Statement by Minister Encounter with LTTE Militants on 20-8-1991 at Konanakunte near Bangalore

· bv Minister Release of Sh. Doraiswamv. a Senior I.O.C. Official obducted by Militants in Srinagar in June. 1991

Bangalore City Police. This person gave information about a house in Konanakunte which was arranged by him for six militants. The City Police along with SIT surrounded this house on the night of 18-8-1991 and kept a continuous watch on the house. Further, one person by name 'Prem Kumar', was apprehended at Konanakunte crossing. He was the man who was supplying food etc., to the LTTE militants hiding in Konanakunte house. Further enquiries revealed the presence of LTTE militants including Sivarasan and perhaps Subha in the above house.

To try and capture Sivarasan and others alive, watch was continued throughout the 19th and the entire area was encircled and guarded by plain clothes men and NSG Commandos positioned strategically. Additional reinforcement of NSG Commandes and medical experts with latest anticyanide antidote were requisitioned from Delhi. It was decided not to storm the place as similar action earlier on several occasions had resulted in even minor LTTE functionaries committing suicide. On 19th, around 7.00 P.M., the LTTE militants holed up inside the house, opened fire indiscriminately without any apparent The NSG returned the fire. reason. This exchange of fire continued for about 30 minutes and three police personnel (one of NSG and two of Karnataka Police) sustained injuries. The injured are out of danger. militants opened fire either because they were wanting to escape the cover of fire or because of some movements close to the house wherein local residents were trying to move a broken down lorry. Two militants who came out, perhaps in a bid to escape ran back inside the Later at around 8.00 P.M.. about 7-8 more rounds were fired by the militants for about half a minute.

After the arrival of the additional reinforcements and the medical team

with the latest anti-cyanide antidote from Delhi in the early hours of 20th August, the house was stormed at about 6.30 A.M. The NSG Comabout 6.30 A.M. mandos blasted the door and entered the house. They found the dead bodies of 7 LTTE militants. They included the wanted Sivarasan and a woman who is obviously Subha but whose identity requires evidential confirmation. Efforts are on to identify all the other bodies. One AK 47 rifle and a 9 MM pistol and several rounds of ammunition were recovered. Sivarasan was found with a bullet injury in the temple of his head. All others obviously died due to cy-It is being asceranide poisoning. tained whether Sivarasan also sumed cyanide capsule. The bodies were shifted to Victoria Hospital for post-mortem examination.

The whole operation was supervised by CBI Director, SIT Chief and the City Police Commissioner of Bangalore and the NSG officers.

Meanwhile, the S.I.T. will continue investigation of case relentlessly with the objective of unravelling the entire conspiracy behind the assassination, identifying and arresting the remaining accused persons and eventually charge-sheeting the case in court.

(iii) Release of K. Dorakwamy, a senior IOC official abducted by the militants at Srinagar in June. 1991.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AF-FAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): I rise to inform the House regarding the release of a senior IOC official, Shri Doraiswamy last evening from captivity of the terrorists.

- 2. The facts as ascertained from the State Government are as follows:
- 3. SHRI K. Doraiswamy, a senior IOC official, who reached Srinagar from Delhi on 27-6-91 was abducted

Sh. Doraiswamy,

a Senior 1.O.C. Official abducted by Militants in Srinagar in

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[Sh. S. B. Chavan]

by armed terrorists at Zewan, Pantha Chowk. Srinagar on 28-6-91 forenoon while he was moving in a vehicle. Shri Doraiswamy was on an inspection visit to Srinagar. Shri Doraiswamy had gone with a party of other officials to inspect a site for construction of a storage capacity for kerosene/petrol. The pro-Pak terrorists outfit "Ikhwan-Ul-Muslimeen" owned responsibility for kidnapping and demanded the immediate release from detention of Shri Javed Ahmed Shalla Bilal Beg and other activists. by 1500 hours on 1-7-91 failing which the IOC official in its custody would be shot dead. On July 1st the terrorist outfit conveyed an purported to be from Shri Doraiswamy to the President and Prime Minister of India to save his life.

- 4. The Government of Jammu and Kashmir had been negotiating with the terrorists through contacts. The terrorists had also been extending their deadlines.
- 5. On 20th July after prolonged negotiations, the modus operandi for securing the safe release of the hostage was arrived at and in lieu thereof three of the five terrorists were handed over to the mediator in a place agreeable to them. The intermediary was to come back with Mr. Doraiswamy and thereafter the other two terrorists were to be released. However, the intermediary did not turn up and thus the efforts to secure the release of Shri Doraiswamy got a setback.
- a fresh statement levelled baseless allegations that the Government had gone back in its commitment regarding the release of Javed Ahmed Shalla and also demanded the release of 9 detenues including the three already released.
- 7. The abductors nominated a new intermediary and efforts continued to get the release of Shri Doraiswamy.

Statements appeared in the name of abductors that if their demands were not met in full, the hostage would be put to torture.

