

the fire? This was reported in the press. May I know from you whether it was true or not? If so, what happened after the fire? This building is closed now. We are all thrown out here and there. What happened to the compensation for those people who were affected by this fire?

**SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI:** The total loss of all these things is being worked out now. The figure of loss and account of everything is not available now because the entire thing is being processed and worked out.

So far as the persons who were injured are concerned, they have already been compensated. Some relief has been given in the case of three Persons who died and also to 52 persons who had been injured in this Ansal Bhavan fire.

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:** What about the use of the Helicopter?

**SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI:** The Helicopter came for the rescue operations.

*(Interruptions)*

**PROF. P.J. KURIEN:** There were persons rescuing people from the Ansal Bhavan. Are you giving them some award or not? That should be noted.

**THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV**

**GANDHI):** Sir, some civilians who were working at the site displayed extraordinary bravery. We have taken note of it and we will do the needful.

**PROF. P.J. KURIEN:** Thank you.

### **Communal Violence**

\*84. **SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA :**  
**SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of communal violence that have occurred in the country during the last three months; State-wise;

(b) the number of casualties and estimated loss of property in these incidents; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken to prevent such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). A Statement is given below:

(a) and (b). As per available information, the particulars of major communal riots in the country which occurred from 1st April, 1987 to 30th June, 1987 are as under:

### **STATEMENT**

<i>Date and Place</i>	<i>No. of persons</i>		<i>Loss of property</i>
	<i>killed</i>	<i>injured</i>	<i>(Rupees in lakhs)</i>
1	2	3	4
<i>Gujarat</i>			
Virpur (April 9-12)	4	12	102.00
Brauch (May 17-18)	5	22	N.A.
Baroda (June 26 to July 2)	7	10	N.A.

9 <i>Oral Answers</i>	SRAVANA 9, 1909 (SAKA)		10
1	2	3	4
<i>Uttar Pradesh</i>			
Meerut (April 14-18)	10	23	4.35
Meerut (May 18-24)	105	143*	232.60
		*(including 8 police personnel)	
<i>Delhi</i>			
(May 19-22)	11	75	N.A.
<i>Maharashtra</i>			
Kasoda Jalgaon (June 8)	5	17	3.00
Total	147	302	341.95

(c) Even though the primary responsibility of maintenance of peace rests with the State Governments, the Central Government have never been found wanting in the matter of providing assistance to the State Governments in the shape of para-military forces and equipment in restoring peace and communal harmony. The Central Government have also been cautioning and alerting the State Government to keep a very close watch on the communal, fundamentalist and anti-social elements.

When riots broke out in Meerut, Shir P. Chidambaram alongwith Smt. Mohsina Kidwai rushed to the spot to take stock of the situation. This was followed by Home Minister's visit to Meerut, Who had detailed discussions with the Chief Minister and other senior officials in Meerut. Home Minister remained in constant touch with the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh as also of some other States. Home Minister had also invited the leaders of opposition and sought the benefit of their advice. All present in the meeting agreed to issue an unanimous appeal for maintaining communal harmony during the Id celebrations. It is a matter of satisfaction that Id was celebrated without any untoward incident. The Prime Minister

visited Meerut on 30th May and gave instructions for speedy relief and rehabilitation measures.

The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has already ordered a judicial inquiry into the Malliana incident. Another 3-Member Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Gyan Prakash, former Comptroller and Auditor General of India, is conducting an administrative inquiry. The report of the Committee is expected by the end of July 87. State Government has also set up a Committee to go into the recruitment, training and motivation of the Armed Police Constabulary. Special relief operations were launched in Meerut and so far more than Rs. 1 crore has been disbursed in monetary relief to the affected persons.

Apart from induction of Central para-military forces and deployment of Army in Meerut and Delhi to control the situation, a series of measures had been initiated to bring normalcy to the riot affected areas as also to provide relief to riot affected victims and restore amity between the two communities.

