the Services. The current year's estimates have a provision of Rs. 71 crores in respect of research and development, but I can assure the Members, Sir, that the R&D organization which is the foundation stone for defence production and self-reliance, will not be starved of funds if need arises. Our Hon'ble Prime Minister has all along been emphasizing the need for self-reliance in the field of science and technology. The Defence Ministry have, accordingly, been giving the highest priority for R&D effort. Apart from using the facilities especially dedicated in the R&D organization, our public sector units have also set up in house facilities. The expenditure on the R&D organization which stood at Rs. 17.38 crores in 1970-71 representing 1.4 per cent of the total defence expenditure, has been progressively stepped up and

now stands at Rs. 71 crores in the budget estimates for 1980-81, representing 2 per cent of the total defence expenditure.

Over 43,700 items have already been indigenized through our R&D efforts. For further stepping up efforts in this direction, a High-level Group has been constituted by Government, which has now identified a further list of 14,000 items of a critical nature for rapid indigenization and production. We propose to further step up our efforts in this regard, to ensure achievement of the target of maximum indigenization of production by the year 1990.

In the field of defence production, the present Government has taken upon itself the task of attaining near self-sufficiency at least by 1990, i.e. within a period of 10 years. In the recent past, I am sorry to say that the Government seems to have been keen on making large scale purchases at all costs, rather than going in for collaborative production within our own country, using the huge industrial infrastructure painfully built over a period of more than two decades. This is a tendency which has got to be curbed because, as pointed out by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, in a recent communication addressed to all the Ministries, our country has already made tremendous technological strides and is now capable of producing high quality machinery and equipment. Given proper encouragement by placing confidence in our own units, this capability, she pointed out, is bound to increase further. I have impressed upon our Defence Services the need to have a carefully thought-out plan of our futuristic requirements, based on long term projections in respect of the needed equipments. It is also my firm conviction that this is a field in which we have a good deal of scope for exports and for earning valuable foreign exchange, instead of frittering our foreign exchange reserves by large-scale purchases.

The Economic Survey Report of 1979-80 has made a mention of the declining industrial production during that year. The unhealthy climate which has been created in major industries, did not escape the Defence Production units either. Every effort is now being made to improve the working of our public sector undertakings dealing with defence items, and all Ordnance Factories Production Review meetings are being convened to identify constraints coming in the way of utilizing the full capacity of our plants. I can assure the Members that we shall pursue this matter vigorously and ensure that our nation becomes self-reliant and self-confident in this very vital field.

Planning for defence production is closely inter-linked with the general growth of our civil industry. Defence industry requires the support in regard to materials, components, spare parts and accessories, from the civil sector—both public and private—for sustaining our high growth rate.

There is a misconception that investments made in defence production are unproductive, so far as economic development is concerned. This is far from true. The capacities created in the defence industries can be successfully used for meeting various types of civil needs also. Brief examples can be given to illustrate my point. Bharat Electronics Ltd. are, at present, producing sophisticated electronic equipment for the Railways, Posts and Telegraphs and ONGC, as well as studio and transmission equipment for Radio and Television. Bharat Earth Movers are producing earth-moving equipment and rail coaches, primarily for the civil market. Recently, some of the foreign countries have also expressed keen desire for acquiring some of the products of this company. Our Shipyards are manufacturing a wide variety of modern vessels and harbour crafts for civil use. The Mazagon Dock Ltd. have diversified their activities and have taken a programme

laying down their lives, we are proud of Keeler, as we are proud of Somnath Sharma.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can continue tomorrow.

15.30 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

FIFTH REPORT

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Fifth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 16th July, 1980."

MR CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Fifth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 16th July, 1980."

The motion was adopted.

15.31 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: SERIOUS SITUATION IN NORTH-EAST INDIA--
contd.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now further discussion on the following Resolution moved by Shri Krishna Chandra Halder on 4th July 1980 alongwith the amendments moved thereon.

"This House notes with grave concern the prevailing serious situation in North-East India where secessionistic, chauvinistic and communal passions are being roused endangering the unity and integrity of the country and calls upon the Government:

(a) to take suitable steps for a political settlement of the

question of foreigners and to pay special attention for resolving the genuine problems of the people of the North-Eastern States;

(b) to strengthen further the security of the borders of the North-East India with neighbouring countries in order to prevent the intrusion of the foreigners and infiltration of the armed gangs;

(c) to take stern action against those who are actively behind the secessionist activities; and

(d) to rouse the public opinion in the country in favour of preserving the national unity and assuring full freedom to all linguistic nationalities and ethnic groups to preserve their separate independent identities and for full socio-economic development according to their desires by strengthening the real federalism in our States structure."

Shri G. M. Banatwalla may continue his speech

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): It must be appreciated that the Government has repeatedly clarified that the doors are open for negotiations without any pre-condition in respect of situation in Assam. However, there can be no compromise with secessionist activities, let there be no mistake about that particular factor. Further, firm measures are needed in the face of orgy of violence that we see in Assam. It is shocking and most unfortunate that police officers, magistrates, the entire machinery is in league with the agitationists. This is a particular factor that must receive our attention.

I may, for example, point out that the Assam Minorities Students Union wanted to submit a Memorandum to the authorities on 26th May, 1980. Not only were attempts made to prevent them from submitting this Memorandum, a fundamental right of their but the peaceful processionists of

laying down their lives, we are proud of Keeler, as we are proud of Somnath Sharma.

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