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8. After prolonged and protracted negotiations, details for release of Shri Doraiswamy were settled. According to the understanding, Shri Doraiswamy was set free by the abductors at about 8.30 P.M. on 20th August in exchange of five arrested terrorists. On safe arrival of Shri Doraiswamy at Srinagar, the sixth terrorist namely, Shri Javed Ahmed Shalla was also released on bail. Excepting Shri Shalla, none of the released terrorists are charged with he-inous crimes.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): What about the other Statement?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): We demanded a State-on the lathi charge. (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERIEE: Three hours have passed since the incident took place in which 55 persons were beaten up in the Police Station.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AF-FAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): I have no idea. All of a sudden I cannot react.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHAT-TERJEE: Sir. the Minister says that he has no idea. (Interruptions)

MR SPEAKFR: Let him collect the information.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDH-URY (Jagatsinghour): Sir. Delhi is not far away from that place.

MR. SPEAKER: Delhi may not be far way but then there are so many other things on hand also.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY (Allourdwar): All the responsibility comes to the Home Minister. The person who was beaten up was a member of the 425 Statement by Minister Release of Sh. Doraiswany.

Congress party. He was on a peaceful hungerstrike. (Interruptions)

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDH-RY: Sir, the police has a right to take him to custody but it has no right to beat him.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHAT-TERJEE: Sir, 55 persons were there. They were beaten up severely by the police. (Interruptions)

LOKANATH CHOUDH-SHRI URY: In a democratic set up one can go on hunger strike. He was not doing any violent activity.

MR. SPEAKER: How can you carry out the business of the House like this?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHAT-TERJEE: I agree with you, but you also see that three hours have passed since the incident took place. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You asked for a Statement and the Statement is made. Now, something else is to be taken up. If all of you stand up and talk, how can we proceed?

(Interruptions)

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDH-URY: We demanded a statement in the Zero Hour. We will obstruct the business of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Don't take up the discussion on un-listed business throughout the day.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I wanted to raise this matter during Zero Hour.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia. please take your seat. All of you take your seats.

I have brought it to your notice that this is the Budget Session. We have the Demands of Industries' Ministry on the Agenda for the last 4-5 days. It was only yesterday that we were able to touch it. We have discussed it today. Every time, if unlisted business is taken up and dis-

June. 1991 cussed, those Members who are sitting quietly at the back, they are not able to open their mouths. And at every moment, without information, without notice, you raise certain issues and you expect a Statement, how

can it go on like this?

a Senior I.O.C. Official abducted

by Militants in

Srinagar in

I would tell-if any colleague of ours is involved in it—you that certainly the Government will take note of it. They will collect the informa-tion. They will inform you. But you cannot just get up and say that, you collect the information and come. Every moment you open your mouth, you expect a Statement and it is to be How can it go on like this?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHAT-TERJEE: We are interested in the discussion. But three hours ago, we raised this question. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What do you mean by three hours? This is not there in the list.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not discuss like that. It does not help you.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHAT-TERJEE: We are interested in the discussion on the Grants. But in the meantime, let the Government behave. If the Government creates such situations that the discussions on Grants cannot take place what can we do? If our colleagues are taken to Police Station...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Supposing one Member or two Members are only raising the points, other Members are They are just keeping suffering. quiet and they come to my Chamber and say that you are allowing those Members who are getting up...

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHAT-TERJEE: Even the Congress Members join that. (Interruptions)

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Release
of Sh. Doraiswamy,
a Senior I.O.C.
Official abducted
by Militants in
Srinagar in
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Demands for Grants (General) 1991-92— Ministry of Industry

MR. SPEAKER: Okay. You have made the point. I have very carefully said that if the Government collects the information and if in their wisdom want to inform the House, they can inform the House also and if one of the Members is involved, they would certainly be interested in informing the House about the action But you cannot just pressurise every time by saying that, you come and make a Statement without collecting the information. Please, it is in your interest—the House yours, the time is yours, Demands are yours-you make use of that in whatever fashion you like. But would request you, please do take into consideration, the feelings of those Members who are just keeping quiet and not getting up unless their names are called out.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHAT-TERJEE: But you refer to the Government also. Let them behave.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chatterjee, they have taken note of your feelings.

(Interruptions)

17.55 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL), 1991-92—Contd.

Ministry of Industry-Contd.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Yaima Singh Yumnam.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUM-NAM (Inner Manipur): I know that you will not allow me to speak in Manipuri which is my mother tongue because it is not mentioned in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India. I cannot speak in Hindi. I have very little command over the English language. So, I have got this grievance that you are not

allowing me to speak in Manipuri. So, I have to speak only in English. MR. SPEAKER: Don't take time of the House.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUM-NAM: I rise to oppose the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Industry and the National Policy on industry. However, I do appreciate the spirit of the Government with which it has come out with a National Policy on Industry according to the guidelines laid down by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. derstand he took up the cause of industrial development with a call to organise industries in the country to make India economically Sovereign, just after Independence. He made a call to the nation that without industrial revolution the country will remain backward and dependent; and in that context, he inspired us to the extent that we took it as an act of patriotism to be involved in the organisations for promoting industries in the rural areas, in the remote places, etc. Although there was hue and cry, criticism against the policy at that time saying that the industries were in the hands of a few industrialists like Tatas. Birlas, etc., still Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru explained to the people that there would be mixed economy, there would be a Socialistic So, it was. Pattern of Society, etc. to some extent, tolerable.

Now I am coming to the present National Policy on Industry. I suggest that the Government would be better to compromise with the proposals made from the Opposition leaders and the senior Members of the Opposition who spoke yesterday about the public sector, private sector, etc. It will be in the interest of the nation if the Minister incharge of industry can entertain the suggestions, the proposals made by the Leaders of the Opposition, by the Members