A Special Commissioner (Relief) assisted by a Deputy Commissioner (Relief)

was posted at Meerut in order to expedite the relief operations. The Deputy Commissioner (Relief) continues to be in position. A relief control room has been opened in the office of the Zila Parishad Office, Meerut, where applications for relief and rehabilitation etc. are received in separate counters. In addition, 12 teams have been constituted to disburse relief as well as to collect applications for rehabilitation on the spot itself. Similarly, speedy relief measures have also been taken in Delhi and Gujarat.

Communal situation in Gujarat has also been constantly under review in consultation with the State Government. Baroda and some other parts of Gujarat witnessed communal violence. The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs Shri P. Chidambaram visited Gujarat and had discussions with the State authorities as a result of which a detailed plan of action had been drawn up and put into action for Ahmedabad, Nadiad and Baroda. Due to the efforts of Central and the State Government and the cooperation of the people, the Rath Yatra festival on 28th June, 1987 passed off peacefully in Ahmedabad. As a matter of fact, the occasion witnessed a scene of communal harmony particularly in communally sensitive areas.

The Walled City of Delhi also witnessed communal violence in the month of May partly as a fall out of Meerut riots. The situation, however, was immediately brought under control though tension still persists in some areas of the walled city. Meerut also continues to be tense though under control. The State Government has been asked to exercise utmost vigilance particularly in view of some recent incidents.

**SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA:** Sir, the statement placed before the House depicts a very sorry picture in the sense that in the three months, 147 lives were lost, 300 people were injured and property worth 3,41,000 were damaged or destroyed.

Now, Sir, in the light of that, I may put one supplementary question. The hon. Minister must have been seen the various reports-

Jitendra Narayan Commission's Report on Jamshedpur riots, Madan Commission's report on Bhiwandi riots and other places in Maharashtra and Jagmohan Reddy Commission's report regarding riots in Ahmedabad and other places in Gujarat. All these Commissions have said that there is some pattern working behind these riots.

Will the hon. Minister throw light on this aspect whether he has seen any particular pattern behind these communal incidents in these riots and whether any communal organisation is seen behind these riots?

**THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S.BUTA SINGH):** Sir, it is a well known phenomenon that whenever the riots occur in any part of the country, there are certain elements who abet and who are at the back of these incidents. Mostly they operate from the community based centres—quite often from the religious centres. But it is really difficult to name the organisations as such.

In the last Session also, the Speaker was very concerned about these religion based communal elements who have played a hell with the lives of our people in various parts of the country under the names of various communities and political organisations. We are keen and we are working on some agreed approach—both by the Opposition and this side of the House—that in this very Session, we will try to evolve some kind of approach to be chalked out in consultation with the Opposition which would go a long way in separating the religion based communal organisations to have anything to do with our political set up in the country.

**SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA:** Sir, with great respect, I must point out that certain Commissions have named certain communal organisations like RSS to be the hand behind the riots. In the light of that and in the light of the National Integration Council's recommendations, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's 15 point programme, as revised by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the Central Government has given a very good account of itself. In fact, the hon. Minister of State for

Home Affairs was in Ahmedabād on the day previous to the Rath Yatra, and personally monitored the arrangements, for which we are very grateful-without which things could not have so peacefully passed. But may I ask whether the Central Government has set up any machinery to monitor the action taken by the State Governments to implement Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's 15 points, as revised by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, and the recommendations of the National Integration Council-in particular, to prevent communal propaganda, and the 27-point communal propaganda themes stated by the Madan Commission? The Madan Commission has pointed out that there are 27 forms of communal propaganda being carried on in various parts by certain communal organizations. That should be prevented. So, what monitoring machinery has the Central Government set up, in order to find out whether the State Governments take efficient and effective steps to prevent recurrence of riots?

S. BUTA SINGH: Sofar as monitoring of these incidents in various parts of the country is concerned, we keep in constant touch with the Chief Minister-I myself do it; and also, in the Home Ministry, we have senior officers detailed for coordination and monitoring of all such incidents in various States.

