

14. 45 hrs.

## STATEMENTS BY MINISTER

**Incident of Bomb Explosion in a  
Mosque in Rai Bareilly**

. [English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) According to information received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, on 3 August 1992 at about 0800 hours, there was a bomb explosion inside the courtyard of Jama Masjid in Mohalla Chhoti Bazar in Rai Bareilly city. As a result, two children aged 10 and 11 years, who were sitting on the chabutra above the basement in the courtyard of the mosque, were killed. In the explosion, a wall and the chabutra in the courtyard were damaged. One girl, aged 20 years, who was sitting in the courtyard in her house adjacent to the mosque was injured; she was discharged from the hospital after first-aid.

An ex-gratia amount of Rs. 20,000/- each to the next of kin of the deceased children and an amount of Rs. 1,000/- to the injured has been announced by the State Government. Arrangements are being made to repair the damaged chatutra and the wall of the mosque.

On receipt of the information, senior officers reached the place of the explosion. The debris was removed from the place of the explosion to ensure that there were no dead bodies. First Information Report has been lodged by the father of the deceased children.

The State Government have informed that for speedy and effective investigation, a team of the Crime Investigation Department has been directed to visit Rai Bareilly. The team will be headed by an officer of the rank of Superintendent of Police. A strict watch on

the situations is being kept by the senior officers, and police is patrolling Rai Bareilly city.

U.P. Government has today informed through a Fax-message that a team of Crime Investigation Department has already reached Rai Bareilly and started the investigation.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILES PASWAN (Rosera):

[English]

Why don't you made CBI inquiry?

[Translation]

It is a serious issue. The mosque constructed in 1417 was damaged in a bomb explosion and two children were killed as a result thereof. The Government only made a statement on it. What is the responsibility of the Union Government?

[English]

We want CBI enquiry should be instituted and the Central Government must take action.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Why CBI inquiry can not be ducted in Rai Bareilly? Even in Faizabad neither any inquiry has taken place nor any culprit has been found out.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Do you know who are the culprits? Has the Central Government found out who are the culprits? This is pre-planned.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbanga): Efforts have been made to disturb the mosque in a well planned manner. This is not an isolated incident of this type. Such an incident had taken place in Faizabad, also. I would like to request the Government to order a C.B.I. inquiry into it. Terrorism first grew in Punjab, then in Kashmir and now it will spread to other places gradually. Therefore, it is necessary to make efforts to check it at this very point.

645 Statement by Minister  
(ii) Incident of killing by  
[English]

SRAVANA 14, 1914 (SAKA) suspected militants in 646  
Distt. Pilibhit, U.P.,

8 Kms from the main road.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: We want CBI inquiry.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Another statement will be made by Shri M.M. Jacob regarding killing in Pilibhit, U.P.

**(ii) Incident of Killings by Suspected MILITANTS in District Pilibhit, Uttar Pradesh**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Sir, I rise to inform the House about the tragic incident of the killing of 29 persons in the Pilibhit District of Uttar Pradesh.

According to information received from the State Government, 19 persons from village Ghunghchai PS Pooranpur, district Pilibhit and 10 from village Shivnagar, PS Gafraula, District Pilibhit, had gone to the nearby forest to collect some local wild vegetables on 31st July, 1992. Of these 29 persons, 3 were women, when these persons did not return, the villagers went out to search for them on the 1st of August and when they were unable to find them, they reported the matter to the police.

The police launched search and camping operations and around mid-day on 3rd August found the bodies by the side of a small river by the name of Khannaut. The villagers were found with their hands and feet tied and appear to have died by strangulation. An attempt also appears to have been made to set the bodies on fire, which however, did not succeed, perhaps on account of rain.

No group or person has yet claimed responsibility for the killings. It is suspected that two or three gangs who are said to be moving in the area may be responsible. Police and para-military forces have launched intensive operations for combing of the entire area which is densely forested and is about

The District Magistrate, SP, DIG, Divisional Commissioner and the Zonal IG of Police visited the site on 3rd August and nearby districts have been alerted.

The Chief Minister has visited the area on 4-8-1992 along with two ministerial colleagues and the DGP. Rs. 20, 000/- has been paid to each affected family as immediate ex-gratia relief.

The Government of India have allotted sophisticated fire arms including AK-47 rifles, self loading rifles, carbines, LMGs, pistols etc, to the UP Government. The supply may not have met the total requirements of the State Government in view of overall constraint of availability of weapons at the national level.

As many as 44 companies of para-military forces have been deployed in U.P. We suggested to all the State Governments including U.P. to raise India Reserve battalions and have offered that 50 per cent of the initial cost of raising will be fully met by the Government of India as grant and the remaining 50 per cent expenditure will be provided as a long term loan. We have yet to receive the proposal from the U.P. Government.

A meeting was held by me on 29-2-1992 with the Chief Ministers of the States and the Governors of Union Territories which are affected by terrorist activities to chalk out a strategy for combating terrorism. After a frank discussion in the meeting, certain decisions were taken. A Cell has been created in the Home Ministry under a Special Secretary and the State Governments/UTs were also requested to have a Cell in their jurisdiction. A meeting of the concerned Home Secretaries and Director-Generals of Police of the States/UTs was held in the Home Ministry on 28th April, 1992. In this meeting, the information and intelligence about terrorists, their activities, their *modus operandi* etc. was up-dated and exchanged. The logistics and strategy to contain and combat terrorism was also planned.