Sofar as the question of identifying the elements and the organizations in these riots is concerned, the hon. Member has mentioned the Madan Commission's report. As I said, already a Sub-Group in the National Integration Council is working on how to identify and how to take action against such groups and elements inside the States, in various communities, which are at the back of these communal riots. At the time we again come to this House, we will definitely take note of this aspect- which the hon. Member has highlighted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now Mr. Mahfooz Ali Khan.

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA: One minute, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No; you have already asked the supplementary. No; I cannot allow. Please take your seat. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the most important issue facing the country today is that of communal violence. Incidents of communal violence have become a daily feature. Has the hon. Minister of Home Affairs come to any conclusion in this regard? Has he got carried out any investigation to find out the circumstances under which and the reasons for which such riots take place and to identify the elements behind such riots? In regard to the Meerut riots, you stated that some people from Pakistan were residing in Meerut even after their visas and passports had lapsed. Has the Government machinery failed to detect those people who are still living here even though their visas and passports have expired? I want to know if you have any solution to this problem? Keeping in view the fact that in Meerut the riots are occurring everyday and the harassed people are criticising the Government for its incompetence as is evident from the press reports, may I know whether any solution has been found to put an end to these communal riots.

S. BUTA SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has raised a very important question. It is true that in some incidents, specially in Meerut, some such people were involved who did not belong to our country and whose visas had expired. Similarly, as Harooobhai Mehtaji has stated, it is true that there are certain organisations which are behind these riots and are helping in financing and organising them. Thus, from what you have said, broadly speaking, two things become clear. Firstly, religious fundamentalism and secondly, religious revivalism are two dangerous tendencies that are behind most of the disturbances which have occurred in Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. These two tendencies are fraught with dangerous consequences for our national

unity and are increasingly asserting themselves today.

How to solve this problem specially when it is being fanned by revivalist and fundamentalist elements? There is no other way out except to curb and destroy these elements. Efforts should be made to keep the common people from every community, the ordinary and the innocent people, who become victims of communal violence, away from it and to make them work for the unity of the country. All the political parties will have to work jointly in this respect. No law and order agency can solve this problem alone, cooperation of all our communities and our social and political organisations is, therefore, the need of the hour.

[*English*]

They must come forward to denounce this kind of tendency in all the communities or the political parties which are influenced by communal thinking.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to request the hon. Minister through you that communalism has become an incurable disease like cancer. The hon. Minister is making efforts to find its cure but so far no treatment has been effective. I know that the Government has conducted inquiries into the communal riots which have occurred in the various parts of the country. Will the hon. Minister name the elements found guilty in the reports of the inquiry commissions and indicate the punishment awarded to them and the provisions made to ensure that such riots do not occur in future? I know the whole House is aware and the hon. Minister is also aware that there are some elements in the country which openly raise the voice of revolt and incite communal riots but no action is taken against them. I want to know whether any arrangements will be made by which the strongest action can be taken against such elements regardless of the group to which they belong? Will arrangements be made to

prevent occurrence of communal riots in future?

S. BUTA SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the point raised by the hon. Member, the greatest hurdle is that the reports of the Judicial Commissions come after a long time. Even if we fix a time-frame then also it takes much time. Often the reports are received after three or four years. You may have noticed that in Uttar Pradesh, a special magistrate and a special judicial officer are put on duty to make on the spot enquiries immediately and expedite the proceedings so that results are available at the earliest. As I have stated earlier that in case certain elements are found to be behind communal riots in any region, strong action is taken against them as the hon. Member has also suggested. The biggest hurdle for the law and order enforcing agency is that enquiries cannot be conducted immediately. Firstly, it takes time to normalise the situation and we have to make all our resources and forces available to control the situation. Curfew remains imposed in these areas for a long time which makes it difficult for any inquiry to take place. However, in spite of such difficulties, the inquiries made so far have definitely been useful. In regard to Meerut and Ahmedabad, we have decided with the Chief Ministers that in such cases expeditious enquiries should be conducted by designating special magistrates and special judicial officers so that deterrent punishment can be awarded to achieve good results in future.

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: It is a suggestion for action. I have a suggestion to make. Will you allow a discussion on communal disturbances in Meerut and other places? All the hon. members would like to have it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will discuss about it in the Business Advisory Committee meeting.

S. BUTA SINGH: We are willing to have a fullfledged discussion on it. We will bring

out a factual note on this. We will initiate a discussion on the communal riots as the hon. member has suggested.

**DR. SUDHIR ROY:** How many officers have been punished so far for their failure to curb communal riots? Against how many journals and newspapers action has been taken by the government for inciting communal violence?

**SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM:** As regards officers', failure to take adequate action to anticipate and curb communal riots is concerned, it is grave negligence and as we stated earlier in the Lok Sabha and in the Rajya Sabha, we have advised the State Governments to take action against those officers. Those officers are working under State Government in State cadres.

Recently, for example, in Meerut the State Government has taken action against the officers. All the officers were transferred, including the District Magistrate. Their role is being inquired into by a three member committee under Mr. Gyan Prakash and that report is expected by the end of this month. and when the report comes, the State Government will take action against the officers who were responsible, if they are found responsible for any incidents in Meerut.

As far as Gujarat is concerned, the State Government has taken action to transfer officers who were responsible for any failure and they are inquiring into their conduct.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:** Transfer is not punishment.

**SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM:** I agree that transfer is not a punishment.

**SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA:** They are creating problems for others. Take proper action.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** Mr. Banatwalla, let him finish, then if you want,....

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM:** As far as we are concerned, we are impressing upon the State Governments that transfer is not a punishment, that transfer is not an adequate remedy. As and when the report is available, the State Government must take action against the officers and I hope they will take action against the officers and we will impress upon the State Governments to take action against those officers. We ourselves cannot take action.

**SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY:** What are you doing?

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** What is he saying?

**SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM:** We cannot. You all know the law. We cannot directly take action. We can only ask the State Governments to take action. We will discharge our responsibility in impressing upon the State Governments to take action against officers, and we will follow it up.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:** If the Minister is there, why do you not take action?

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** I cannot allow. Do not say so.

**SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM:** As far as the journals are concerned, again this is a matter on which the State Governments have to take action and the last I have heard in this matter is that the State Governments are looking into certain writings which have appeared in Meerut.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** Why do you not take action?

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** We are going to take up this next week. We are going to

have a discussion.

**SHRIP. CHIDAMBARAM:** We are taking action.

**SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY:** We have asked about punishment.

*(Interruptions)*

**S. BUTA SINGH:** Saifuddin Sahib, as my colleague has stated, the State officers are under the State Government. We have no objection if you allow us to take action directly from Delhi.

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM:** We cannot, definitely.

**SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA:** What about the Chief Minister of U.P. who was there in Meerut while the riots were taking place?

*(Interruptions)*

**AN HON. MEMBER:** You can talk to the Prime Minister.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** Please take your seats.

**SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY:** Has the State Government taken action against the IPS and IAS officers?

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** I request the Members to take their seats. Please take your seat. *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA:** The Chief Ministers have to be sacked.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** Mr. Banatwalla, we are going to discuss this matter

separately and we are going to have a discussion on all the things.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** Next question. Mr. Raghuma Reddy. He is absent. Shri Dharam Pal Singh Malik. All of you take your seats.

**S. BUTA SINGH:** I am willing to take action against IAS and IPS officers, certainly, if you allow.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** Order, order, please. Take your seats.

*(Interruptions)\**

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** Nothing is going on record. I would not allow like this. Next question.

**AN HON. MEMBERS:** You have got the power.

*(Interruptions)*

#### **Supply of Awacs to Pakistan by US Government**

\*85. **SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK<sup>†</sup>:**  
**SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the US Government has since agreed to supply AWACS to Pakistan;

(b) the reaction of Government of India thereto; and

(c) the likely impact of this step on the sub-continent?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH):** (a) Although the US Administration is known to support the trans-